



IDEAS FOR TAKING ACTION



We know it is a challenge to translate data into action. To help get you started, we have listed strategies that can improve environmental public health.

Use the data in the [County Environmental Health Profiles](#) and in the [online data portal](#) to target education, programming, and policies to address your community's needs. Visit [What Works for Health](#) and [The Community Guide](#) for more ideas.*

This document includes many hyperlinks. We recommend you view it online: bit.ly/ideasfortakingaction

-  AIR QUALITY
-  WATER QUALITY
-  HOME HAZARDS
-  BIRTH OUTCOMES
-  HEALTH INDICATORS

STRATEGY	AREAS ADDRESSED
Collaborate with community partners to develop active and shared transportation infrastructure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bicycle and pedestrian master plans • Active transportation to school through safe routes and walking school buses • Public transportation system introduction, expansion, and incentives for use • Workplace supports for active commuting 	    
Encourage the use of lower-polluting diesel technologies among local and regional transit authorities.	    
Consider incorporating permeable pavement into sidewalk, road, and parking lot projects.	    
Encourage residents to test their wells and take appropriate steps to ensure good water quality.	    

*This is a companion document to the [2015 County Environmental Health Profiles](#). It is not intended to be an exhaustive list.

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IDEAS FOR TAKING ACTION CONTINUED

STRATEGY	AREAS ADDRESSED
Encourage residents to test their homes for radon and employ mitigation strategies if appropriate.	
Encourage child care sites and schools to check for environmental asthma triggers via a facility walk-through.	
Promote the US EPA's school flag program to alert the community of outdoor air quality.	
Promote school policies that limit exposure to exhaust from school bus idling .	
Remind residents that state law requires a carbon monoxide detector on every floor in homes, duplexes, and apartments.	
Encourage enclosed recreational arenas (such as ice rinks and venues that host motorbike/truck events) to frequently monitor air quality and install carbon monoxide detectors.	
Encourage minimal exposure to pesticides among pregnant women.	
Coordinate and promote cooling centers during excessively hot days.	
Utilize heat stress toolkits .	
Participate in coalitions working on tobacco prevention and control.	
Encourage property owners and operators to adopt smoke-free policies in apartment buildings .	
Promote the use of folic acid among women of childbearing age through community-wide campaigns.	
Promote programs and services that improve birth outcomes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CenteringPregnancy (multifaceted model of group care) • Mobile reproductive health clinics • School-based health clinics for reproductive care 	
Increase availability of shaded areas in parks, public gathering places, and school grounds .	
Provide education about public health impacts of restricting tanning bed use by minors .	

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How have you used your community's data?
[Tell us about it!](#)

IDEAS FOR TAKING ACTION CONTINUED

STRATEGY	AREAS ADDRESSED
Develop and implement a multicomponent campaign to highlight the dangers of indoor tanning use .	
Promote sun safety behaviors , especially to parents, school staff, and adults who work outside.	
Encourage families in high-risk areas to get their children tested for lead poisoning at the appropriate ages.	
Educate health care providers about the risks of lead poisoning on the children in their care.	
Promote available funding and resources for renovating older housing with lead hazards.	
Consider using multiple approaches to address lead poisoning .	
Educate about sustainable farming practices. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrient management plans (matching nutrients to crop needs and reducing use of commercial fertilizer) • Conservation tillage practices (keeping at least one-third of soil covered with previous year's crop residue) • Integrated pest management (starting with the least risky pest control approach first) 	
Incorporate green infrastructure in community building projects.	
Consider implementing multiple groundwater management programs together for stronger impact.	

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IDEAS FOR TAKING ACTION CONTINUED



Planning and implementing new programs, services, and policies is much easier when community groups work together. Consider collaborating with traditional and non-traditional public health partners to accomplish your environmental public health goals.

EXAMPLES OF GROUPS WORKING ON THIS TOPIC

 AIR QUALITY	Wisconsin Bike Federation, Wisconsin Active Communities Alliance, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Obesity Prevention Network
 WATER QUALITY	Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, City of La Crosse, Froedtert Hospital, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
 HOME HAZARDS	Local fire departments, Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health (DHS), Wisconsin Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, City of Milwaukee, contractors
 BIRTH OUTCOMES	Tobacco Prevention and Control Program (DHS), American Lung Association, Wisconsin Partnership Program, Racine African American Health Coalition
 HEALTH INDICATORS	Building Resilience Against Climate Effects Program (DHS), Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, Tobacco Prevention and Control Program (DHS), American Lung Association, county and regional coalitions, Radon Information Centers, Wisconsin Asthma Coalition, Wisconsin Asthma Program (DHS)

How have you used your community's data?

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