



NEWS RELEASE

St. Charles County Government

Department of Governmental Communications

*Lisa Dunham, Director
(636) 949-1892*

County Seeks Community Input Regarding Public Health Issues *Revised Health Assessment Survey Now Available Online*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gil Copley, Director, Department of Community Health and the Environment
Julie Burkemper, Public Information Officer

Monday, March 28, 2005

636-949-7477

636-949-7408

St. Charles County— Residents can confidentially voice their concerns and opinions regarding the public health of the St. Charles County community by simply going online to www.scchealth.org and completing a newly revised survey. The survey is sponsored by the St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment and Healthy Communities – St. Charles County. The survey offers residents a completely confidential opportunity to play a role in shaping the future public health of our county.

Health assessments give public health agencies a good overall picture of the health status and health needs of the community. The results of the online survey will enable St. Charles County Department of Community Health and Health Communities – St. Charles County to assess the needs of the community, investigate the occurrences of health effects and hazards and allow for the analysis of community health needs.

“This community “portrait” helps us develop, maintain and improve programs that residents want, in areas that residents feel are important. Having the survey available online is an extremely efficient and cost-effective way to reach a lot of people,” said Gil Copley, Director of the St Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment. “The survey is completely confidential and because the survey is online, it is updated every time someone takes it and anyone can view the results,” Copley said. In addition to being available online, the survey will periodically be distributed at locations throughout the community. Those surveys will be mailed in and entered in the system.

St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment was a leader in developing an online community health assessment survey. Since its inception, a number of health departments from Missouri as well as Canada, Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand have inquired about the survey and have opted for an online health assessment survey tailored for their communities. To participate in the future of public health in the St. Charles community, please visit us at www.scchealth.org and click on the “Take the Survey” link.