



# MONMOUTH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



2016 ANNUAL REPORT



## **Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders**

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2016

Thomas A. Arnone, Director  
Serena DiMaso, Esq., Deputy Director  
Lillian G. Burry  
John P. Curley  
Gary J. Rich, Sr.

2017

Lillian G. Burry, Director  
John P. Curley, Deputy Director  
Thomas A. Arnone  
Gary J. Rich, Sr.  
Serena DiMaso, Esq.

## **Monmouth County Board of Health**

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2016

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Freeholder John P. Curley, Health Department Liaison

Christopher P. Merkel, M.P.H.  
Public Health Coordinator & Health Officer

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# Monmouth County Health Department

## Annual Report

### 2016

**Mission Statement:** Empower residents of Monmouth County to achieve optimum health through the provision of the ten essential public health services:

- Monitor health status to identify community health problems.
- Diagnose and investigate health problems and hazards in the community.
- Inform, educate and empower people about health issues.
- Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
- Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
- Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
- Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
- Assure a competent public health personal healthcare workforce.
- Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility and quality of personal and population-based health services.
- Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

The Monmouth County Health Department is one of six health departments in Monmouth County. Twenty-six of Monmouth County's 53 municipalities participate in the Monmouth County Board of Health System:

Aberdeen	Hazlet	Neptune City
Allentown	Holmdel	Neptune Township
Asbury Park	Howell	Oceanport
Atlantic Highlands	Keansburg	Roosevelt
Avon-By-The-Sea	Keyport	Shrewsbury
Belmar	Lake Como	Township
Bradley Beach	Manasquan	Union Beach
Eatontown	Marlboro	
Englishtown	Matawan	
Farmingdale	Millstone	

# 2016 Annual Report

## Monmouth County Board of Health

### Overview

The Monmouth County Board of Health, established in 1978, is composed of nine citizen members who are appointed by the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders. The Board's function is to establish policy and govern the services provided by the Monmouth County Health Department.

### *Principal Objectives*

- As a field office of the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), enforce the provisions of the New Jersey State Sanitary Code and regulations set forth in N.J.S.A. 24:14a-1 et seq., 26:3-69:1, and 58:11-23, as well as, local codes and ordinances that protect public health.
- Deliver a modern and manageable array of public health services as required by N.J.A.C. 8:52, entitled "Public Health Practice Standards of Performance for Local Boards of Health in New Jersey."
- Provide leadership in building countywide core capacity to respond to bioterrorism and other public health threats.

Through the Department's programs and services, residents benefit directly from population-based, clinical services which provide primary and secondary disease prevention. Indirect resident benefits include protecting food and drinking water supplies and ensuring compliance with environmental health regulations, related to air, water, noise and nuisance control.

### *Principal Activities*

- Administrative and organizational management services, including but not limited to planning, organization, public health staffing, coordination and response, budgeting and evaluation
- Enforcement of public health and environmental laws and regulations
- 24/7 surveillance, detection and epidemiologic response to potential bioterrorism incidents or outbreaks of infectious disease
- Communicable disease control
- Management and operation of the New Jersey LINCS Health Alert Network
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness Planning
- Maternal child health services
- Clinical primary and secondary preventive services
- Rabies control
- Comprehensive diagnostic and treatment services for Tuberculosis and Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- Health education/health promotion

## **Primary Collaborative Efforts**

An important function of the Health Department is collaboration with community-based organizations and institutions to identify health problems and ensure access to health services.

In 2016, the Department worked in conjunction with the six other health departments in the County in bringing together a group of individuals representing more than 40 public and private healthcare providers, businesses, schools, social service and voluntary health organizations to participate in an initiative to assess community health needs and priorities, through the Health Improvement Coalition (HIC/MIC). The assessment was done utilizing a strategic planning tool called Mobilizing for Action Through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP). This tool helps prioritize public health needs; identify resources to address them, and ultimately to develop a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

The New Jersey Department of Health requires local health departments to update the CHIP every 5 years. The Plan completed in 2016, identified several strategic issues:

- Cardiovascular Disease
- Tobacco, drugs and alcohol use and abuse
- Obesity
- Access to healthcare
- Cancer morbidity and mortality
- Infectious Disease

Committees were subsequently formed to develop programs and services to address these issues. The committees include: Healthy Lifestyles, Mental Health & Addiction, and Health Equity. Future work will focus on goals, objectives, methods, and evaluation tools to aid in the delivery of public health services in Monmouth County.

### ***Other collaborations***

Partnering with Jersey Shore University Medical Center for the provision of comprehensive Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) diagnostic and treatment services to residents.

Offering school -based Hepatitis B immunization programs to local school districts.

Working with municipalities to provide Hepatitis B immunization in conjunction with their blood borne pathogen requirements.

Providing Tuberculosis diagnostic and treatment services for inmates and staff at the Monmouth County Correctional Institution

Working with local offices of emergency management to design models for the rapid distribution of prophylactic medications to first responders and their families in the event of a confirmed release of a bioterrorism agent or emerging infectious disease.

Participating as a member of the Monmouth County Cancer Coalition which is involved in the planning and coordination of cancer screening and education services countywide.

Implementing an agreement with the Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey Inc. (VNACJ) as the designated provider of cancer screening services through the New Jersey Cancer Early Detection and Education program (CEED), funded by the New Jersey Department of Health.

Serving on the Monmouth County Suicide Prevention Task Force.

Providing nursing and public health internship opportunities to students of Monmouth University and other institutes of higher learning.

Collaborating with the New Jersey Commission for The Blind and Visually Impaired to provide free eye health screening services.

## **Organization Capacity**

The Health Department's programs and services are funded by local dollars as well as grants from the New Jersey Department of Health for emergency preparedness, case management of children with evaluated lead levels, immunization outreach, sexually transmitted disease diagnostic and treatment services, childhood lead poisoning prevention outreach and education and Medical Reserve Corp recruitment and training.

The Department is composed of 50 employees. Professional staffing consists mainly of Public Health and Environmental Health professionals who hold licenses from various state agencies. Staff also includes administrative assistants who interact with the public on a daily basis..

Professional service contracts are in place for laboratory services, physicians, nurse practitioners, phlebotomy, mammography, x-rays and interpretation services for non-English speaking population.

The Department is equipped with state-of-the-art computer systems, connectivity, security and data storage capacity. Systems are managed by the County's Information Technology Department. A full-time Geographic Information System (GIS) Technician is available for data mapping.

As a part of Monmouth County's governmental system, the Health Department has access to County resources: County Public Information & Print Shop, Human Resources, Information Technology, Finance, Purchasing, Buildings & Grounds and Legal Counsel.

The Underground Storage Tank (UST) unit provides compliance assistance for regulated underground storage tank systems to several County agencies. In addition, the Hazmat/UST staff provides logistics support for the Health Department's Strategic National Stockpile Personal Protective Equipment distribution program.

Continuing education and training are essential parts of our mission to provide a comprehensive emergency preparedness system throughout Monmouth County. The Health Department's hazmat unit maintains some of the most highly trained Hazmat/Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) response personnel in the State of New Jersey. We continue to expand our emergency response capability and competence by taking advantage of numerous federal, state and local training opportunities.

