

# Michigan State and Local Government Pollution Prevention (P2) Partnership Revised Work Plan

In April 1998, the local health and environmental departments (LHEDs) and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) established a P2 partnership (Partnership) to enhance and increase P2 in Michigan. The LHEDs and the DEQ established a work plan to guide implementation of the Partnership. Over the last two years, the Partnership members completed most of the short-term and several of the long-term objectives of that work plan. In December 1999, the DEQ-LHED committee overseeing the Partnership recommended developing a new two-year work plan that reflects the initial program achievements and the knowledge gained from the first two years of this effort. Under the revised work plan, the Partnership will continue to promote collaborative and cooperative efforts to maximize P2 activities at the community level. The work plan has a two-year outlook with a list of objectives followed by specific goals. Each goal has one or more tasks that the partners will undertake to achieve these objectives.

**Objective 1 - Maintain and expand the partnership established between the LHEDs and the DEQ to develop and strengthen voluntary and cooperative approaches to achieve P2.**

## **GOALS**

### **1. Provide oversight to the DEQ-LHED Partnership.**

Task 1-1(a): Identify and invite representatives from the LHEDs and the DEQ to join the Partnership Committee. Hold periodic meetings to evaluate the partnership progress and identify additional opportunities for cooperative efforts.

Responsible parties: The DEQ organizes and hosts meetings. The Michigan Association for Local Public Health (MALPH) and the LHEDs assist in identifying LHED representatives and in setting the meeting agenda.

### **2. Provide DEQ staff resources to oversee implementation of the work plan.**

Task 1-2(a): Maintain existing, and provide new field staff at the DEQ district offices as funding permits.

Responsible parties: The Environmental Assistance Division (EAD) of the DEQ provides funding and manages staff.

### **3. Assess local P2 activities and partnership progress.**

Task 1-3(a): Conduct an annual review of partnership activities to benchmark against the MALPH/DEQ survey results.

Responsible parties: The DEQ will have the lead working with MALPH and the DEQ-LHED Partnership Committee.

Task 1-3(b): Re-survey LHEDs in spring 2002 to assess the level of local P2 activities and identify needed changes in the DEQ-LHED partnership.

Responsible parties: The DEQ will have the lead working with the MALPH and the DEQ-LHED Partnership Committee.

**4. Maintain strong working relationship and effective communication between EAD field staff and LHEDs.**

Task 1-4(a): Each EAD field staff visits the LHEDs in their districts at least twice a year.

Responsible parties: EAD field staff will have the lead working with LHEDs.

**Objective 2 - Maintain effective communications and information exchange between LHED and DEQ professionals on P2 policies, regulatory integration issues, training opportunities, and technical assistance information and programs.**

**GOALS**

**1. Maintain existing and establish electronic links between state and local governments.**

Task 2-1(a): Maintain existing and, as available, add new Internet links between the DEQ, MALPH, and LHEDs.

Responsible Parties: The DEQ has the lead, with support role from the MALPH and LHEDs.

Task 2-1(b): Explore an EAD/DEQ-LHED listserv to provide updates on the Partnership and professional information of interest to the EAD and those LHED staff with access to e-mail.

Responsible parties: The DEQ will have the lead, with support role from the MALPH.

Task 2-1 (c): Develop a database of P2 sites useful for LHEDs.

Responsible parties: The DEQ will have the lead, with support role from the MALPH.

**2. Maintain continued professional dialogue between the DEQ and LHEDs on P2 practices and regulatory integration.**

Task 2-2(a): Provide agenda time to the DEQ and LHED staff at meetings and conferences, including DEQ in-service training, public health and environmental health trade professional association meetings, LHED environmental health directors' conferences, DEQ P2 conferences, and other meetings and workshops as appropriate. Provide opportunities for the DEQ and LHED staff to serve on conference planning committees.

Responsible parties: The Michigan Environmental Health Association (MEHA), the Michigan Association of Local Environmental Health Administrators (MALEHA), the DEQ, MALPH, and LHEDs.

Task 2-2(b): Identify and pursue opportunities to enlist the DEQ Drinking Water and Radiological Protection Division (DWRPD) to enter partnerships with the EAD and LHEDs to promote P2 at the local level. Develop informational materials covering the areas of ground water and non-community water supply. Identify opportunities to add a P2 component to the DWRPD training agendas.

