Oregon Domestic Well Safety Program (DWSP)

An Introduction

Environmental Public Health Section
Center for Prevention and Health Promotion
Oregon Public Health Division
The Team…

Environmental Public Health Section
Center for Prevention and Health Promotion
Oregon Public Health Division

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Public Health Educator

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Program Manager/Interim Section Manager

Soon to Join:
Data Entry Specialist
BACKGROUND

- 23% of Oregonians are well dependent
- 90% rural OR depends on groundwater
- 350,000 active wells
- 3,800 new wells drilled every year
PURPOSE

Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

Improve the lifelong health of Oregonians

Domestic Well Safety Program (DWSP)

Promote domestic well safety to users throughout the state
OUTCOMES

DATA
- High Quality data available for all areas of the state where domestic wells are located, revealing areas of higher risk from contaminants.

PARTNERSHIPS
- Partners throughout Oregon become engaged in efforts to promote domestic well safety.

PREVENTION
- Domestic well users throughout Oregon understand the importance of well testing and ways to mitigate risks.
STRATEGY

DATA
--Update existing inventory
--Record metadata
--Restructure Real Estate Transaction database
--Make data publicly available
--Analyze datasets

PARTNERSHIPS
--Recruit external partners to help develop materials
--Recruit 2 local jurisdictions via RFGA to support local public health capacity in addressing domestic well safety

PREVENTION
--Provide educational resources on identifying and mitigating risks to domestic well safety
--Plan and deliver community outreach events to enhance well stewardship.

TWO YEAR TIMELINE (Oct 2013-Sep 2015)
WHERE ARE WE NOW?

- Completing our team
- Developing partnerships
- Launched and are continuing to expand website
- Data merging and planning
- Evaluating current resources
- Soliciting proposals for the released RFGA...
RFGA is intended to **increase the capacity** of Oregon tribal and local public health authorities (LPHAs), particularly those that have identified **domestic wells** and **water security** as local priorities.
Request for Grant Applications (RFGA)

What...

2 Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA) to be awarded in 2014
7 month work plan (Feb 2014 - Aug 2014)

$5,000 per IGA
$5,000

**Engage**
Engage residents, vulnerable populations, local leaders, community-serving organizations, to enhance local domestic well stewardship.

**Collaborate**
Collaborate, convene, and facilitate partnerships with diverse domestic well stakeholders to plan activities that enhance local domestic well stewardship.

**Educate**
Develop and provide education and recommendations to residents, partners, and stakeholders that address public health concerns and maximize the benefits that result from proper well stewardship.
Sample Activities*…

**Engage**

- Provide free education programs to current and future homeowners with basic information on how to care for their drinking water well system, how to interpret test results, and the health effects of contamination.
- Participate in multiple local health fairs and or community events to encourage testing and proper well stewardship.

**Collaborate**

- Partner and coordinate with a local accredited environmental laboratory to provide reduced well water test cost (arsenic, bacteria, & nitrates) and kits.

**Educate**

- Develop web content
- Produce written reports, memos, fact sheets, and or maps
- Formal presentations

*Activities must be measurable and evaluated in final report*
Due by January 28, 2014 (3pm).
DWSP 2014 RFGA

How...

OHA-3710-13
Thank you!

Questions?

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