

West Silver Valley Citizen Advisory Meeting

October 23, 2014

Presentation by DEQ

The West Silver Valley Citizen Advisory Meeting met on Thursday October 23 at the Kellogg City Hall. In attendance were 12 locate residents. The meeting started off with a PowerPoint presentation which covered the following:

A review air quality efforts in the Silver Valley from 1970's to the present

- Review of current standards

History of Pinehurst monitor

Current non-attainment proposal

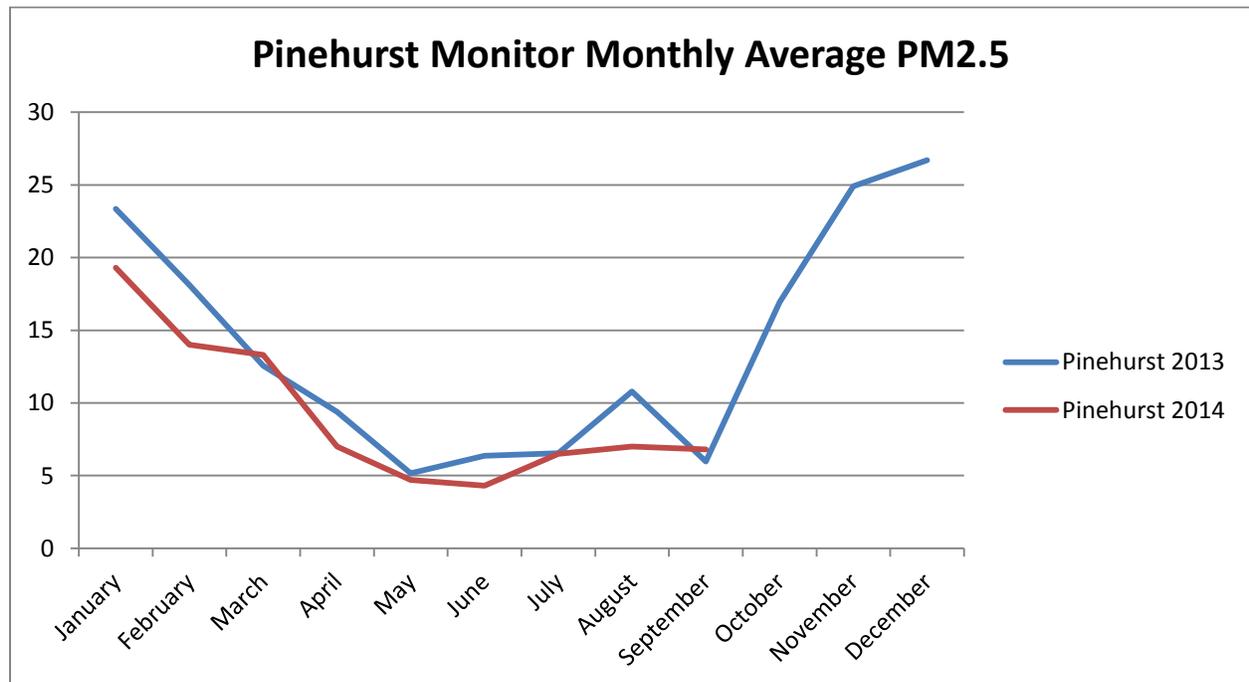
Review of State Implementation Plan (SIP) requirements

- Next steps

Information Requests

DEQ's West Silver Valley webpage

Graph of annual data so far:



Citizen Input

Comments/topics received during the meeting:

- A local physician, Dr. Reed attended the meeting and was available to answer health questions. An increase in respiratory impacts was noted to occur during "winter" months

- Feedback from the group was received regarding the AQI in the Shoshone Press. The group felt it was difficult to understand and needed some explanation. The paper has been contacted regarding the AQI and efforts to improve it will continue.
- The group was informed about the AQI/Burn Advisory recorded message which is available (1-800-633-6247) and suggested it be posted in the paper. The Shoshone press will be contacted regarding posting of this number.
- The group suggested the use of billboards to get air quality information to the general public. This will be investigated as a possible information outlet.
- Coordination between counties, voluntary reductions before imposing mandatory reductions, outreach and education as the State Implementation Plan (SIP) is developed were points brought up during discussions. Since Shoshone Fire District 2 includes a significant portion of Kootenai County near the county line this effort should include the FD. More to come as the SIP is developed beginning early next year.
- The possibility of requiring permits or having local ordinances to control backyard/slash burning was discussed. The SCFD2 permit is currently only active from March 10 through October 20 each year. Discussions with SCFD2 will be necessary during the SIP development. This would also require county implementation of some type of burning program since much of the area where prescribed and open burning occurs is outside of SCFD2 territory.
- The group decided the next meeting date would be November 20, 6-7:30PM at Kellogg Middle School. The meeting is scheduled, reminders will be sent along with the meeting will be posted in the Shoshone News Press the week of November 10th.