

TITLE: Corvallis Indoor Air Quality, a Community Engaged Research Study

AUTHOR(S): Melissa Myers, Mac Gillespie, Annette Mills, Diana Rohlman

PRESENTER(S): Melissa Myers and Diana Rohlman

STUDENT SUBMISSION: Yes

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Community Research

ABSTRACT: Abstract

Background: Recent studies have highlighted the health concerns around outdoor air quality. Indoor air quality (IAQ) continues to be a significant concern, impacted by small contributions from within the home, as well as outdoor air pollution contributors. Corvallis, OR, residents are concerned about a local fiberglass plant. The Corvallis Sustainability Coalition (CSC) partnered with the College of Public Health and Human Sciences at Oregon State University to perform a community-engaged IAQ study.

Purpose: Increase awareness of and improve IAQ with a focus on PM 2.5.

Methods: Participants were recruited via the CSC's list serv and community events. Air monitors (DylosPro) were deployed in 27 Corvallis homes for 7 days with continuous monitoring. Hourly and daily particulate matter averages were calculated and compared to national averages. Individual and aggregate reports were returned to participants and the community.

Results: Over 60 community members expressed interest in being involved in the study. Of the 27 homes surveyed, three exceeded the annual threshold and 8 exceeded the daily threshold on at least one day.

Discussion: Individual and aggregate reports will be used by the CSC to increase education on ways to promote better IAQ. The aggregate report was returned to the community.

OBJECTIVE(S): Learning Objectives:

Discuss how community-engaged research can address existing research questions and improve knowledge around an environmental health topic.

Describe why indoor air quality and health should be evaluated as a public health topic.

Discuss different methods to improve indoor air quality.

PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION:

myermeli@oregonstate.edu, Corvallis Sustainability Coalition/ Oregon State University