

# West Ocala Neighborhood PACE EH Project



## Final Report of Survey Results

Published by the Community Environmental Health Assessment Team,  
Facilitated by the  
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Division of Environmental Health.



## Executive Summary

The tenet of this report is deeply rooted in the belief that, the public health of any community is based upon the health of that community's environment. Under the auspices of the Division of Environmental health of the Marion County Health Department, the West Ocala Neighborhood PACE EH (Protocol for Assessing Community Excellence In Environmental Health) Project focused on facilitating a community-driven initiative to identify the environmental health concerns and set priorities that will impact and improve the quality of life of the West Ocala community of Marion County.

This report shows a true collaborative initiative among, grassroots community members, public agencies, private organizations, and business entities in the Ocala, Marion county area. Using a CEHAT (Community Environmental Health Assessment Team) composed of members from the aforementioned groups, data was gathered using a tool developed, and analyzed by the team with the Health Department providing technical support.

Two Sample Surveys (Long and Short) were commissioned. The first batch of surveys (Long), aimed at establishing a link between the health of the community and the health of the environment, was distributed from January 2<sup>nd</sup> with a return date of January 31<sup>st</sup>. CEHAT members took advantage of a series of opportunistic interviews, by mostly canvassing the community, distributing and collecting the Surveys from door to door. Some were distributed during community gatherings and meetings, at Hair Saloons and other businesses. The last batch of Surveys (Short) also called the 'Environmental Health Awareness Fair Survey', aimed specifically at determining the community's concern and interest in learning about environmental health issues, was distributed during the Environmental Health Awareness Fair on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

Until this point, there was no clear agreeable designation by the grassroots community members, public agencies, private organizations, and business entities, of what was considered the West Ocala Neighborhood. Therefore, an essential task for the PACE EH project and importantly for conducting the surveys was to identify the West Ocala Neighborhood boundaries as follows:

From NW 27<sup>th</sup> Ave (on the West) to Pine Ave (on the East)  
From State Road 200 (on the South), to NW 28<sup>th</sup> St, NW 31<sup>st</sup> St, and NW 35<sup>th</sup> St  
(on the North).

No one living outside this boundary participated in the survey.

The age range is 14 years to 92 years. No one under the age of 14 years was sampled. The oldest respondent recorded an age of 92 years. A detailed distribution is depicted in the demographic section of this report.

Out of 2000 'long' surveys distributed, a total number of 392 were returned. Out of 300 'short surveys, 67 were returned. Although all the respondents were asked the same questions, some did not respond to all the questions. Such occurrences are shown whenever necessary.

The data procured were analyzed using the SPSS 11.0 software. The team closely approximated the conditions of scientific accuracy and validity to ensure valid and reliable information. Additionally, a high standard of ethics (ESOMAR Code of Ethics) was employed to guarantee a healthy level of academic rigor. It should be duly noted that possible biases involved in the development and use of this assessment methodology is taken into consideration in interpreting the results.

The issue that *affected* the community most as far as their health, as depicted by both surveys is, “*Air Contamination/Pollution*”, which received the highest numeric value.

The environmental health issue that is of *most concern* to respondents is “*Uncared for Properties*”. Under this definition, dilapidated buildings, overgrown lots, and littering were placed under the same category.

This report points to many things. Of particular concern is the direct relationship between the local environment (ecology) and the human health of the community as shown specifically by these issues. It is not an attempt to outline or elicit simplistic solutions. The ultimate goal of this assessment is a call for a balanced approach to addressing or implementing sustainable programs that will focus on community-based disease prevention, with special emphasis on involving the grassroots community members and organizational stakeholders, in a viable partnership.

Finally, this report is made available to all with the hope that it will ignite a broad based collaborative effort towards a change for a better quality of life in the West Ocala Neighborhood.

The CEHAT members are to be highly commended for their exemplary efforts in continuing to assess the West Ocala Neighborhood in order to achieve a common goal of improving the quality of life.

