

Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH)
Pennsylvania Cancer Coalition (PCC)
Environmental Health Workgroup (EHWG) Meeting Notes
Date: December 16, 2025

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| 1. Fern Gilkerson | 4. Geoff Horsfield |
| 2. Dani Wilson | 5. Patrick Loftus |
| 3. Kate Prosachik | 6. Kearston Ingraham |
| | 7. Andre Green |

Meetings are usually held on the third Tuesdays of the month from 1:00pm-2:00pm. New members must first fill out the online form on the [PCC website](#) and specifically request to join the [Environmental Health Workgroup](#). Click for the [PA Cancer Coalition website](#) and click for the [PA Cancer Control Plan](#).

Updates: January is National Radon Action Month: Free radon kits will be available in Homestead.

Helpful Apps:

[Skin Deep \(EWG\)](#)

[Clearya](#)

[Detox me](#)

Mapping Tool: [PennEnviroScreen](#): Helps to identify communities facing EJ issues

Guest Speaker:

Geoff Horsfield, from the [Environmental Working Group](#) in Washington DC is working with Pennsylvania on getting [Paraquat](#) banned. It is currently banned in more than 70 countries. Paraquat is a highly toxic weedkiller. It is not registered for use in Canada and factors in high as a risk for Parkinson's disease. Paraquat is also connected to non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and kidney and thyroid cancers. It is commonly used in central and southcentral PA and on apple trees, corn, and on golf courses. Other states use Paraquat for products such as grapes, peanuts, soybeans, and more. Those who live within three miles of a golf course are at a greater risk of developing Parkinson's disease. There are safer alternatives, and it is time to make progress. The risk is for people mixing, loading, or applying paraquat, or if you live or work near application site(s). Concerns started back in the 1970s. [Penn Live](#) picked up a story.

To voice your support for banning Paraquat in PA, your [organization can sign onto a live letter](#); just be sure to request edit access.

February 4: EWG is planning a lobbying day in Harrisburg to meet with lawmakers to promote bipartisan bill HB 2065 to ban the use of Paraquat. If you or a representative from your organization would like to join, please [complete this form](#). The day will include meetings with lawmakers or their staff, as well as a press conference.

Next EHWG Meeting: 1/20/26, 1-2pm.