

CDC National Center for Environmental Health and CDC National Center for Emerging, Zoonotic, and Infectious Diseases Focus Groups on Water-Related emergencies

What is CDC?

CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) is a federal public health agency responsible for protecting and promoting public health. The National Center for Environmental Health investigates how changes in the environment impacts human health and works to mitigate harmful public health impacts. The National Center for Emerging, Zoonotic, and Infectious Diseases, Division of Food, Water, and Environmental Diseases studies pathogens in water that may cause human health problems.

Why are we here?

The purpose of this focus group is to understand how communities receive information during a water related emergency and what we, as an agency can do to improve communication to the public. CDC's intent is to collect feedback from the community on how well you were provided with the information you needed to reduce your risk to contaminated water during an emergency.

How can you help us? We need your feedback.

CDC is conducting a focus group, called the "Testing Effective Risk and Crisis Communications Messaging for Water Related Emergencies." During the focus group a moderator will ask a series of questions to help us better understand how you prefer to receive information about water contamination or other water-related emergencies. This information will help us to improve the timeliness and responsiveness of our services to the community. We value your feedback.

As a token of appreciation, CDC will mail a \$40 gift card to community members after completing this survey.

CONSENT: First, if you are interested in taking part, we will ask you for verbal consent. Providing your contact information and taking part in this focus group is completely voluntary. You may skip any question or stop at any time. The focus group responses will be recorded and transcribed. Your responses and identity will be kept private to the extent allowed by law. Digital data will be stored in secure computer files. We will not release your identity in any CDC reports. Please be sure to get all your questions about the focus group answered by the moderator before you begin. By proceeding, you indicate that you are 18 years of age or older, and CONSENT to participate in this survey.

Thank you for providing your information!

CDC WILL...

Involve communities and tribes when responding to their environmental public health concerns.
Contact federal, tribal, state, and local health and environmental agencies, and communities, while communicating about a hazardous water event.
Review and assess community feedback to the focus group studies.
Change the type of communications CDC delivers during a water related emergency according to the focus group response.
Explore several different communications routes for delivery of public health messaging according to focus group responses.
Offer environmental health education for healthcare providers, communities, and tribes.
Offer emergency response assistance for serious hazardous materials.
Include, in most final CDC documents, public comments received in draft documents.
Refer public health issues to other federal, tribal, state, or local governmental groups when they are outside of CDC's responsibility.