## **Public Health Protection**

A staff of 15 Registered Environmental Health Specialists (REHS) enforces public health and environmental laws and regulations, which include, but are not limited to the protection of food, bathing place sanitation, public health nuisances and hazards, preventable injuries and exposure-related diseases in both the workplace and community settings.

### ***Public Recreational Bathing and Youth Camp Inspections***

In 2016, the Health Department Staff inspected 122 recreational bathing facilities twice during the year including swimming pools, spas, splash parks, ocean bathing beaches and a water park. An additional 45 re-inspections were performed to ensure adequate compliance with safety and sanitation requirements.

Staff members investigated five complaints involving recreational bathing sites. REHS Staff are also required to inspect Youth Camps each summer season. In 2016, 21 youth camps were inspected during their first week of operation. This inspection involves extensive review of staff credentials and camp operating procedures in addition to inspection of on-site food handling and recreational bathing facilities.

There are four additional camps which have received accreditation from the American Camping Association which allows them to self-inspect before opening. Four facilities were inspected by staff once during their operating season. One youth camp complaint was investigated.

### ***Rabies Control and Surveillance***

The Health Department oversees the free vaccination clinic programs for cats and dogs. In 2016, the Department sponsored 29 clinics in our covered municipalities which provided free vaccinations to 2,584 dogs and cats. Another component of the Rabies Control Program involves investigating resident animal bite exposures. Whenever a human bite exposure occurs, the health department is notified and places the animal under a 10-day observation period. The animal is visited at the end of the observation period to ensure it not showing signs of illness.

The observation period is generally used for domestic and most livestock exposures. For other animals, including bats, the biting animal must be tested for rabies in a laboratory. Staff conducted 377 animal bite investigations involving animal observation and an additional 52 investigations which involved specimen delivery to the State Department of Health Laboratory. Four specimens were found to be positive for Rabies upon testing.

Exposed persons are notified and referred for medical follow-up which includes post exposure prophylaxis. Domestic animals are usually given rabies boosters and placed under extended observation as dictated by vaccination status and level of exposure. In some rare instances, directly-exposed, unvaccinated animals must be euthanized.

A rare event in the world of Rabies Control occurred in Aberdeen Township in 2016: The Health Department received a positive rabies result for a dog. Following a lengthy investigation, it was determined that the dog had been fighting with a suspect rabid animal in a prior month. On February 2, 2016, the dog had become aggressive, bitten three people and then died. Following the positive test results, those persons underwent rabies post-exposure prophylaxis as well as three additional people who had been exposed to the rabid dog prior to its death. The

investigation revealed that five additional unvaccinated dogs were co-habiting with the rabid animal. Due to additional extenuating circumstances and for the safety of the community, the five dogs needed to be removed from that location for the duration of a strict quarantine. The dog owners were taken to Municipal Court and were found in violation of Rabies and licensing statutes.

### ***Animal Care Facility Inspections***

Animal Care facilities such as kennels, shelters, pounds and pet shops are also inspected by the Department for compliance with regulations set forth by the New Jersey State Sanitary Code.

Additional legislation has been passed recently to further protect animal welfare by tightening documentation requirements combating the use of “puppy mills” as pet store suppliers. In 2016, staff inspected 23 licensed facilities and responded to 14 animal related complaints. Three animal care facility complaints were also investigated.

### ***Septic and Well Programs***

The Registered Environmental Health Specialist staff is responsible for the enforcement of New Jersey regulations for the installation of onsite sewage disposal systems and private water supply wells. In 2016, 388 plans for new septic systems and wells were reviewed to ensure compliance with NJ State Regulations. In 2016, 1,938 well and septic inspections were conducted. This total reflects the certification of completion of 180 new septic systems, 54 new wells and certification for realty transfer as required in some municipalities.

The Health Department also reviews site plans and variance requests on behalf of local zoning and planning boards within our jurisdiction for comments regarding various Health Department regulations; 123 plan reviews were conducted in 2016.

On Call Duty Officers were called to Naval Weapons Station Earle and participated with the NJ DEP and NCIS when base security discovered a large quantity of sewage had been pumped onto the base from a neighboring property. It was determined that a pump truck operator had purposefully released the sewage onto the base when their holding tanks had filled to capacity, instead of having the sewage removed by a licensed sewage hauler. The owner was fined, the pumper was fired and the criminal investigation did not result in any charges being filed.

### ***Smoke Free Air Act Initiative***

Since January 2006, smoking has been prohibited in most New Jersey indoor public places. Restaurants, bars, retail stores, and most other businesses with public access must be maintained smoke free. Citizen complaints regarding smoking indoors are investigated with violations issued for non-compliance. Two complaints were investigated in 2016.

Another component of the Indoor Smoke Free Air Act Initiative is the partial regulation of Tobacco Retail Establishments where product sampling is provided as a means of generating sales. This process involves review of plans and ventilation equipment to ensure the sampling or “tasting” area air supply, which contains the smoke from the sampling, does not comeingle with the rest of the retail space or its neighbors. In 2016, one Tobacco Retail Establishment plan was reviewed and approved, with one inspection to determine compliance.

## ***Body Art Facility Inspections***

Businesses which perform tattooing, permanent cosmetic procedures and ear/body piercing are regulated by Chapter 8 of the Sanitary Code to ensure that adequate sterilization, sanitation and safety standards are maintained. Artists and operators performing these procedures must document adequate credentials and apprenticeship. Our yearly inspections are conducted at 17 body art facilities and staff reviewed five new facility plans. Credential reviews were conducted for four new artists. Two complaints were investigated during 2016. Two Notices of Violations were issued and two municipal summonses were filed.

Our Department also has the responsibility for approving and inspecting the Three-Day Visionary Tattoo Festival held in Asbury Park each year. This event draws 162 artists from across the country, each requiring credential and training review prior to participating. Eighty individual booth inspections were conducted over the course of the event, with more than 10,000 visitors attending. This event involves the participation of six staff members to maintain Health Department presence over all three days.

## ***Tanning Facilities***

In 2016, our Registered Environmental Health Specialist staff routinely inspected tanning facilities for compliance with State Sanitary Code regulations. Thirteen facility inspections were conducted. No complaints were received during the year, however one municipal summons was issued for violations of the state tanning regulations.

## ***Retail Food Facility Inspections***

Retail food establishments must operate in accordance with Chapter 24 of the New Jersey Sanitary Code, and are inspected at least once during each year. In 2007, the New Jersey Department of Health (DOH) adopted new, more stringent regulations based on the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) food code which places increased emphasis on critical areas of food-borne disease control such as hand-washing and maintaining foods at proper temperature.

Inspectors investigated 156 complaints involving sanitation, food handling and/or food-borne illness. The REHS staff also responded to 16 separate emergency events at retail food facilities. Emergency events can include fires, loss of power or water and vehicles that turn convenience stores into a drive-thru. Another significant activity of the REHS staff is the consultation and education provided to operators on requirements and best practices. Staff members logged 247 retail food conferences throughout 2016.

The Health Department's dedicated and professional Registered Environmental Health Specialist staff completed 2,421 routine retail food inspections during 2016. This includes 31 mobile establishments and 113 temporary events.

