

Center for Environmental Policy and Management

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- **CEPM named recipient of HUD technical assistance grant**
- **New practice guide regarding safe soils**
- **MHC releases 2011 State of Metropolitan Housing Report**
- **EPA Region 5 new urban agriculture guidance documents**
- **New staff at CEPM**
- **Feel free to contact us for more information.**

CEPM named recipient of HUD technical assistance grant

The University of Louisville's Center for Environmental Policy and Management (CEPM/EFC4) has been named a recipient of a technical assistance grant through the U.S. HUD Capacity Building for Sustainable Communities program. The CEPM/EFC4 will collaborate with other University of Louisville environmental centers as well as experts from other Environmental Finance Centers across the country, as members of the EFCN, in providing technical assistance to communities in the area of water infrastructure planning and investment as they engage in sustainable community planning efforts. About 87 communities across the country who have received Regional and Challenge Grants from HUD in 2010 and 2011 and just over 100 communities who have received a variety of U.S. EPA technical assistance grants will benefit from this assistance. Our team is one of 8 who will all work to develop a national learning network. See HUD Press Release: <http://centerforenvironmentalpolicyandmanagement.createsend1.com/t/r//hrlkkl//s/>. For more information about the award and the program, please see <http://centerforenvironmentalpolicyandmanagement.createsend1.com/t/r//hrlkkl//g/>. Stay tuned as this innovative project unfolds!

New practice guide regarding safe soils

Safe Container Gardening

This practice guide examines and summarizes the research on the safe use of raised beds and container gardening for agricultural and other uses. The purpose of the guide is to 1) help organizations establish a policy for safe container gardening; and 2) inform individuals who seek to build a container garden or simply learn more about the practice of safe container gardening. This is particularly useful for organizations seeking to develop guidelines or policies for safe container and raised bed gardening, including school districts that promote or require raised beds, community gardens, or other organizations that regulate or construct container or raised bed gardens.

New practice guide regarding safe soils is now available at: http://cepm.louisville.edu/Pubs_WPapers/practiceguides/PG28.pdf.



See a listing of all available practice guides

at: <http://centerforenvironmentalpolicyandmanagement.createsend1.com/t/r//hrIkIkl//w/>

MHC releases 2011 State of Metropolitan Housing Report

The Metropolitan Housing Coalition released its 2011 State of Metropolitan Housing Report on October 27th. The focus of this year's report is on the built and natural environment and the role it plays in fair and affordable housing. Topic areas explored will include: green space; air, water, and soil pollution; brownfields; vacant properties; lead issues; and storm water and floods. MHC believes that the 2011 State of Metropolitan Housing Report will become a valuable asset to policy makers, advocates, and residents as we work for greener, safer neighborhoods and housing opportunities. The data and analysis presented in the report will educate and empower its readers to advocate for change that supports healthier housing and neighborhoods for all greater Louisville residents. Feel free to access the report at

<http://centerforenvironmentalpolicyandmanagement.createsend1.com/t/r//hrIkIkl//yh/>.

EPA Region 5 new urban agriculture guidance documents

The Urban Farm Business Plan Handbook provides a framework for any organization or community interested in developing an urban farm on cleaned brownfields or vacant sites to help address neighborhood blight, food access, or community development challenges. The handbook provides guidance on how to assemble marketing, operating, and financial strategies to communicate your urban farm project to potential partners and funders. Questionnaires related to each section as well as financial spreadsheets are also included in this toolkit. Brownfields and Urban Agriculture: Interim Guidelines for Safe Gardening Practices presents a process and set of recommendations for developing agricultural reuse projects on sites with an environmental history. Potential gardeners, state environmental agencies and regulators can use this process to determine how to address the risks inherent to redeveloping brownfields for agricultural reuses while being protective of human health. This document can be used as an interim guideline until research can provide more definitive standards and policies for agricultural reuse on these sites. Although the guide was developed in the Midwest, it may be used to benefit tribes and communities throughout the country wishing to utilize urban agriculture on brownfield sites and vacant properties.

These documents can be found

at <http://centerforenvironmentalpolicyandmanagement.createsend1.com/t/r//hrIkIkl//yk/>.

New staff at CEPM



CEPM is proud to welcome three new staff members. Allison Smith, a biology graduate student, is filling a part-time student position while Daniel Weinstein, a sociology graduate student, is working as a Graduate Research Assistant. Shannon

Scroggins, who recently received her Masters of Science in Biology, has joined our team full-time.

Feel free to contact us for more information.



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