

**Washington Department of Ecology**  
**Legacy Pesticides Small Group Virtual Meeting Summary**  
**Small Group #3 - Public Education & Outreach**  
Wednesday, September 30, 2020 | 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

## **Welcome**

Facilitator, Joy Juelson with Triangle Associates, welcomed the group (see list of attendees) and requested brief introductions. The facilitator reviewed the previous meeting's highlights and summary and provided a brief overview of the Legacy Pesticides Working Group (LPWG) timeline.

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## **Demonstration: Draft Mapping Tool for Legacy Pesticide Orchards**

Valerie Bound, Ecology (ECY), introduced the unpublished draft mapping tool for identifying potential historical legacy pesticide orchard lands. The mapping tool was developed by ECY utilizing USGS map layers in response to calls received by the general public with requests to identify if their property was a previous orchard. The intention of the mapping tool is to create awareness, provide a resource to the public, and share information. Valerie clarified that the mapping tool is an initial screening method and property owners would need to have the property sampled to confirm if the soil is contaminated. She also noted the mapping tool will not be released until spring 2021 and Ecology staff will be making improvements to the tool over time. Jeff Newschwander, ECY, led the small group through a demonstration of the mapping tool.

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## **Group Discussion: Outreach Materials & Process**

Kate Elliot, MFA, asked the small group to provide insights on the outreach materials and process. The group responded and provided the following feedback:

1. *Review ECY mapping:*
  - a. *How do we roll out/inform the public about this resource?*
    - i. Small Group members emphasized the need to engage with stakeholders who are involved with development, utilities, and health districts.
    - ii. Members recommended utilizing public service announcement avenues such as the local newspapers and news channels.
  - b. *Are there specific, deliberate outreach re: mapping tool to realtors, lenders, appraisers?*
    - i. Small Group members discussed opportunities to strategically target and think about stakeholder outreach. Additionally, they discussed data sharing at the state level and between Department of Health and ECY.
    - ii. Members discussed potential reactions from the public. Members commented about how the public may react following release of the mapping tool. The messaging around the mapping will need to be clear and provide significant context when users first open the tool. Members discussed the alarming connotation with the term 'contamination' and suggested utilizing the phrase 'your property may be impacted' instead. Additionally, the context the homeowners "are not at immediate risk, but rather should seek further information and confirmation about their property."



- a) ECY responded that ECY is not the health agency and are therefore limited in their efforts to address the health question directly.
- b) A Small Group member suggested working the medical health students as a potential internship or opportunity to research.

Joy Juelson provided next steps that included MFA working on the Final Report and a large Legacy Pesticides Working Group meeting in late October or early November. Valerie Bound thanked the small group for their work and insights. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00.

***Action Item:*** Participants will provide Kate Elliot, MFA, any additional ideas regarding types of outreach material and who to distribute the material to.

***Action Item:*** Deb Miller, Action Health Partners, will provide Kate Elliot, MFA, previous resources to support various ways to engage with diverse audiences.

***Action Item:*** Deb Miller, Action Health Partners, will provide Kate Elliot, MFA, and Katrina Radach, Triangle Associates, additional details regarding health student research opportunities and a recommended list of faculties to connect with regarding partnership opportunities.

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**Small Group Attendance (in alphabetical order by last name)**

- Jon DeVaney, Washington State Tree Fruit Association
- Keith Goehner, State Representative of the 12<sup>th</sup> District
- Deb Miller, Action Health Partners

**Ecology Staff/Consultants/Facilitation Team:**

- Joy Juelson, Triangle Associates
- Katrina Radach, Triangle Associates
- Valerie Bound, Ecology
- Jeff Newschwander, Ecology
- Jill Scheffer, Ecology
- Kate Elliot, MFA
- Lisa Parks, MFA
- Phil Wiescher, MFA