Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) Pennsylvania Cancer Coalition (PCC) Environmental Health Workgroup (EHWG) Meeting Notes

Date: September 16, 2025

Participants: 9

- 1. Fern Gilkerson
- 2. Andre Green
- 3. Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis
- 4. Khadijah Mitchell
- 5. Mia Ray

- 6. Danyelle Gibson
- 7. Patrick Loftus
- 8. Ned Ketyer
- 9. Kearston Ingraham

Meetings are usually held on the third Tuesdays of the month from 1:00pm-2:00pm. Any new and interested members referred to this workgroup must initially use the online form found on the <u>PCC website</u>. They must also specifically request to join the <u>Environmental Health Workgroup</u>. Click for the <u>PA Cancer Coalition website</u> and click for the <u>PA Cancer Control Plan</u>.

Past meeting notes can be found here.

The EHWG Action Plan Document is on the PCC Environmental Health Workgroup page.

During the meeting, Education subcommittee members further developed plans to launch an environmental cancer webinar series. The group also reviewed the offer for the EHWG to lead the September 11, PCC Quarterly Meeting. Presentation roles and structure were drafted for the PCC meeting and future efforts were discussed.

9/11/25 PCC Presentation Feedback

The EHWG recently hosted a presentation and panel discussion focused on environmental health, public health, and cancer. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive, with many describing the session as engaging, informative, and relevant to a wide range of audiences. The discussion highlighted the importance of raising awareness about environmental factors that can impact health including areas that have historically received less attention, such as pre-conceptual and prenatal exposures. Participants also expressed appreciation for the practical consumer safety information shared during the session and the thoughtful way the panel discussion was moderated.

The group reaffirmed the critical role environmental health plays in advancing the mission of the PCC to reduce health risks.

Overall Resources Shared

- 2025 Conference PA Breast Cancer Coalition
- https://www.psrpa.org/post/the-people-s-cancer-incidence-screening-tool-pcistbecause-cancer-is-not-our-destiny
- https://womenforahealthyenvironment.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/PFAS-Health-Policy-Brief.pdf
- https://womenforahealthyenvironment.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/PFAS-Report.pdf

Education Subcommittee

This group reviewed the upcoming webinar schedule for October and November 2025. The first two webinars of six planned have run-of-shows in place. The group will work on how to promote these webinars to key audiences. Strategies may include social media outreach, email blasts, and other channels to ensure strong participation and broad reach.

Policy Subcommittee

This group explored the idea of opportunities for a broader coalition across the state. The group plans to immerse itself in PFAS efforts throughout 2026. This includes outreach to Senator Mastriano and engaging local governing bodies across the state, such as municipalities, to engage with product makers and small business owners. Additional campaign efforts may highlight findings around carcinogens in amniotic fluid as part of broader PFAS-focused advocacy. The group has discussed holding town hall meetings as an engagement tool.

Next Meeting

The next EHWG meetings are scheduled for 10/21/25, 1-2pm.