

FOUNDATIONAL AREA:

# Environmental Public Health



## SPECS

According to the American Public Health Association, "Environmental health is the branch of public health that focuses on the relationships between people and their environment; promotes human health and well-being; and fosters healthy and safe communities. Environmental health is a key part of any comprehensive public health system. The field works to advance policies and programs to reduce chemical and other environmental exposures in air, water, soil and food to protect people and provide communities with healthier environments."

## RESOURCES

- [Missouri Environmental Health Association](#)
- [Environmental Public Health Performance Standards, CDC](#)
- [Building Understanding of Environmental Health: A Communications Toolkit, Frameworks Institute](#)
- [Environmental Health Playbook: Investing in a Robust Environmental Health System, NEPHC](#)
- [The Value of Environmental Health Services \(2016\), NEPHC](#)
- [Environment, Health, You \(video\), APHA](#)

Foundational Capabilities Foundational Areas

## DISCUSSION

1. To what degree are we currently addressing environmental public health hazards and risks?
2. How do health inequities and social determinants of health influence our environmental public health services?
3. What [societal barriers or health inequities](#) might be preventing someone from complying with environmental health regulations?

## APPLICATION

1. Identify ways environmental public health factors can influence broader public health goals (eg. sidewalks reduce obesity rates).
2. [Engage community members](#) in efforts to address environmental public health challenges in our community.

#HealthierMO is a grassroots initiative to transform Missouri's public health system into a stronger, more sustainable, culturally relevant and responsive system that can offer every Missourian the fair opportunity for health. #HealthierMO is a project of the [Missouri Public Health Association](#), with support from [Missouri State University](#). Funding is provided by [Missouri Foundation for Health](#) and [Health Forward Foundation](#).