A special thanks to all our partners; public agencies, private organizations, and business entities, for making this endeavor a success. Of honorable mention are the respondents for taking the time to provide valuable information without which this project would not have been possible.

For further information, or to receive a copy of the raw data please contact:

Samuél Brobbey, Jr.  
Sr. Health Educator/PACE EH Coordinator  
Marion County Health Department  
352-622-7744  
samuel\_brobbeyjr@doh.state.fl.us

## ‘LONG’ SURVEY INTRODUCTION

The survey started with an introduction identifying the Community Environmental Health Assessment Team as residents and local organizations. This team developed the instrument with the aim of gauging environment health concerns related to a predefined boundary in the community. It was clearly marked as voluntary.

**Total Number Distributed: 2000**

**Total Respondents: 392**

Are these environmental health issues a concern in your neighborhood?

**Frequencies** (Total number of response)

Issue	Number Valid	Number Missing
Air Contamination/Pollution	372	20
Uncared for Property	382	10
Insufficient/Inadequate lighting	370	22
Other - Blank	85	307
Other – Filled in	392	0

### Air Contamination/Pollution

How serious is this Problem?	Frequency	Percent
Barely Noticeable	90	23.0
Noticeable	82	20.9
Extremely Noticeable	200	51.0
Total	372	94.9
Missing	20	5.1
Total	392	100.0

### Uncared For Property

How serious is this Problem?	Frequency	Percent
Barely Noticeable	51	13.0
Noticeable	112	28.6
Extremely Noticeable	219	55.9
Total	382	97.4
Missing	10	2.6
Total	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### Insufficient/Inadequate lighting

How serious is this Problem?	Frequency	Percent
Barely Noticeable	84	21.4
Noticeable	95	24.2
Extremely Noticeable	191	48.7
Total	370	94.4
Missing	22	5.6
Total	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

1. Which one(s) of the above concerns affect you most?

This question aims to capture what affected the respondent most, out of the three (Air Contamination/Pollution, Uncared for Property, Insufficient/Inadequate lighting) environmental health concern identified in the opening statement. Many respondents provided legitimate concerns that fall outside the scope of the identified concerns. These concerns although a part of the raw data, are not reflected in this report.

<b>Environmental Health Concern</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Air Contamination	115	29.7
Uncared for Property	44	11.2
Insufficient/inadequate Lighting Street, Parking lots, Recreation Areas	38	9.8

2. Does this concern affect the health of someone in your household?

The rationale behind this question was to ascertain how the identified concern in the previous questions affected somebody's health in the respondent's household. This provided some information about how respondents' health was personally affected by the environmental health condition, establishing a link between human health and the health of the environment.

<b>Answer</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	202	51.5
No	139	35.5
Total	341	87.0
Missing	51	13.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

If **yes**, in what way?

Some people who selected 'Yes' to the previous question noted several conditions that affected them. Of these, specific health related ones are shown below. Others not directly related to human health, although a part of the raw data, are not reflected here.

Health concern	Frequency	Percent
Asthma	26	7
Allergies	16	4.4
Breathing Problems	41	10.5
Bronchitis	4	1.1
Lung Problem	6	1.4
Respiratory	9	2.3
Sinus	17	4.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>29.3</b>

3. What neighborhoods/areas are affected by these local environmental health concerns?

Obtaining specific geographic information about respondents was the intent of this question. Because the data showed a fairly equal distribution within the boundary, the full list is not displayed in this report. The following listed areas reported several times sufficiently show the concerns concentrate around them; **Bunche Heights, Bethune Village, Busbee Quarters, Happiness Homes, Howard Heights, and Richmond Heights**

4. Are you or someone you know personally at risk from any of these concerns?

Answer	Frequency	Percent
Yes	244	62.2
No	92	23.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>85.7</b>
<b>Missing</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>14.3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## 5. What populations are most affected?