The REHS staff diligently inspected more than 113 temporary special events involving food handling of more than 500 vendors. Notable events include Belmar Seafood Festival, Asbury Park Oyster Festival, Bradley Beach Lobster Fest, Ocean Grove's Flea Market, and a multitude of events held at Monmouth Park Racetrack; from the Irish Festival to Trucktoberfest.

## ***Public Health Nuisance Complaints***

The Health Department receives a wide variety of citizen complaints from all areas of public and environmental health. Complaints and emergencies are received 24/7 and range from poison ivy

and mosquito breeding to sewage overflows and bedbugs. Ten mold complaints involving landlords and tenants were investigated in 2016.

The most common complaints received involve housing code deficiencies, sewage overflows, insect and rodent infestations, garbage overflows and animal waste issues. Bedbug complaints accounted for 15 investigations, with other types of pests such as roaches, lice, ticks and bees combining for an additional 29 complaints.

Various housing complaints comprise our largest number of nuisance investigations each year. Housing complaints include heating and hot water issues, water leaks which can lead to mold, inadequate garbage pick-up, and indoor odor problems. In 2016, 173 housing complaints were investigated with 253 re-inspections performed.

Health Department inspectors and the Haz Mat team responded to a complaint in Howell Township where 276 dogs were removed from inside a private residence. Since all of the animals lived indoors, this created extremely unsanitary conditions within the dwelling and strong waste/ammonia odors. Animal Control and SPCA removed the animals and our staff assisted by providing Personal Protective Equipment for the workers entering the dwelling.

### ***Open Public Records Act***

The Public Health Protection unit maintains inspection and complaint records for all of the commercial facilities inspected each year as required by the State Sanitary Code. Records of dwellings and commercial buildings which are serviced by individual wells and individual sewage disposal systems are also maintained by the Department. Therefore, under the Open Public Records Act, individuals and commercial representatives may request their records be provided in accordance with the legally established guidelines.

The REHS staff responded to over 400 OPRA requests during 2016.

### ***Childhood Immunization Audits***

Inspectors and public health nurses routinely verify compliance with childhood immunization requirements by auditing student records at daycare and school facilities. Individual records are reviewed for timely completion of required vaccines and identification of those who do not have vaccination protection due to exemption.

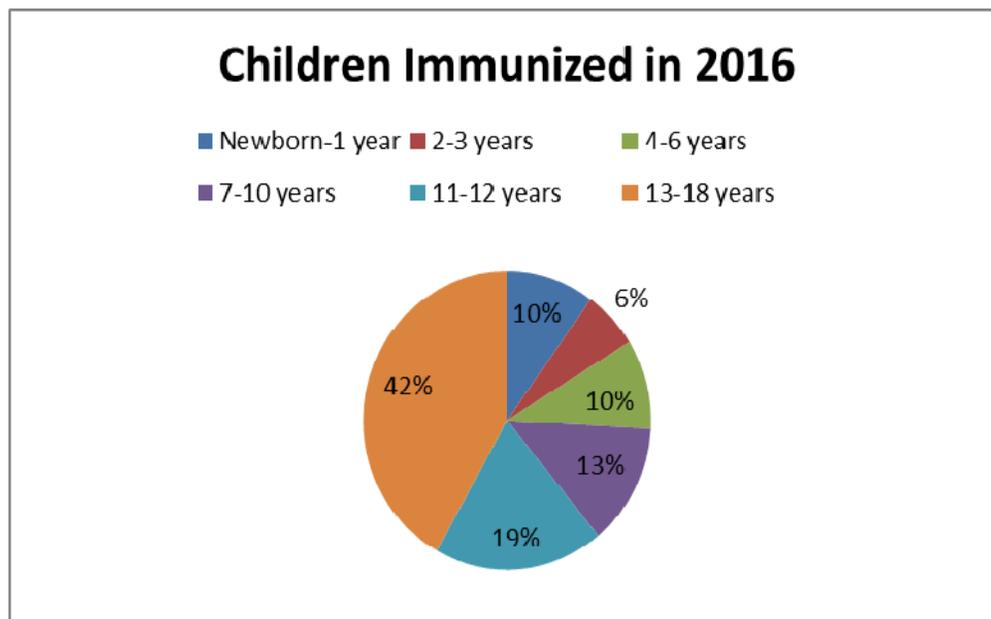
In the event of an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease, unvaccinated children must be identified and excluded, to stem the spread of the disease. In 2016, 112 immunization audits of vaccination records were conducted in schools and childcare facilities. 33 facilities required a re-audit. Two Notices of Violation were issued and one complaint was investigated.

### ***Immunization Services***

Vaccines are among the most successful and cost effective public health tools available for preventing disease and death. They help protect individuals and entire communities by preventing and reducing the spread of infectious diseases. Infants are particularly vulnerable to infectious diseases, which is why it is critical to protect them through immunization.

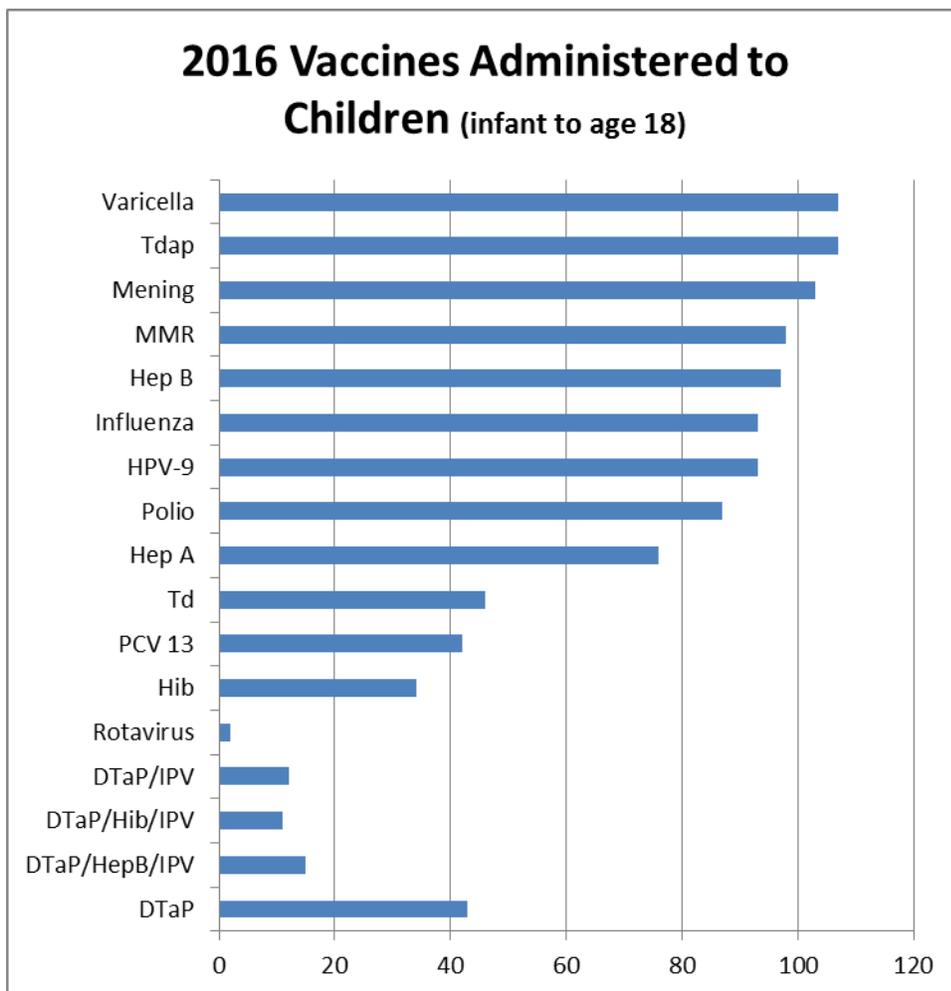
Each day nearly 12,000 babies are born in the United States who will need to be immunized against 14 vaccine-preventable diseases before age 2.

