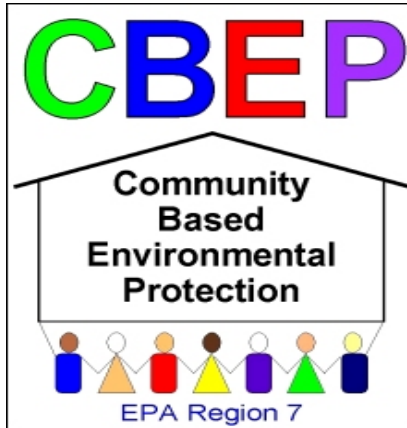


Community Based Environmental Protection

F A C T S H E E T

Community-Based Environmental Protection (CBEP) refers to an innovative approach used by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It is designed to bring together public and private interests in a geographical place or community so that they can identify environmental concerns, develop solutions, and implement those solutions.



CBEP Partners Also Take Into Account

- ❑ human social needs
- ❑ economic prosperity
- ❑ long-term ecosystem health



Omaha Clean-Up Participant

The CBEP Approach Will

- ❑ **Help develop effective partnerships.** Community stakeholders can be governmental agencies, individuals, civic organizations, businesses, environ-

mental and conservation groups, industry associations, landowners, not-for-profit groups and others. CBEP provides an opportunity for those affected by environmental issues and the decisions of government to play meaningful roles in the decision-making process.

- ❑ **Promote sustainable communities by integrating environmental, economic, and social objectives.** The CBEP approach seeks to ensure that government actions are consistent with the related goals of sustainable development: a cleaner and more resilient environment; an equitable society; and a more productive and efficient economy.
- ❑ **Monitor and re-direct efforts through flexible management.** Projects
(continued on back page)

EPA's CBEP Goals

- ❑ **To meet** EPA's regulatory responsibilities.
- ❑ **To support** community efforts to protect and restore natural resources in ways that help achieve long-term environmental, economic, social, and human health benefits.
- ❑ **To help** communities work on environmental problems that traditional federal regulatory approaches won't solve, such as urban sprawl and loss of biological diversity.
- ❑ **To promote** new ways in which EPA programs can work together to help improve community-based decision-making.

CBEP is often called a place-based or ecosystem approach where communities create a vision of environmental health and quality of life and then work together with various entities to support that vision.

(continued from front page)

will be continuously monitored. Project reports, strategies created, data and advanced technology will be shared so that all may benefit.

❑ **Include federal, state, and local agencies, the general public, and private entities to achieve effective solutions.** Various interests work together to deliver their existing programs with many different tools and approaches, such as education, grants, information access, and technical assistance.

❑ **Focus on a definable geographic area.** The boundaries can be based on political subdivisions, such as a county, a city or a tribal land; on social communities, including urban and suburban neighborhoods; on the natural landscape, such as the land that drains to a river (a watershed); or on different types of ecosystems, such as forests, plains, lakes and prairies.



❑ **Assess, protect and restore the quality of the air, water, land, and living resources.** CBEP is a multimedia approach that brings together EPA programs and helps create natural resource planning and action.



St. Louis Listening Tour

Collaboration between diverse public and private stakeholders within a specific geographic area facilitates:

- ❑ a comprehensive identification of local environmental concerns;
- ❑ the setting of priorities and goals that reflect the overall community concerns;
- ❑ the forging of comprehensive, long-term solutions.

The ultimate success of CBEP projects will be defined by positive sustainable results and improvements in human health and the quality of life in the community.

If you would like more information about the work within these communities, or have questions about CBEP, please contact:

Kathleen L. Fenton
CBEP Regional Coordinator
EPA Region 7
WWPD/CBEP
901 North 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

Phone: 1-913-551-7874 Toll-Free: 1-800-223-0425
Fax: 1-913-551-7765 Email: fenton.kathleen@epa.gov

[Http://www.epa.gov/region07/specinit/cbep/](http://www.epa.gov/region07/specinit/cbep/)