Vision

Chemicals are used and managed in ways that are safe and healthy for all people.

Goal

Develop an action agenda—clear, achievable recommendations—that will help government agencies and other organizations strengthen their efforts to protect the public from harmful chemical exposures.

What We Hope to Accomplish

Drawing on ideas that work groups will develop and those that you will suggest, the National Conversation Leadership Council will produce an action agenda that advances the project’s vision—that chemicals are used and managed in ways that are safe and healthy for all people. The agenda—clear, achievable recommendations—will help government agencies and other groups strengthen their efforts to protect the public from harmful chemical exposures. The agenda will help our nation identify better ways to

Collect information about chemical use, people who are exposed, and the levels at which they are exposed.

Understand how chemicals affect people’s health.

Use policies and practices that tell us about risks, how to reduce harmful exposures, and how to create and use safe chemicals.

Prevent, prepare for, and respond to chemical-related emergencies.

Protect all communities from harmful chemical exposures.

Create a well-informed public and health care provider network to help people understand chemical exposure risks.

Involve the public in government decision making.

Encourage teamwork among partner groups and agencies.

In addition, this project will create a well-informed network of interested citizens, public health professionals, community leaders, and government agency employees, who could continue the search for solutions to protecting the public from harmful chemical exposures.
Questions?

Contact us at nationalconversation@cdc.gov

Leadership Council

The Leadership Council is a group of key environmental and public health leaders who guide the National Conversation. The Leadership Council will produce an action agenda that will help government agencies and other organizations strengthen their efforts to protect the public from harmful chemical exposures. We hope that you will comment on the draft action agenda when it is available.

Work Groups

Six work groups (listed below) will research and make recommendations to the Leadership Council about public health and chemical exposure issues.

- Monitoring
- Scientific Understanding
- Policies and Practices
- Chemical Emergencies
- Serving Communities
- Education and Communication

Web Dialogues

We invite the public to participate in the National Conversation on the Internet. We are using Web-based forums, called Web dialogues, to get your input and feedback at key points during the process.

Community Conversations

We are inviting everyone interested in chemical exposure issues to host their own community conversation. We have developed a Community Conversation Toolkit, which provides a set of discussion questions and a method for sending ideas back to the National Conversation project team.

GET INVOLVED!

- Participate in our online Web dialogues.
- Host a community conversation with your group or in your neighborhood.
- Spread the word to your family, friends, and colleagues and invite their participation.
- Look for the National Conversation on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @NatlConvo.

Listening Sessions

National Conversation partners will periodically hold listening sessions at conferences and other meetings to gain input from key stakeholders.

Social Media

Look for the National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @NatlConvo.