

Getting Grounded

Priority	Challenges Remaining
<p>Fluoridate All Community Water Systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss/merging of systems (stopped vs. Merged) • Statewide initiatives are tied to election years • Surprises – lack of communication, culture of neglect, lack of resources for small communities • No mention of disabled population • Lack of mandatory yearly reporting • Decrease of the number of fluoridated water systems (CWS’s); many stop based on internal decisions and no one knows fluoridation has stopped (CWS’s can de-fluoridate systems without notice); anti-fluoridation movement creating doubt in city water operations personnel • Shortage of staff to educate and support fluoridation education • No consistent consensus within the dental professionals • Legislative environment is conducive to mandate fluoride • Lack of monitoring if CWS’s remove or add fluoride • Lack of funding to communities was surprising • Need to know more about 47 cities that stopped fluoridating since 2012. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size? • Process? • Vote? • Funding? • Additional challenges: management of facilities; refugees • What is long term cost? • Need to legislatively require impact study by community and notification • Educating communities on health benefits • Address common fears with research based information