Responsible parties: The DEQ has the lead in program development and publication of materials, with support from the MALPH and LHEDs. The LHEDs have the lead in distribution of materials and incorporation of drinking water P2 principles in staff training.

Task 2-3 (c): Facilitate through the DEQ multi-media coordinators, periodic DEQ district level regulatory staff and LHED meetings to maintain a dialogue on regulatory issues that affect local government. Conduct at least one meeting per year for each district. Work with health department directors to develop agendas, which can be issue specific. For meetings conducted, develop a summary document that identifies issues of concern and necessary follow-up actions by LHEDs and the DEQ. Track status of follow-up actions.

Responsible parties: The DEQ has the lead, with support from LHEDs.

Task 2-3(d): Provide opportunities for cross training by providing notification of relevant workshops and training opportunities and by disseminating P2 training materials. The DEQ will directly market training opportunities to LHEDs and, where possible, designate a minimum number of spaces for LHED staff.

Responsible parties: DEQ, MALPH, MEHA, MLEHA.

**Objective 3 - Maintain existing and expand new partnerships between the DEQ and LHEDs to strengthen P2 at the local level by providing education, outreach, and technical assistance, and through funding and sponsorship of programs that reduce, reuse, or recycle waste.**

## **GOALS**

- 1. Develop competitive grant programs as sources of funding become available to provide opportunities for LHEDs and other local government, and non-profit agencies to increase P2 activities at the local level.**

Task 3-1(a): Utilize funding under the Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) to provide household hazardous waste (HHW) grants to provide these services to under-served population groups in the state.

Responsible Parties: The DEQ awards the grants, manages the contracts, and provides outreach and technical assistance. Grant recipients implement the collection programs and provide education and outreach to HHW generators.

Task 3-1(b): Utilize Regional P2 grants under the CMI to provide funding for innovative P2 programs that result in measurable reductions in the generation of critical pollutants, particularly in regions with environmentally sensitive resources, such as areas dependent on high water quality.

Responsible Parties: The DEQ awards the grants and manages the contracts, and provides outreach and technical assistance. Grant recipients implement the P2 programs.

Task 3-1 (c): Utilize funding under the Community Pollution Prevention Fund to develop and implement a competitive grant program that provides LHEDs and

local governmental units the opportunity to offer P2 services targeted to the needs of their communities.

Responsible Parties: The DEQ-LHED Committee develops a proposal for reviewing direction, priorities, and funding categories. The DEQ awards the grants, manages the contracts, and provides outreach and technical assistance. Grant recipient implements funded programs.

**2. Develop education and outreach programs targeted to specific areas of need identified in the LHED survey and by the DEQ-LHED Partnership Committee. Utilize one-on-one capabilities of LHEDs to deliver these programs utilizing grant funds or materials and programs developed by the DEQ.**

Task 3-2(a): Develop fact sheets, case studies, posters, and other materials for public health-related sectors identified as having good potential for P2, including food service, marinas, ground water protection, wellhead protection, septic system maintenance, and wastewater treatment.

Responsible Parties: The DEQ develops, publishes, and disseminates written materials. The LHEDs identify public health sector-related needs, provide input on development of materials, and disseminate materials. The LHEDs develop their own publications using general funding or DEQ grants, and share existing written materials with the DEQ and other LHEDs.

Task 3-2(b): Identify and utilize third parties as channels of information on P2, including marinas, restaurants, realtors, housing developers, chambers of commerce, watershed initiative organizations, and other appropriate trade and professional associations.

Responsible Parties: The DEQ and LHEDs.

**3. Effectively utilize the Retired Engineer Technical Assistance Program (RETAP) and Small Business P2 Loan Program in partnership with LHED programs.**

Task 3-3(a): Identify LHED programs that complement the RETAP and the Small Business P2 Loan program, and adopt procedures to improve P2 technical assistance at the local level.

Responsible Parties: The DEQ and LHEDs.

Task 3-3(b): Utilize LHEDs as a conduit for marketing the RETAP and Small Business P2 Loan Program.

Responsible Parties: The DEQ identifies LHEDs interested in marketing these programs and provides necessary materials. The LHEDs distribute marketing materials and promote the program at meetings and other forums as appropriate.