Childhood immunizations are provided free of charge for residents of the towns under the Monmouth County Board of Health system, for children from birth to 18 years of age who are under insured or uninsured. Clinics are offered at the Monmouth County Department of Social Services building in Freehold, and in collaboration with the Neptune School District.



With parental permission, the child/children are entered into a statewide immunization registry, which encourages timely and age appropriate immunizations. In addition, parents have the opportunity to apply for assistance, including Medicaid and Affordable Care Act insurance. In

2016, the clinic immunized 471 children (131 infants/preschool and 340 school-aged) administering 1066 total immunizations.



### ***Adolescent and Adult Immunizations***

Adolescent and adult immunizations are offered monthly. The immunizations include influenza, pneumonia, tetanus, measles, mumps rubella, meningitis, Hepatitis A, Gardasil, Zoster and tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis, (Tdap). The Hepatitis B program is also offered to Monmouth County Board of health towns for employees required to have the vaccine as part of their blood-borne pathogen program.

In 2016, we provided Hepatitis B vaccines to Marlboro Police, Monmouth County employees, Neptune Schools, and Marlboro First Aid.

### ***Seasonal Influenza Clinics***

In 2016, the Department's team of Public Health Nurses provided 1,221 seasonal influenza vaccinations at senior centers and various sites in Monmouth County Board of Health member municipalities.

## ***Healthy By Two Grant***

The Monmouth County Health Department was awarded a grant to encourage timely immunizations; the goal of the grant is to have children less than 35 months receive timely immunizations before their second birthday. More than two hundred years have passed since the first successful smallpox vaccine was developed. Today's vaccines are among the 21st century's most successful and cost-effective public health tools for preventing disease and death. Through immunizations, debilitating and often fatal diseases like polio, that were once common, are only memories for most Americans. For infants, timely immunizations are one of the most important ways to protect them and others from serious diseases and infections.

In 2016, immunization records were reviewed for 916 children. Children needing immunizations identified through the program are offered immunization services through the Monmouth County Health Department.

## **Sexually Transmitted Diseases**

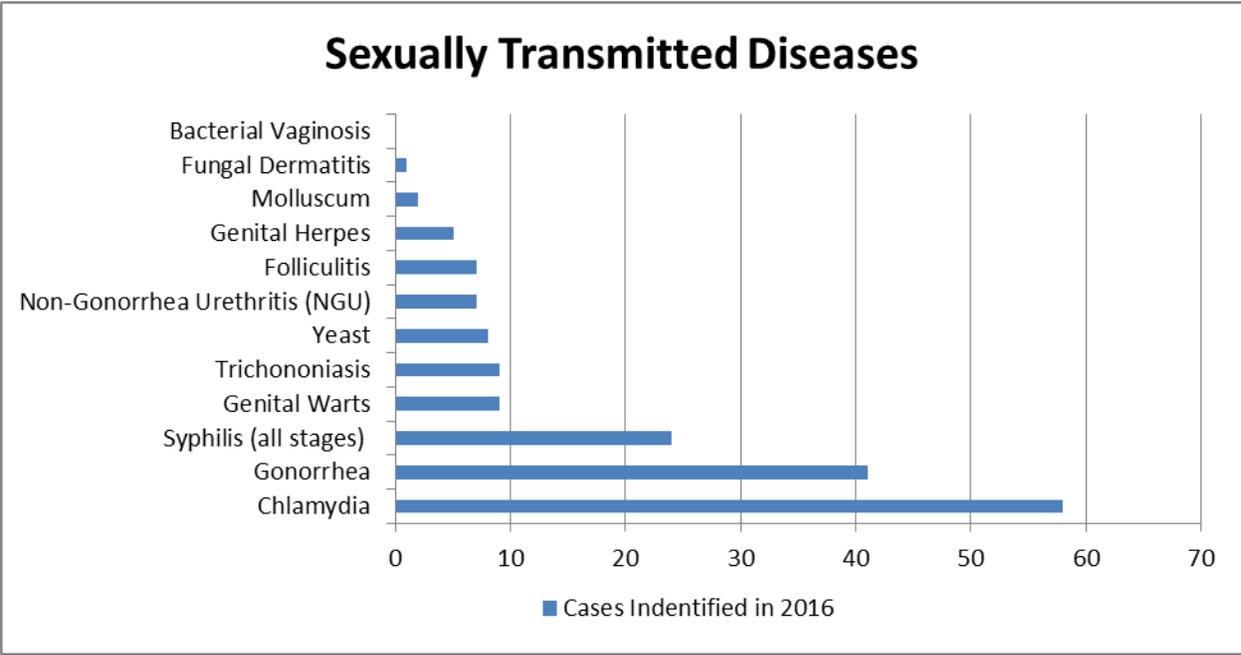
In 1998, the Monmouth County Health Department (MCHD) was approached by the Chief of Infectious Disease at Jersey Shore University Medical Center (JSUMC) now part of the Hackensack-Meridian Hospital System regarding the high volume of sexually transmitted diseases (STD) being treated in the hospital's emergency department.

A collaboration was formed between JSUMC and the MCHD to establish an STD clinic on a satellite campus of JSUMC to provide appropriate treatment, follow-up, and risk reduction education for Monmouth County residents.

The clinic is held at Jersey Shore University Medical Center Clinic in Neptune on Tuesdays between 4 and 6 p.m. Clinic services are free to residents in the Monmouth County Board of Health system.

Clinic services include physical examination, diagnostic services by a physician or physician's assistant, and treatment as needed. The Disease Control Field Representative provides comprehensive follow-up, including STD education, risk factor counseling and partner notification.

In 2016, 883 clients were seen with concerns regarding sexually transmitted diseases at the clinic and 1489 visits were made to the clinic. The following chart shows positive STDs identified at the STD clinic.



## Tuberculosis Program

Tuberculosis is spread through the air from one person to another when someone who is ill with TB disease of the lungs or throat, coughs, speaks, laughs, sings, or sneezes. The people near the ill person breathe the TB germs into their lungs.

The Monmouth County Health Department TB Program provides complete case management which includes Mantoux testing, X-ray referrals, physicals, medication management and monitoring of Tuberculosis cases and contacts. Tuberculosis testing services for high risk individuals as defined by the Centers for Disease Control as well as Tuberculosis education and training in proper testing procedures is also provided.

