



Building Knowledge through Community Water Fluoridation Training

By Christina Kerby, MOCH Community Outreach & Project Development Director

Recently, I had the opportunity to attend a Community Water Fluoridation Training in Moberly, Missouri, hosted by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Office of Dental Health. The training, brought together, people interested in learning more about community water fluoridation and its role in promoting oral health throughout Missouri. These people included Water Systems Operators, health departments, and people like me who work with the Missouri Coalition of Oral Health. It was a valuable experience that provided both foundational knowledge and practical insights into how fluoridated water benefits communities.

Throughout the training, we learned about the history of community water fluoridation, the science behind its effectiveness, and the processes involved in maintaining and delivering fluoridated water safely to the public. One of the highlights of the training was a tour of the Moberly water treatment plant. Seeing firsthand how it is monitored, treated, and distributed gave me a greater appreciation for the work that goes into ensuring safe, high-quality drinking water reaches homes and businesses every day. I learned about the hard work and the care that these people take to make sure we have high-quality drinking water.

This training strengthened my understanding of the important connection between public health and community water systems. I gained a greater knowledge of water fluoridation, how it affects our oral health, and is essential to communities. The knowledge shared by our presenter, combined with the hands-on experience at the water plant, made for an informative and engaging learning opportunity. Additional Community Water Fluoridation Trainings will be offered across Missouri in the coming weeks, providing others with the chance to learn about this important public health initiative. I encourage anyone involved in public health, oral health, or water system operations to take advantage of these upcoming training opportunities.

Upcoming Dates:

- August 31, 2026 (Monday) – Chesterfield
- September 11, 2026 (Friday) – Rolla
- September 17, 2026 (Thursday) – Joplin
- September 18, 2026 (Friday) – Kansas City