



Public health planning and environmental health

Promoting safe community events

Environmental health provides a lead role in overseeing the implementation of the health and safety requirements for a wide range of community events including local fairs, markets, concerts, music festivals and sporting events. Events provide positive benefits to the community but require careful planning to make sure the safety of patrons is always a priority.

The intent of public building and event regulations is to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the public. The [Health \(Public Buildings\) Regulations 1992](#) complement the Building Code of Australia (BCA) by addressing operational and environmental health matters that may not be fully covered by the BCA.

Local community events also offer a platform for health promotion. By incorporating health protection messaging into local events, local governments can raise awareness about common public health risks such as mosquito borne diseases, smoking/vaping, healthy food options and even safe home renovations. Directly interacting with the public can help to encourage behavioural change, build trust with health services, increase public understanding and support healthier lifestyles.

Example strategies that could be implemented are included in the table below:

Examples
Advocate for the use of the Guidelines for concerts, events and organised gatherings by event organisers prior to and during events.
Develop and adopt a healthy events policy that requires healthy food options to be sold at local community events organised at local government owned facilities and land.
Recommend event organisers provide patrons with information about mosquito-borne disease risks utilising the Fight the Bite campaign, particularly for events held in high mosquito activity areas. Educate event organisers about the repellent dispenser initiative as a means of ensuring repellent is readily available to community members at events held at peak biting times of mosquito activity to promote bite prevention.
Identify suitable local government community events to promote and display environmental health educational materials, with staff available to answer queries, including: • Mosquito awareness - Fight the Bite campaign materials and discussion of strategies used by the local government to minimise mosquito breeding. • Asbestos awareness at events for home renovators to reduce the risk of exposing themselves to asbestos fibres.

• Safe food handling at home using the Play it Food Safe campaign materials. • Promotion of healthy diet and exercise habits using Act, Belong, Commit resources.
Encourage event organisers to adopt smoke and vape free policies for outdoor events and festivals. Provide guidance and support for event planning to ensure compliance with smoke-free regulations and promotion of a healthy environment for attendees.
Create alcohol-free environments particularly where children and young people may be present.
Promote SunSmart WA guidelines to sporting clubs and event organisers to reduce UV exposure: • Sun Protection for Sports • Hosting a SunSmart Event
Provide WA Department of Health heatwave safety information to event organisers: • Heatwave factsheets for event organisers • Heatwave factsheet for outdoor workers
Promote Constable Care Foundation presence at large community events to provide safety education, mascot appearances, and Lost Child Points: Child Safety Education - Constable Care

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with disability.

© Department of Health 2025

Copyright to this material is vested in the State of Western Australia unless otherwise indicated. Apart from any fair dealing for the purposes of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the provisions of the Copyright Act 1968, no part may be reproduced or re-used for any purposes whatsoever without written permission of the State of Western Australia.

health.wa.gov.au