In 2016, the Monmouth County Health Department’s Tuberculosis Program provided care in 2216 clinic and home visits. One hundred and fifty (150) close contacts of TB cases were identified, examined and or treated. Additionally, the TB clinic staff provided Mantoux testing for (548) individuals, and managed prescription therapies for 707 patients.

## Women's Health Program

Cervical cancer once was the leading cause of cancer death for women in the United States. However, during the past four decades, incidence and mortality (the number of deaths each year) from cervical cancer have declined significantly, primarily because of the widespread use of the Papanicolaou (PAP) test to detect cervical abnormalities. In addition to preventing cervical cancer, cervical cancer screening can detect cancer early, when treatment is most successful.

Monmouth County Health Department cancer detection services include free pap screening, breast exams, and education about colorectal cancer screening. Services are free of charge for residents who live in towns covered by the Monmouth County Board of Health Mammography clinics are held 8 times a year, and free mammography is available to uninsured women. Referrals are made for women in need of diagnostic evaluation.

### *Cancer Screenings*

- 22 PAP Test and Clinical Breast Exam performed by APN
- 35 Mammography Screening
- 57 Women receiving Breast Cancer and Cervical Cancer Education

### *Diabetes Program*

- 107 Risk assessments completed, and diabetes education provided

### *Cardiovascular Disease*

- 57 Risk factor assessments/screens for hypertension and Cardiovascular Disease  
Education information provided
- 18 Newly identified possible hypertensive women referred for medical evaluation and further educational programs



The Health Department also supports the various county-wide health education programs for the employees are held throughout the year. Pictured here is the annual “Paint the Town Pink” photo with the Board of Chosen Freeholders and County employees at the Hall of Records. “Paint the Town Pink is a program of the Hackensack-Meridian Hospital System.

## Eye Health Services

In 2011, MCHD began a partnership with the New Jersey Commission For The Blind & Visually Impaired, to provide eye screening for residents. Services include testing for visual acuity, glaucoma, cataracts and other eye diseases and conditions. The clinics are held at the main office in Freehold and various other sites throughout the County. The partnership expanded when Hackensack-Meridian Health System began providing free screening for diabetes, body mass index, osteoporosis, cholesterol, cardiovascular risk evaluation and hypertension screening during the eye clinics.

The Commission provides an Ophthalmologist for the screenings, and the MCHD staff provide the clinic facility, advertises the service, takes appointments, issues the vouchers for glasses, and obtains client information needed for treatment referrals. Vouchers are given for purchasing eye glasses, and referrals are made for free surgery for those who qualify. Clinics are held the second Monday of each month.

### *Eye Clinic Statistics*

Number of eye screening clinics in 2016, In 2016, 13 eye clinics were provided.

- Number of people screened 347 – each person was provided eye acuity, glaucoma test and also examined by the physician for other eye problems and or corrective lenses.
- 43 of people referred for further evaluation/ treatment due to major issues/conditions found.
- In 2016, 17 individuals were referred for glaucoma follow up, 12 were referred for eye surgeries inclusive of retinal bleeding, cataract and a growth on the eye and in addition fifteen were referred for diabetic retinopathy.

## Health Fairs

The Monmouth County Health Department participated in more than 25 health fairs or town days. Health Department staff brought informational materials and provided screening for oral cancer, hypertension and lead poisoning, consumer product testing for lead, cadmium, mercury and immunizations at the various festivals.



## Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (Patient Focus)

The Health Department's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program provides medical and case management to children with elevated lead levels, and free lead testing for children without health insurance; services are free of charge for residents who live in towns covered by the Monmouth County Board of Health system. Children with lead levels above 10 ug/dl are placed into case management which provides oversight of the child's care as well as ensuring that sources of lead exposure are identified and mitigated. Public Health Nurses and licensed lead inspector/risk assessors work as a team to address the medical and environmental aspects of each case of elevated blood lead levels.

Lead poisoning is entirely preventable. The key to keeping children healthy is to stop them from coming into contact with lead, treat children who have been poisoned, and educate parents and child caregivers about the dangers of lead.

In 2016, the County Health Department continued to provide consultative services, training and oversight of lead cases in other jurisdictions. The MCHD provides consultation to other health departments on lead cases and possible sources of lead, assisting in several jurisdictions, and testing consumer goods for other health departments.

MCHD was provided funding by the New Jersey Department of Health to provide *Leadtrax* and *Hometrax* training for New Jersey. The program is web-based and it tracks all lead cases in New Jersey. Ten classes were held in 2016 with 48 attendees.

The Health Department offers free lead screening to children from 6 months to 6 years of age who do not have medical insurance.

In 2016, 690 children were screened in the program with two children testing positive for lead. For children with elevated blood lead levels, MCHD licensed lead inspector/risk assessors check the child's home as well as previous addresses within 6 months of the elevated blood lead level, and secondary addresses in which the child spends 10 hours or more during the week. This may include a babysitter's, daycare or relative's home.



Dave Henry, Monmouth Region Health Commission, NJ  
Dept. of Health Acting Commissioner Cathleen D.  
Bennett and County Health Officer Chris Merkel  
#kNOwLEAD.

Lead inspector/risk assessors conducted lead screening inspections for the Monmouth County Housing Project. It is headed up by the County's Community Development division that provides grant money to homeowners for repair on their home. As part of the program, homes built before 1978 undergo a lead screening inspection. If any lead is found, the housing project hires a contractor to conduct a complete lead inspection. In 2016, six houses were inspected for the Community Development program.

## ***Consumer Product Testing***

In 2016, the Monmouth County Health Department licensed an XLT unit designed to test consumer products for lead, cadmium and mercury content. Testing was done at health fairs, in homes of children with elevated blood lead levels, and for other health departments. A variety of testing was done throughout New Jersey to assist other health departments in determining a source of lead for children with elevated blood lead levels.

## **Healthy Traveler Program**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) makes recommendations for vaccination for individuals traveling internationally, based on the destination of travel and diseases endemic to that area. Since 1998, the Health Department has provided an International Traveler Program in accordance with CDC guidelines, with tailored education as well as vaccinations for the traveler. More than one thousand travelers have been provided with preventive education and vaccination prior to travel.

In 2016, over five hundred individuals contacted the Monmouth County Health Department for travel-related purposes. Additionally, the travel clinic served 102 patients at eleven scheduled clinics while also providing vaccines and counseling for their travel destinations.

## **Communicable Disease Control and Surveillance**

Monmouth County Health Department (MCHD) provides communicable disease investigative services to residents who live in towns covered by the Monmouth County Board of Health System. Reporting requirements for communicable disease are outlined in New Jersey Administrative Code Title 8, Chapters 57, 58. The requirements and regulations can be viewed at <http://nj.gov/health/cd/reporting.shtml>

The infectious disease epidemiologist, with the assistance of disease field representatives, investigates all reportable and immediately reportable diseases as per the NJDOH and Center for Disease Control (CDC) requirements & guidance.

MCHD continues to monitor emerging infectious diseases across the globe. In conjunction with the public health environmental and agricultural laboratory (PHEAL) and infection control departments in five Monmouth County hospitals, MCHD staff approves and coordinates testing for patients with suspected exposure to Zika virus. The Communicable disease reporting and surveillance system (CDRSS) is utilized for all confidential patient related communications with the local health departments and NJDOH.