Because of the difficulties related to defining the categories – Children, Adolescents, Adults, Seniors – this question presented some challenges to respondents and an equal challenge during analysis. The information below reflects a broad but partial view of response. For simplicity the various combination results are not shown.

Population	Frequency	Percent
Children	44	11.2
Adolescents	10	2.6
Adults	37	9.4
Seniors	39	9.9
Everyone (Filled in)	108	27.6

Are these community strengths noticeable in your neighborhood?

### Youth, Caring People, Family

How would you rate it?	Frequency	Percent
Barely Noticeable	107	27.3
Noticeable	136	34.7
Extremely Noticeable	128	32.7
Total	371	94.6
Missing	21	5.4
Total	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## Community Organizations

How would you rate it?	Frequency	Percent
Barely Noticeable	147	37.5
Noticeable	135	34.4
Extremely Noticeable	87	22.2
Total	369	94.1
Missing	23	5.9
Total	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## Churches

How would you rate it?	Frequency	Percent
Barely Noticeable	83	21.2
Noticeable	119	30.4
Extremely Noticeable	169	43.1
Total	371	94.6
Missing	21	5.4
Total	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## Funding Opportunities

How would you rate it?	Frequency	Percent
Barely Noticeable	245	62.5
Noticeable	73	18.6
Extremely Noticeable	40	10.2
Total	358	91.3
Missing	34	8.7
Total	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## Home ownership

How would you rate it?	Frequency	Percent
Barely Noticeable	128	32.7
Noticeable	138	35.2
Extremely Noticeable	106	27.0
Total	372	94.9
Missing	20	5.1
Total	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## Rich History

How would you rate it?	Frequency	Percent
Barely Noticeable	208	53.1
Noticeable	75	19.1
Extremely Noticeable	72	18.4
Total	355	90.6
Missing	37	9.4
Total	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## Black Business

How would you rate it?	Frequency	Percent
Barely Noticeable	231	58.9
Noticeable	85	21.7
Extremely Noticeable	40	10.2
Total	356	90.8
Missing	36	9.2
Total	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## What is your age?

Beginning with this question and followed by three others, this section of the survey gathered brief demographic information about respondents. A wide variety of responses was given to this numeric question. The frequency distribution is shown in 10-year groupings.

Age	Frequency	Percent
14-23	17	6.2
24-33	42	15.2
34-43	53	19.2
44-53	51	18.5
54-63	41	14.9
64-73	47	17
74-83	21	7.6
84 and above	4	1.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>70.4</b>
<b>Missing</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>29.6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## What is your gender?

Respondent were given the option of circling one of two clear options provided.

Gender	Frequency	Percent
Male	119	30.4
Female	254	64.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>95.2</b>
<b>Missing</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>4.8</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## What is your Race?

'Race' for this survey was closely fashioned after the recent federal standards. Respondents were given an explanation as to separation between 'Race' and 'Ethnicity' in the next question.

Race	Frequency	Percent
African-American	363	92.2
Caucasian	4	1.0
Other	7	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>95.4</b>
<b>Missing</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## What is your Ethnicity?

Like 'Race', in the previous question, 'Ethnicity' for this survey was closely fashioned after the recent federal standards.

Ethnicity	Frequency	Percent
Hispanic	7	1.8
Non-Hispanic	254	64.8
Total	261	66.6
Missing	131	33.4
Total	392	100.0

## What neighborhood do you live in the west Ocala area?

Neighborhoods clearly identified with 'Frequencies' only above 10 represented.

