



March 23rd Issue

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The **deadline** for the next MPHA Enews is **Thursday, March 29th** for the March 30th issue.

Please contact Michelle Caliandro with content or questions about this publication at mcaliandro@mainelung.org or 1-800-499-5864 x 103.

Learning Opportunities

SAVE THE DATE – MAY 11, 2007

The Maine Center for Public Health, in partnership with the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the Harvard School of Public Health Center for Public Health Preparedness, and the Central Maine Regional Resource Center, invite you to attend "**Central Maine Hospital Surge Capacity Exercise: Planning & Partnerships to Ensure Continuity of Care**" on Friday, May 11, 2007, at the Fireside Inn, in Auburn, Maine.

This conference is intended for Central Maine Emergency Preparedness representatives.

Please see the attached flyer for details and look for online registration soon at www.mcph.org. Viki Wills, Emergency Preparedness Training Coordinator, Maine Center for Public Health, One Weston Court, Suite 109, Augusta, Maine 04330, phone: 207-629-9272 x 212, fax: 207-629-9277, www.mcph.org

Colorectal Cancer ~ Improving the Outcomes in Maine!

Thursday, April 26, 2007, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Maple Hill Farm, Hallowell

A one-day summit designed to:

- Identify strategies to increase colon cancer screening rates for adults age 50 and older by 2010
- Develop a plan for achieving this goal with an emphasis on addressing disparities
- Harness local resources
- Provide practical steps for implementing the strategies

Keynote Speaker: Tim Byers, MD

Additional Presenters:

- Jay Bosco, MD
- Mike Roy, MD
- Sue Miesfeldt, MD
- Megan Hannan
- Katie Meyer
- Lisa Letourneau and
- Maine Cancer Registry

Rural Geriatrics Conference

Save the date for the state-wide Rural Geriatrics Conference being held in Bar Harbor, ME on May 31 and June 1, 2007. This represents the premiere educational conference on interdisciplinary geriatric health and mental health topics in the state.

Now in its 17th year, the conference focuses on the integration of state-of-the-art policy and practice information and is co-sponsored by the Acadia Health Education Coalition, Maine Gerontological Society, Maine Office of Rural Health, and the University of New England.

Mark your calendars and plan on joining your fellow colleagues in the field for two days of learning, networking, and socialization. The full program will be distributed shortly.

Legislative Information

Legislative Update

MPHA priority areas are:

- Fund for a Healthy Maine;
- Environmental Issues;
- Health Care Access;
- Obesity;
- Tobacco;
- Public Health Infrastructure; and
- Other - as appropriate.

Regarding Legislative activity - A full public hearing schedule is available by following this link:

<http://www.state.me.us/legis/senate/Documents/hearing/ANPHFrame.htm>

For additional legislative information:

<http://janus.state.me.us/legis/lto/>

For more information regarding MPHA's legislative priorities go to:

mpha@mcd.org

Information

National/Maine Public Health Week ~ April 2-8, 2007

Take the First Step!

Preparedness and Public Health Threats ~ Addressing the Unique Needs of the Nation's Vulnerable Populations

The Maine Public Health Association requests the pleasure of your company at a casual reception being held at the Cross Café, Cross Office Building, Augusta from 1-2 p.m.

Welcome ~

Richard Veilleux, President Maine Public Health Association

Proclamation ~

Governor John Baldacci signs a proclamation declaring April 2-8, 2007 as Maine Public Health Week

Maine Public Health Week Messages ~

- Dora Anne Mills, MD, Director, Maine Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Lynette Miller, Maine Emergency Management Agency
- Richard Veilleux, President, Maine Public Health Association

Space is limited, so please RSVP by March 30th to Mary Brotherton at maryb@mcd.org or call 622-7566 ext. 204

Heart Disease Guidelines for Women

Last month, we published the latest Heart Disease Guidelines for Women.

While they received a good deal of attention from the media, there is a chance that you may have missed the news.

Since we believe this news is so important to you, and we have something you can do about it today, we are reaching out to you to ask you to...

Understand your 10-year risk for heart disease.

Take the free, quick and easy American Heart Association "Heart CheckUp."

Go to goredforwomen.org It could save your life.

Hookah Use - 1st New Tobacco Use Trend of the 21st Century

Carries Many of the Same Health Risks as Cigarette Smoking

American Lung Association Report Spotlights New Trend, Mistaken as Harmless

NEW YORK, NY, March 8, 2007– The emergence of trendy hookah bars in the United States masks the serious risk to health from hookah use, according to the American Lung Association's new report, *An Emerging Deadly Trend – Waterpipe Tobacco Use*, released today. Hookah bars are growing in popularity in the U.S. especially among

18-to 24-year-olds, becoming the first new tobacco use trend of the 21st century. The Lung Association report warns that this trend is thriving on the widespread, but mistaken, belief that hookah use is harmless.

"Contrary to what many beginning users may think, hookah tobacco use carries many of the same risks as cigarette smoking, including being linked to lung cancer and other lung diseases," said John L. Kirkwood, President and CEO of the American Lung Association. "Hookah tobacco use is not a safe alternative to cigarettes."

Hookahs, also called waterpipes, are relatively new to the United States. Hookah tobacco use, however, is an ancient form of tobacco use that originated in Persia and India. The hookah heats specially-made tobacco, and then passes the smoke through a bowl of water. The smoker then draws this tobacco smoke through a mouthpiece connected to the pipe by a rubber hose.

Existing research warns that hookah smoking poses the same or similar health risks as cigarette smoking. The report also looked at the existing research behind hookah use, and finds some disturbing results:

Because a typical smoking session lasts 40 to 45 minutes, versus five to 10 minutes to smoke a cigarette, exposure to dangerous chemicals is increased with hookah use.