MCHD collects health related data using surveillance tools like Hippocrates, Epicenter and Biosense. The hospitals, schools and long term care facilities reports data to NJDOH. This health-related data is utilized to detect anomalies suggestive of public health threats such as disease outbreaks.

In 2016, a total of 2,258 cases were reported to the Health Department. Nine outbreaks of respiratory/gastrointestinal inflammation were investigated by the MCHD staff and reported to NJDOH. Prevention and control measures were instituted to prevent further spread of the disease.

Diseases investigated in 2016:

Communicable Disease Name	Cases Identified
Lyme Disease	662
Hepatitis C	406
Syphilis	271
Chlamydia	215
Hepatitis B	102
Campylobacteriosis	61
Salmonellosis	57
Influenza	55
Zika Virus	55
Babesiosis	51
Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis	49
Giardiasis	39
Gonorrhea	36
Strep.Pneumoniae	33
Petussis	31
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	24
Strep.Pyogenes (Gas)	15
E.Coli (Stec)	13
Varicella	12
Shigellosis	11
Hepatitis A	8
Cryptosporidiosis	6
Dengue Fever	6
Haemophilus Influenzae	6
Mumps	6
West Nile Virus (WNV)	6
Amoebiasis	5
Chikungunya	3
Meningococcal Disease (Neisseria Meningitidis)	3
Rubella	2
Brucellosis	1
Cruetzfeldt-Jakob Disease	1
Legionellosis	1
Malaria	1
Measles	1
Q Fever	1
Strep.Agalactiae (GBS)	1
Trichinosis	1
Vibrio Infections	1

## Monmouth County Medical Reserve Corp

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Program coordinates the skills of practicing and retired physicians, nurses and other health professionals as well as other citizens interested in health issues. All participants are eager to volunteer and to address their community's ongoing public health needs and to help their community during large-scale emergency situations.

The Monmouth County Health Department Medical Reserve Corps is a 386 person team consisting of 241 medical professionals and 145 community volunteers. MRC volunteers have diverse skills and are trained and prepared to assist our County Health Department with public health priorities and emergency response. The MRC's overall goal is to improve community resiliency and public health in Monmouth County. All members are asked to complete seven core training courses; Orientation To Public Health, Incident Command System 100, National Incident Management System (NIMS) 700, Psychological First Aid, Personal Emergency Preparedness, MRC Orientation, and Shelter Fundamentals. Other trainings include Teambuilding, Outbreak Investigation, START Triage, Radiological Preparedness Training, and Phone Bank Training. Regular activities include providing volunteers to assist with annual flu clinics, health screenings, emergency preparedness training, health fairs, recruiting at local healthcare practitioner schools, and distributing public health information.

With the emergence of Zika in 2016, additional trainings were offered to volunteers. Volunteers assisted with community outreach classes, manned a phone bank and assisted at health fairs and community days. They were an integral part of the “Fight the Bite” campaign.

In addition to our Zika campaign, volunteers participated in a Shelter Operations Exercise in April. During June, they participated in an Active Shooter Drill in Neptune. They assisted the NJ Department of Health by assembling Zika Prevention Kits. September saw members assisting at the “Belmar Beach Bash”, an event for young people with Autism. Volunteers helped out in the First Aid Station and the Art Activity station. Other September activities included the Monmouth County Office of Emergency Management Prepare-a-thons events.



MRC volunteers were also called upon to declare their availability in case Tropical Storm Hermine made landfall in Monmouth County. Thirty two volunteers were prepared to respond, if needed. Members attended a Radiological workshop, held in Atlantic City, and also participated in the Manalapan Township Point of Distribution (POD) Exercise held in December.

Our MRC volunteers provide many valuable services to the residents of Monmouth County. We are proud of their dedication and service.

In 2016, the Monmouth County MRC team was on standby for the Papal visit to assist in Camden with support activities as requested.

## Health Education

MCHD staff is a dynamic, multi-disciplinary group, with expertise in areas ranging from hazardous materials response, public health nursing, environmental health, epidemiology and a myriad of public health topics that affect Monmouth County residents. The MCHD team is highly-regarded by local health partners as well as state agencies such as the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Agency, New Jersey Department of Health and the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General. MCHD staff is often invited to participate on state level task forces and speak at statewide conferences. Health Officer, Christopher Merkel was invited to speak at the first annual NJDOH Population Health Summit on childhood lead poisoning prevention.

Zika became the focus of the Health Education program early in 2016. Monmouth County's Mosquito Control Division and Health Department worked together to provide accurate and up to the minute information on the evolving situation to the residents of Monmouth County. Educational programs were developed for local code enforcement, construction, housing and



Monmouth County Department of Public Works employees. Joint programs were offered free of charge for residents in the libraries, and community centers. During our "Fight the Bite" initiative we distributed materials at health fairs and at the Monmouth County Fair, held in July.

In the spring, Health Officer Merkel attended the Centers for Disease Control Zika Summit in Atlanta, Georgia with the NJDOH

delegation. A Health Forum was also held at to provide information to school and municipal officials on the topics of Zika 101, Vector Control, and Childhood Lead Poisoning Issues.

Staff continued the work initiated through the Sandy Recovery Grant, and offered the Healthy Homes for Community Health Workers training. The classes were well attended by Visiting Nurses, Registered Environmental Health Specialists, and Community Health Workers. The goal of the class is to establish the link between the condition of homes and health.

MCHD staff offered classes to enhance preparedness efforts within the county. The classes included Responder Preparedness, Medical Needs Shelters, Closed Point of Distributions, and Shelter Fundamentals. These classes were attended by MCHD staff, Medical Reserve Corps Volunteers, and members of the Healthcare Community.

As a service to our Monmouth County Board of Health member municipalities, we are pleased to provide a health department speaker's bureau providing educational sessions.

A bimonthly electronic newsletter was initiated in January 2016. The newsletter is a way for residents to learn the facts about local public health issues. Topics included current and often critical information about flu shot clinics, the Zika virus, how and where to dispose of items that should not be thrown out in the trash, emergency preparation and more. Newsletter signup is available online through the Monmouth County website at VisitMonmouth.com. By the end of 2016, there were 2,178 subscribers.

## Emergency Preparedness

The Department has been the lead agency for preparedness, known as the Local Information Network and Communications System (LINCS) agency for Monmouth County since 2002.

The LINCS system is a part of the federal Health Alert Network (HAN) that connects the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) to the local health departments electronically to ensure the rapid dissemination of critical information in the event of a bioterrorism incident or public health threat and to promote mutual cooperation and general welfare of the public health system.

NJDOH has established 22 LINCS Agency sites throughout New Jersey to distribute information to their partners. MCHD has collaborated to establish working connections with municipal governments, local health departments, hospitals, doctors, laboratories, emergency management, emergency medical services, schools, churches and community organizations.

The Department has the responsibility of bringing together the local health authorities, institutions, corporations and other interested parties to coordinate local public health response in the event of a public health emergency in Monmouth County. In the event of a public health emergency, the LINCS site will activate its 24/7 surveillance and coordinate public health activities to minimize the impact on the public. In the event of an incident, information will be posted to the MCHD website.