Area	Frequency	Percent
Bethune Hill	23	6.0
Bunche Heights	14	3.6
Busbee Quarters	19	4.9
Happiness Homes	51	13.7
Kings Landing	12	3.6
Richmond Heights	34	8.6

### How long have you lived in the west Ocala area?

Number of years	Frequency	Percent
1 month – 11 months	7	1.9
1 year – 10 years	73	18.7
11 years – 20 years	44	11.3
21 years – 30 years	52	13.5
31 years – 40 years	48	12.4
41 years – 50 years	43	11.1
51 years – 60 years	18	4.9
61 years – 70 years	4	1.2
71 years – 80 years	1	0.3
81 years – 90 years	1	0.3
Life	55	14.0

### How long have you lived at this address?

Number of years	Frequency	Percent
1 month – 11 months	25	6.6
1 year – 10 years	126	32.2
11 years – 20 years	41	10.5
21 years – 30 years	55	14.2
31 years – 40 years	62	15.9
41 years – 50 years	32	8.1
51 years – 60 years	4	1.1
61 years – 70 years	1	0.3
71 years – 80 years	0	0
81 years – 90 years	0	0
Life	4	1.1

## I Rent/Own my house

	Frequency	Percent
Rent	76	19.4
Own	173	44.1
Total	249	63.5
Missing	143	36.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## What type of building do you live in?

Type	Frequency	Percent
Single Family House	290	74.0
Apartment	55	14.0
Mobile Home/ Trailer	9	2.3
Business	5	1.3
Other	1	.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>91.8</b>
<b>Missing</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>100.00</b>

## ‘SHORT’ EH AWARENESS FAIR SURVEY INTRODUCTION

For this survey, all respondents were asked the same questions during the environmental Health Awareness Fair, by CEHAT members and student volunteers from FAMU. Respondents were asked to choose from a list of possible answers (“multiple choices”). They were also free to choose as many answers as they wanted.

An “Other” section was added to provide for additional issues. These “other” issues have not been specifically identified in this report because they measure less than 1% of the responses.

Out of a total of 300 surveys distributed, 67 were returned. It should also be noted that not all the 67 people that responded to the survey answered all the questions. Such instances are reflected in this report.

**Question 1.** In your opinion, which of the following is the greatest Environmental Health concern in West Ocala? (Please check one)

Frequencies (Total number of respondents):

Number Valid	Number Missing
67	0

**Frequency Table**

### Definitions

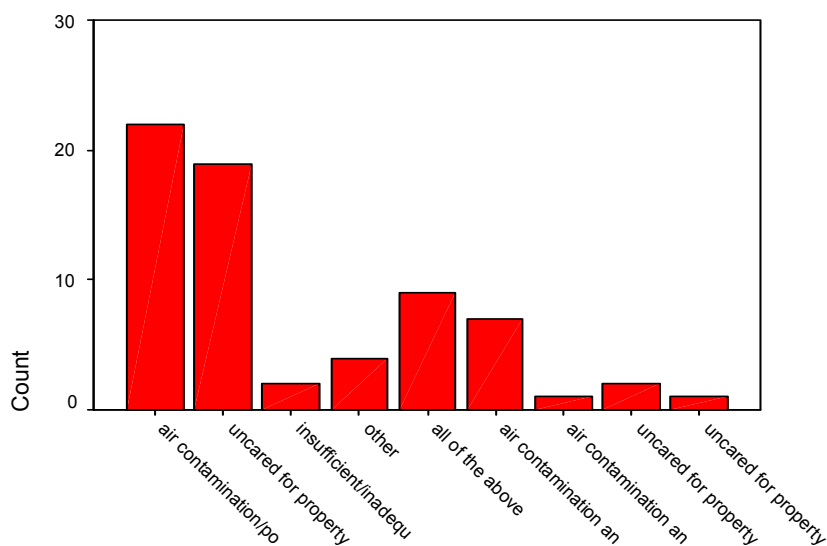
Issues : Identified environmental health concerns as outlined on survey.  
 Frequency : Total actual number of response to question.  
 Percent : Percentage as reflected in response.

