



County Government Machakos

THE WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DAY 2024 BRIEF

Introduction

The Department of Public Health-Mavoko Sub County, Machakos County joined the rest of the world in commemorating this year's World Environmental Health Day 2024 by:

Conducting build up activities in the WEHD week that were geared towards creation of awareness on Environmental Health and various activities undertaken by the Department. These also focused on Environmental Health and climate change impacts and the need to adopt climate smart mitigation and prevention measures that will ensure resilient communities that are well informed and empowered to manage disaster risks and climate change impacts. These activities involved:

Blitz activities

Conducted in key shopping malls to create awareness on environmental health. Educative flyers and brochures were distributed to customers. During these sessions, Public Health officers also demonstrated Handwashing steps, identification of safe and unsafe food and incorporated health and wellness checks to customers.

WASH Assessment in select Health Facilities

A two (2) day Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) assessment was conducted in two (2) key Level IV health facilities in the Sub County-a public health facility and a private health facility. The team led by the Sub County WASH Coordinator used the Water and Sanitation for Health Facility Improvement Tool (WASH FIT), a tool that is geared towards helping health care facility staff and administrators to prioritize and improve services. WASH services strengthen the resilience of health care systems to prevent disease outbreaks, allow effective response to emergencies including natural disasters and outbreaks and bring emergencies under control when they occur.

Commemoration of the World Environmental Health Day

This was done at **Daystar University** on **26th September**, **2024** to offer career guidance to Daystar University Environmental Health Students. Other activities undertaken included:

- WASH assessment of the institution's Health facility
- Mini-Procession
- Tree Planting

The event drew participation of the Institution's Environmental Health Students and other affiliated courses, the Environmental Health Department Lecturers, Machakos County Public Health Department Representatives, Mavoko Sub County Public Health Officers, Environmental Health Officers in private practice and a representation from the Kenya Environmental Health and Public Health Practitioner's Union. The career mentorship session delved on opportunities available in Government & private sector, Health research and Development, Beyond Public Health-other Public Health opportunities, Community health services and Public Health Law enforcement. The session demonstrated the importance of creating resilient communities through illustrating the convergence of Public Health lessons, real-world practice and the opportunities available for Environmental Health Graduates.











