

Woodsmoke Study Meeting

Jul 18, 2012

The results of a wood smoke study conducted in Grand Rapids this past winter will be presented to the Grand Rapids Town Board and the community on July 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 2410 48th Street South, Grand Rapids. Dr. David Snyder, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UW-SP), conducted the study and will present the findings and answer questions. The research provides information on winter-time air quality levels in Grand Rapids and analyzed the role of wood smoke in affecting local air quality. Air monitoring was conducted at three stationary sites and mobile monitoring was conducted also.

Wood is a popular source of energy for home heating across the upper Midwest. This is one of the first Midwest studies to look at the effect of wood smoke from residential wood heating on local air quality. In general, Grand Rapids has good air quality. The study was a collaborative project with UW-SP as the lead and the Lake Michigan Air Directors Consortium, the Grand Rapids Town Board, the Wood County Health Department, the University of Wisconsin-Extension, the U.S. Forest Service, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services as partners.