

## **Indoor and Outdoor Air Issues in Cincinnati**

Below are the list of questions for the focus group.

- 1) What words do you think of when I say air and your environment?
  - o Clarify definitions and examples
  - o Probe for understanding of causes and health effects
  - o Try to cover or prompt for a range of indoor and outdoor air pollutants
  - § Fine particles (from burning fossil fuels and dust emissions);
  - § Gases (sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, chemical vapors, radon, etc.);
  - § Ground-level ozone;
  - § Household products and chemicals;
  - § Mold and pollen;
  - § Tobacco smoke;
  - § Allergens (pet dander, dust mites, droppings/shed skins from cockroaches, mice and other pests);  
and
  - § Building materials (VOCs/formaldehyde, lead, asbestos, etc.)
- 2) Are there any particular air quality issues on campus or in your community? What do you think are the biggest sources or causes? Are certain areas impacted more than others?
  - o Ask if they know anyone who might be especially sensitive to air quality problems, such as someone with heart or lung disease (i.e. heart attack/stroke/irregular heartbeat, asthma/bronchitis/emphysema, , children or elderly people? Y/N
  - o For those who answered yes, do these people do anything to help alleviate their symptoms, and if so what?
- 3) What do you know about citizen science?
  - o Give examples as needed.
- 4) What can you (students, staff and faculty) do, or what are you doing, to reduce sources of (and exposure to) air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions -- indoors or outdoors?

- o Provide or prompt for examples if necessary.
- o Are people in your community aware of what they can do to reduce air pollution sources and/or exposure to air pollutants? Choices: Everyone, Some people, No one
- o Do people in your community implement actions to reduce sources of air pollution and/or exposure to air pollutants? Choices: Everyone, Some people, No one

§ Probe for examples of what actions they implement.

- 5) What would make you want to do something about reducing air pollution or your exposure to it? i.e. what information would motivate you to change behavior or take an action? Where/from what source(s) would you rely on to obtain information about air quality issues and what you can do?
- 6) What are some local organizations that EPA might want to work with to address air issues and raise awareness among local citizens?