Teens were eight times more likely to experiment with cigarettes if they'd ever used a hookah.

"The fact that hookah use also increases the chances that kids will start smoking cigarettes should be of great concern to policymakers and the general public," said Kirkwood.

The American Lung Association recommends several ways to help slow this trend in the report, including increased research on all aspects of hookah use, smokefree workplace laws that cover places where hookahs are used, and culturally appropriate cessation products and services to help addicted hookah smokers quit.

"The misperceptions surrounding hookah use mean that more young adults will risk their lives smoking what they believe is a safer product, said Kirkwood. "We need to better understand and reverse this dangerous trend."

Misinformation on Fluoride

In response to misinformation on fluoride circulating in some areas of the State, over 30 major Maine health organizations, including the Maine Public Health Association, have signed on as supporting community water fluoridation. "It is unfortunate we must reiterate support for this basic public health measure that has a 62-year history of efficacy and safety as the single best way to prevent the most common chronic disease of children - tooth decay," announced Dora Anne Mills, MD, MPH, Director of the Maine CDC in the Department of Health and Human Services at a March 19th State House press conference. "Misinformation spreads fear and is harmful to public health," she added. Flanked by about 25 representatives from as many organizations to proclaim their support, Dr. Mills and others spent much of the press conference refuting recent claims about possible harms of fluoride. The Maine CDC has a website that supporters can use to find fluoride information in order to write letters to the editor and to otherwise promote credible information on fluoride. It can be found on the Maine CDC's homepage at: www.mainepublichealth.gov.

Career Opportunities

DIRECTOR CHRONIC DISEASE DIVISION

(PUBLIC SERVICE MANAGER II) (MA32)

CLOSING DATE: April 6, 2007, or until filled

CONTACT: Virginia Roussel (207)287-1873

CURRENT VACANCY INFORMATION:

The Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Chronic Disease Division, promotes and protects the health of the citizens of Maine through programs focusing on the prevention and control of chronic diseases and their risk factors, injury prevention and control, oral health, the health of Maine's youth, and on health promotion. This position is located in Augusta, Maine.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

As the Director Chronic Disease Division you will plan, organize and direct Division operations, programs, staff, and functions in order to establish operational priorities and ensure program objectives and standards are established and attained. You will practice the principles of leadership to mentor subordinate managers to develop their skills and effectiveness; and to develop and sustain partnerships with other state agencies, local communities, and private healthcare provider systems to achieve common goals. You will complete and coordinate federal grant applications and write for health study proposals to obtain federal or private funding for public health initiatives in Maine.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

A twelve (12) year combination of education, training and experience comprised of an advanced degree in a public health related field of study and at least six (6) years of professional experience in public health that includes significant program administration experience, or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. Strong leadership, communication, management, and supervisory skills are essential. Preference will be given to candidates with chronic disease experience.

To apply, please send a completed direct hire application, and resume to:

Department of Health and Human Services, 221 State St. Attn: V. Roussel,
Human Resources Div., #11 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0011

The Department of Health and Human Services is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. We provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request

Sierra Club Job ~ Cool Cities Policy Analyst

Department: Conservation

Reports To: Cool Cities Campaign Director

Context:

Provides policy and technical support for the Cool Cities Campaign.

Scope:

The Policy Analyst is responsible for providing Sierra Club staff and volunteers with expert analysis and technical advise regarding local climate action plans and their plementation. Develops materials and trainings to enable Sierra Club staff and volunteers to effectively work with their local officials in meeting their carbon reduction goals. Works in close cooperation with volunteer leaders, national, state and local conservation staff.

Job Activities:

1. Provides a high level of technical and policy expertise for volunteer and staff-led Cool Cities campaigns.
2. Assists local campaigns with emissions inventories, cost/benefits of various policies, local climate actions plans, best practices, and implementation.
3. Works with mayors and other city officials on behalf of the Club on national and regional conservation priorities.

4. Researches and writes policy documents and reports.
5. Provides training to volunteers and staff on relevant technical issues, including emissions inventory software.
6. Helps to monitor and track campaign activities and accomplishments, and support the Cool Cities website.
7. Represents Sierra Club in regional coalitions, at regional events and to the general public; may represent the Sierra Club in the media; promotes volunteer media exposure.
8. In cooperation with fundraising staff, assists in the development of funding proposals and participates in grant making and solicitation efforts.
9. Participates in volunteer meetings and events as needed.
10. Performs miscellaneous duties as assigned.

Seasonal Activities:

Heavier seasonal workloads may occur as a result of project deadlines, staff absences and vacancies, and during peak activity periods. Frequent weekend and/or evening work required.

Knowledge & Skills:

- B.A./B.S. degree in Environmental Studies, energy, science or a closely related field.
- 2 years experience in policy research and analysis or experience training others in using technological applications.
- Experience working with local governments on energy issues highly desirable.
- Strong demonstrated written and oral communication skills.
- Demonstrated public speaking ability.
- Excellent knowledge and background in a specific issue area of the environmental field related to assigned programs and campaigns.
- Valid drivers license, satisfactory driving record, and proof of auto insurance required.
- Demonstrated ability and effectiveness working with volunteers.
- Sierra Club is an equal opportunity employer committed to a diverse workforce.

Glen Brand, Cool Cities National Campaign Director, Sierra Club Global Warming & Energy Program, 44 Oak Street, Suite 301, Portland, ME 04101, Phone: 207-761-5616 (office); 207-272-0484 (mobile)
FAX: 207-773-6690 Email: glen.brand@sierraclub.org
Web: <http://sierraclub.org/coolcities>

Supporting Our Membership

Nothing posted this issue.

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www.mcph.org/mpha/MPHAindex.html*

