

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

PPDC TALKING POINTS
PUBLIC HEALTH WORK GROUP
NOVEMBER 2, 2017

- **Introductions**
- **Background on Purpose of PHWG**
 - Requested by PPDC members during the Zika Response
 - PH crises, whether natural or man-made (hurricanes, emerging pathogens)
- **Tuesday, Oct 31, 2017 – held kick-off meeting:**
 - Define Mission
 - Determine Goals
- **First meeting was an organizational meeting and open to members only**
- **21 Members Representing**
 - Registrants (conventional, biological, and antimicrobial)
 - Public Health Groups, Academicians, and other associations
 - Federal Partners (CDC/NIOSH, Armed Forces Pest Management Board, EPA Regions)
- **Mission Statement is intentionally broad.**
 - “This Public Health Workgroup, formed under the auspices of the EPA Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC), will focus on policy, advice, information and recommendations regarding pest management methods that control public health pests. The workgroup will provide recommendations to the PPDC for consideration and sharing with the Environmental Protection Agency.”
- **The group identified 3 initial focus areas:**
 - **Communications** - How might the Agency **better communicate the risks and values of public health pest interventions?** What should the Agency be communicating, how, and to whom? How can we improve communications, particularly around technical topics?

- Focus on communicating the role that pesticides play in maintaining and ensuring the high standards of public health enjoyed in the US.
- **Develop an Action Plan/SOP to help response to Natural or Manmade Disasters** - What can the Agency do to *prepare for* emerging public health pests and diseases, and to public health emergencies that are the result of a natural or manmade disaster?
 - Public health emergencies sometimes test the agency's ability to respond quickly and easily.
 - By anticipating some frequent needs during emergencies, EPA could be an effective partner for recovery such as creating:
 - SOP/Action plans tailored to different scenarios/environments after impacted by a natural disaster.
 - Suitable tactics for insect disease vector control
- **Resistance Management** to further defining & elevating the Agency's role in public health pest resistance prevention & response. We could:
 - Develop a plan to understand and prevent pest resistance to treatments such as predictive modeling and proper use of pesticides.
 - Evaluate resistance impacts on emergency response.
 - The group would like to focus on resistance management for public health pests similar to what's been done for the herbicides.
 - Educate and support the need to prevent and minimize further development of resistance in pest populations
 - Evaluate expeditious means to clear new pesticides to counter resistant pest threats when public health is a risk
- **Our next meeting will allow for us to narrow our focus and add more specificity to those 3 goals.**
- **Comments or Questions?**