The HAN also provides state and local agencies with responsibility for:

- Preparedness planning and assessment
- Disease surveillance and investigation
- Electronic laboratory test reporting
- Emergency communications
- Workforce training



MCHD is part of the Central East Health Care Coalition who are health care providers from Monmouth, Ocean, Union and Middlesex counties. The coalition meets quarterly for preparedness strategic planning. In 2016, the Department participated in the meetings as well as an Ebola table top exercise to better plan for future infectious diseases among the group.

MCHD is also part of the Central East Public Health Emergency Preparedness Work Group which are LINCS agencies from Monmouth, Ocean, Union and Middlesex counties. The coalition meets quarterly for regional preparedness activities. In 2016, the work group developed plans for the sharing of resources for receipt of the Strategic National Stockpile, the set up and operation of a medical needs shelter, closed points of distribution training and development of communication plans. In December of 2015, Monmouth County hosted a regional point of distribution (POD) drill held in Middletown. The POD is a designated site to host the public in an event of a biological event requiring rapid distribution of medication. The drill was well attended by all four counties.

In 2016, MCHD continued Closed POD presentations. A Closed POD is a non-medical dispensing site that provides medication to a targeted population, such as healthcare providers or businesses. The objective of a Closed POD to maintain the infrastructure of healthcare and business should there be an emergency requiring the distribution of medication or vaccinations.

MCHD hosted a POD exercise in December of 2016 with the Manalapan Health Department utilizing the Justified Emergency Mass Prophylaxis Point of Distribution or (JEM) model. The Monmouth County MRC and Manalapan MRC/CERT had the opportunity to practice skills in the distribution process and an after action report was developed to further improve our efforts.

In 2016, the Department received a grant from the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and has been working with the Monmouth County Office of Emergency Management on the Seniors Taking on Readiness Measures, (STORM) program, which is a program for seniors to prepare them for a natural or manmade disaster. A train the trainer program was provided for the MRC units and health department staff. The program is being presented in Monmouth County communities.

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

In 1978, the New Jersey Legislature passed the County Environmental Health Act (CEHA), which directed the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to begin partially funding Environmental Health Programs in county and regional health departments. The Monmouth County Health Department (MCHD) is the only local health authority of the six remaining health departments in Monmouth County whose programs are certified by NJDEP to perform investigation, enforcement, and regulation of air and noise pollution, solid waste disposal, recycling, hazmat emergency and terrorism response, hazardous waste storage and disposal, underground storage tanks, and surface and ground water pollution. In addition to directly providing these services, the MCHD coordinates these services through uniform shared services agreements with one regional health department and three municipal hazmat teams.

The MCHD Environmental Health Program commits its efforts to where the most good can be achieved. Trained staff is needed from other County departments in order for the MCHD to adequately provide public health services as they emerge during future disasters.

Previous environmental health reports and expanded reports of the information that follows can be accessed from the Health Department section of the Monmouth County website at [www.VisitMonmouth.com](http://www.VisitMonmouth.com).

***Water Pollution Control Program:*** The Health Department's Water Pollution Control Program acts as an agent of the NJDEP through the County Environmental Health Act (CEHA.) Responsibilities of the Water Pollution Control Program include responding to citizen and NJDEP complaints related to water pollution, such events as fish kills, algae blooms, and illegal or dangerous discharges into water bodies. Other directives for the program are set forth by the Safe Drinking Water Act, Private Well Testing Act, Cooperative Coastal Monitoring Program and ambient stream water quality monitoring. The County's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) supports environmental investigations and other public health activities.

***Public Non-Community Wells:*** Fifty-nine transient systems and 55 non-transient inspections were conducted. Inspection reports generated through the New Jersey Environmental Management System (NJEMS) are sent directly to the well system owners.

***Private Well Testing Act (PWTA):*** Private wells, periodically or if involved in realty transfers, are required to be analyzed for primary and secondary USEPA and NJDEP water quality parameters. PWTA results are received from NJDEP. In 2016, 14 letters were sent to residents within 200' of wells that exceeded primary parameter standards to advise those on shallow wells of possible risks to their drinking water.

***Cooperative Coastal Monitoring (CCMP):*** In 2016, 47 bathing beach sites were monitored weekly during the recreational bathing season with a total of 868 samples taken and analyzed for bacteria. There was one bathing beach closure in 2016, due to bacteria. There were Ninety re-samples obtained and analyzed after initial sampling results exceeded bacterial standards. Thirty beach advisories were posted requiring that sanitary surveys be performed. Seven sites were monitored monthly during the winter months. Sample results can be found here [www.njbeaches.org](http://www.njbeaches.org).

***Fish kills:*** Periodic fish kills of Menhaden occurred during the springtime in the Raritan/Sandy Hook Bayshore area. These fish kills were believed to be caused by hypoxia. In-situ water quality parameters obtained by this department indicated dissolved oxygen levels, within large schools of juvenile Menhaden, plummeted during diurnal oscillations.

***Phytoplankton:*** During 2016, field observations during coastal monitoring program, fish kill investigations and local complaints resulted in 21 phytoplankton samples being taken for analysis. On one occasion, Cyano-Bacteria (Blue Green Algae) cell counts exceeded safe levels. Health advisories were physically posted at this water body and posted to the Health Department website. The increasing trend of harmful algae blooms (HABs) occurring in county water bodies is a concern. MCHD and NJDEP are planning a cooperative effort to identify and investigate these HABs in the future.

***Ambient Surface Water Quality:*** During the ongoing investigation of the Monmouth Park Stable area weekly samples were taken in Branchport Creek. Additionally, MCHD developed an Ambient Coastal Lake sampling program, which will be initiated in 2017.

***Watershed Management Initiatives:*** Staff participated in the Wreck Pond Brook Regional Storm Water Management Plan Committee. The staffs' scientific and local knowledge contributed to the planning and construction of the secondary inlet/outlet structure at Wreck Pond. Staff also assisted NJDEP and local officials with source tracking bacteria contamination in the Navesink and Shark River watersheds.

***Major Investigations:*** Staff coordinated a comprehensive storm water infrastructure investigation in Neptune City to determine sources of historically high bacteria levels entering the Shark River. Numerous agencies have been participating in the investigation, including NJDEP, NJDOT, Neptune City, Neptune Twp., and the Office of State Senator Jennifer Beck. Although the investigation is not completed, several potential sanitary sewer line breaks have been identified for further investigation and remediation.

***Complaints:*** A total of 32 environmental surface and drinking water complaints were investigated in 2016.

***Environmental Laboratory:*** The laboratory maintained and calibrated state certified field sampling instrumentation used in complaint investigations and ambient water quality sampling. Database management and sample tracking was performed for multiple projects and complaints. The laboratory analyzed 21 phytoplankton samples for identification and enumeration. MCHD is the only county health laboratory currently performing this function.

***Geographic Information Systems (GIS):*** Over 80 new GIS mapping projects were generated for programs during 2016. Most environmental, public health, and domestic preparedness datasets were updated during the year. GIS projects during the year primarily focused on environmental investigations, public health, and domestic preparedness. It was also utilized to improve daily workflow efficiency within the Department. Examples of major GIS projects included a storm water infrastructure investigation in Neptune City to determine sources of high bacteria levels, and the mapping of over 5,300 blood lead levels of children in Monmouth County to identify potential hot spots.

