

WASH PEH Tabletop Exercise

Welcome

Thank you all for coming to the 2023 WASH PEH Tabletop Exercise. Just a reminder that this is just an exercise, and communications will start with “This is an Exercise.” My name is Abby Menke, and I am the Deputy Director of the Franklin County Health Department. I, along with my colleague, Andrea Johnson, will be leading the tabletop exercise today. If we could please quickly go around the table and have everyone introduce themselves, that would be great.

Ground Rules

The guidelines and ground rules for this exercise are as follows.

- This exercise will be held in an open, low-stress, no-fault environment. Varying viewpoints are expected.
- This exercise is an opportunity to discuss and present multiple options and possible solutions.
- Problem-solving efforts should be the focus.

In any exercise, assumptions and artificialities may be necessary to complete play in the time allotted and/or account for logistical limitations. Exercise participants should accept that assumptions and artificialities are inherent in any exercise and should not allow these considerations to negatively impact their participation. During this exercise, the following apply:

- The exercise is conducted in a no-fault learning environment wherein capabilities, plans, systems, and processes will be evaluated.
- The exercise scenario is plausible, and events occur as they are presented.
- All players receive information at the same time, per jurisdiction

Scenario

Following a days-long rain storm, the Bourbeuse River in Union and Missouri River have experienced flooding. The flooding has extended to surrounding areas, including potential encampments in the Union and Washington areas. This has led to standing water in many of the areas of Franklin County.

- What are the initial steps you would take in the case of this flooding?

In the following days, two people experiencing homelessness have reported to Mercy Washington ED complaining of diarrhea, abdominal pain, cramps, and fever. After testing by the department, they are diagnosed with Shigellosis.

- What next steps are taken?
- After public health contacts the PEH Outreach Team, what are their next steps?

It is determined that the standing water has impacted local homelessness encampments.

- What messaging will be provided to people experiencing homelessness?
- What resources are needed and who will provide them?

Are there any other pressing topics for discussion on this exercise?