

EPA's Community Engagement Flagship Summary

FY2010 – 4th Quarter



Progress on Projects/Efforts within our Flagship Initiative

Approach

- Brief highlights of our Flagship efforts, in varying stages of progress, is provided with a link to more information
- Lessons Learned: We are collecting best practices and experiences and will post them in the future

Flagship Theme: Expanding the Environmental Conversation with Communities

Urban Waters (Ongoing)

- Helping communities (especially underserved) access, restore and benefit from surrounding waters
- Convened Executive-level group (September) to define principles and pilot selection process, drafted strategic framework, partnered with National Environmental Justice Advisory Council

Improve Communication of Sampling and Testing Results (Ongoing)

- Collaborated across EPA media offices to tailor use of methodology for BP Oil Spill Response
- Methodology tested at a Superfund site to explain results of sampling at residences and buildings

Improve Delivery of Information to At-Risk and Remote Communities (Ongoing)

- Held work group meetings and began outreach strategy and implementation plan
- Solicited feedback from tribal representatives on information delivery at forum in August

Faces of the Grassroots Video Contest (Complete)

- 93 entries (from music videos to documentary-style) on grassroots environmental projects
- Videos shown in Montgomery County Maryland schools at Youth Summit

Flagship Theme: Expanding Public Awareness & Involvement in Developing Rules and Regulations

Chesapeake Bay TMDL Webinar Series (Ongoing)

- Webinar series to inform and hear from the public on progress putting the Bay on a “pollution diet”
- Conducted 2 more webinars attracting over 380 people per session

NPDES Pre-proposal Involvement (Ongoing)

- Involving regulated community in developing the future process to report electronically
- Deployed website (which received over 20,000 hits); conducted 12 webinars; received 26 comments

Rulemaking Gateway (Ongoing)

- Overall visits per month average over 6,000; top groups Children's Health and Environmental Justice
- Upgrading Gateway based on public feedback; providing rulemaking RSS feeds by area of interest

Flagship Theme: EPA Mobile Apps to Empower Citizen's Environmental Decisions

Human Health Advisories and Green Product Information (Ongoing)

- These two Flagship efforts are inter-related; EPA is encouraging and using various Web 2.0 technologies
- Collaborative website for Integrated Environmental Modeling launched in July (<http://iemhub.org/>)
- Initiated discussion forum on improving pesticide labeling (<http://blog.epa.gov/enablethelabel/>)

Enhances/updates Section V of the Plan V1.0