**Issues Key:** Air Contamination/ Pollution = 1. Uncared for Property = 2. Insufficient/Adequate Lighting = 3. Other = 4. All the Above = 5. Air Contamination /Pollution and Uncared for Property = 6. Air Contamination /Pollution and Insufficient/Adequate Lighting = 7. Uncared for Property and Insufficient/Adequate Lighting = 8. Air Contamination/ Pollution and Other = 9. Uncared for Property and Other = 10. Insufficient/Adequate Lighting and Other = 11.

Issues	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
<b>Frequency</b>	22	19	2	4	9	7	1	2	1	67
<b>Percent</b>	32.8	28.4	3.0	6.0	13.4	10.4	1.5	3.0	1.5	100.0

Issues Key numbers 10 and 11 are absent because no input was provided by Respondents.

## Graph



In your opinion, which if the following is the greatest environmental he

**Question 2.** What Environmental Health topic would you like to learn more about?

Frequencies: (Total number of respondents)

Number Valid	Number Missing
66	1

**Frequency Table**

### Definitions

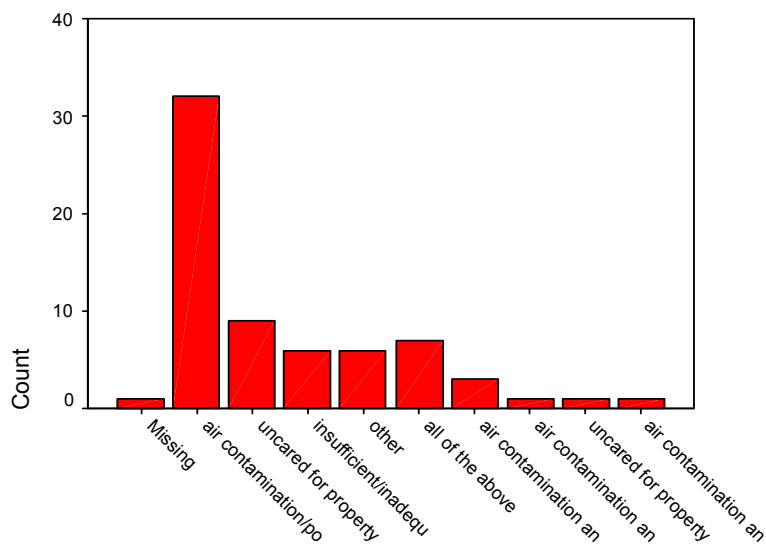
Issues : Identified environmental health concerns as outlined on survey  
 Frequency : Total actual number of response to question  
 Percent : Percentage as reflected in response

**Issues Key:** Air Contamination/ Pollution = 1. Uncared for Property = 2. Insufficient/Adequate Lighting = 3. Other = 4. All the Above = 5. Air Contamination /Pollution and Uncared for Property = 6. Air Contamination /Pollution and Insufficient/Adequate Lighting = 7. Uncared for Property and Insufficient/Adequate Lighting = 8. Air Contamination/ Pollution and Other = 9. Uncared for Property and Other = 10. Insufficient/Adequate Lighting and Other = 11

Issues	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Missing	Total
Frequency	32	9	6	6	7	3	1	1	1	1	66
Percent	48.5	28.4	3.0	6.0	13.4	10.4	1.5	3.0	1.5	1.5	100.0

Issues Key numbers 10 and 11 are absent because no input was provided by Respondents.

## Graph



What environmental health topic would you like to learn more about?

## Conclusion

This entire report is based solely on the raw data gathered from the two Surveys. It clearly points toward 'Uncared for property' as being the *highest rated* environmental Health concern in the West Ocala community. Air pollution/Contamination is a concern that most *affected* the community. It should be noted that, in order to definitively associate these concerns with the community's health status, further analysis is needed for the development of sustainable action plans.

It is with this conviction that we invited stakeholders to join us as we continue to use PACE EH to differentiate between perceived problems and real ones, eliminate health hazards and ultimately improve the quality of life in the West Ocala Neighborhood.