**Website:** The MCHD continued to be a strong public information tool in 2016. Many new pages devoted to topics such as [Lead Poisoning Prevention](#), [Zika Virus](#), and [West Nile Virus](#) were created. The [Health Department News Page](#) was completely revamped, and a [Newsletter](#) has been implemented. The Newsletter can be found on the MCHD website, or citizens can sign up for a convenient email version. All pages of the MCHD website were maintained and updated throughout the year.

**Royal Flush Sewage Pump-Out Boat:** After a layoff in 2015 for major repairs, the *Royal Flush* returned to service in May 2016. MCHD and the NY/NJ Baykeeper Organization agreed to continue their cooperative effort, with the Baykeeper providing captains to operate the *Royal Flush* during the season. MCHD continues to administer the program and maintain the boat in operational condition. The *Royal Flush* serviced 588 boats and pumped 17,900 gallons of sewage on 31 operating days during the 2016 boating season.

## **Hazardous Materials Response, Underground Storage Tanks and Pesticide Control Programs**

The Monmouth County Health Department's Hazardous Materials Response Unit continues to provide outstanding hazardous materials and environmental response services to the citizens of Monmouth County. It is the responsibility of the hazardous materials unit to develop and maintain standardized hazardous materials (Hazmat) and CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive) emergency response capability, capacity, and competence. We maintain a core of highly trained and equipped personnel that will respond to hazmat and CBRNE emergencies and conduct investigations in coordination with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), and the New Jersey State Police (NJSP) Special Operations Section.

The MCHD hazmat team is available to respond to any hazmat/CBRNE incident in Monmouth County on a 24 hour per day/7 day per week/365 day per year basis. Each hazmat team member is equipped with a specialized emergency response vehicle containing all the detection, personal protection, and response equipment needed to handle most routine incidents in the field. The hazmat unit also maintains two heavy duty emergency response trucks capable of supporting extended operations for larger incidents. In addition, we maintain equipment capable of supporting command, logistics, decontamination, and mobile power needs at any incident.

We handle a wide range of incident responses each year from private citizens, business interests, industrial facilities, and governmental agencies. Incidents vary in nature from small residential spills of household chemicals and heating oil to large-scale industrial spills, chemical reactions, fires, illegal dumping and over the road accidents involving cargo spills or releases of motor vehicle fluids. A total of 78 complaints were investigated during the 2016 calendar year.

The hazmat unit continues to be involved in domestic preparedness planning for the county. The Environmental Health Coordinator maintains a seat on the county's Grant Working Group and LEPC, and regularly participates in other planning meetings with county OEM and the county Fire Marshall. Coordination with the county OEM and Fire Marshall has resulted in an integrated network of primary and secondary departments for mutual aid including hazmat/CBRN response and mass decontamination.

The regulated underground storage tank (UST) enforcement and compliance unit performed 62 facility inspections during 2016. The UST unit initiated 47 penalty actions and 5 delivery ban or cease use orders in coordination with the DEP's Central Region Field Office. The UST enforcement unit also continues to enforce Clean Air Act regulations for stage II vapor recovery equipment as a part of our regular UST program responsibilities.

Our hazmat unit participated in a DEP pilot Pesticide Control Program (PCP) again in 2016. The Pesticide Control Program is primarily responsible for ensuring compliance with federal and state laws and regulations regarding the use, sale, transport, disposal, manufacture, and storage of pesticides in the state of New Jersey. It also promotes pollution prevention and pesticide use reduction through training and outreach activities involving Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Under the program, our staff performed compliance inspections of area landscapers, multiple family residences, unregistered products, and compliance assistance inspections of area schools.

The hazmat unit is also responsible for handling all requests for review of Health Department environmental records in accordance with the Open Public Records Act (OPRA). A total of 502 OPRA requests were processed through the hazmat unit in 2016.

The hazmat/UST staff regularly provides support to other Health Department units and county agencies. We also participate in the Health Department's Cooperative Coastal Monitoring Program during the summer months. All members of the hazmat/UST staff also maintain certification in NJDEP odor field enforcement procedures to assist our Air Pollution Control Unit with after-hours complaints. Our UST unit provides compliance assistance for regulated underground storage tank systems to several county agencies and facility owners. In addition, the hazmat/UST staff provides logistics support for the Health Department's Strategic National Stockpile Personal Protective Equipment distribution program.

Continuing education and training are essential parts of our mission to provide a comprehensive emergency preparedness system throughout Monmouth County. The Health Department's hazmat unit maintains some of the most highly trained hazmat/CBRNE response personnel in the State of New Jersey. In 2016, we continued to expand our emergency response capability and competence by taking advantage of numerous federal, state, and local training opportunities.

## **Solid Waste Control**

The Monmouth County Health Department Solid Waste Enforcement Team (SWET) is authorized by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to enforce state solid waste regulations in Monmouth County. This enforcement authority was established by an interagency agreement entered in 1987, pursuant to the County Environmental Health Act (CEHA). Current personnel consists of a Program Coordinator and six inspectors assigned to conduct field inspections.

Our scope of work for the 2016 calendar year included compliance monitoring and daily routine inspections at the Monmouth County Sanitary Landfill as well as the inspection of Transfer Stations, Closed landfills, Class A Recycling Facilities, Class B Recycling Facilities – including General, Limited, and Exempt Activities, Compost Facilities, and Farmland Leaf Mulch Sites. SWET has an established program to monitor solid waste haulers for compliance with regulations governing registration and transporter requirements. Our field activities include

recycling compliance inspections and waste audits at businesses and institutions throughout the County to ensure compliance with our Monmouth County Solid Waste Management Plan. SWET handles citizen complaints as well as investigates complaints received and referred to us by the NJDEP. One SWET staff member is assigned fulltime to oversee the operation of the private vendor that operates the Household Hazardous Materials Facility for Monmouth County Reclamation Center. Additionally, three staff members are part of the Hazmat Emergency Response Team.

Monmouth County has 243 facilities that handle solid waste and/or recyclables, each requiring a minimum of two and four inspections per site, per year with more frequent inspections conducted on as needed basis. The number of facilities vary each year as new facilities are added, some operate on temporary basis and others cease operating. The facilities range in the size of their operation and include the following: municipal recycling convenience centers, exempt recycling or composting sites handling brush, leaves, asphalt, concrete or tires; NJDEP fully permitted recycling operations handling similar products but on a much larger scale; four transfer stations; one operating sanitary landfill and 28 closed landfills. Facilities that are found non-compliant receive a Notice of Violation (NOV) and are given a grace period to correct any deficiencies. In more egregious cases the grace period may not be warranted and the facility may be subject to a penalty assessment or court action. In 2016 we issued six NOV's and one penalty assessment to facilities we inspected. Facilities found to be operating outside of the scope of permitted work are brought into compliance through this enforcement action. SWET personnel conduct a number of joint inspections with NJDEP staff to ensure uniformity in enforcement protocols.

SWET conducted 963 recycling compliance inspections at businesses and institutions throughout the County. These resulted in 181 violations of the New Jersey Administrative Code's recycling regulations. These recycling regulations adopted by the State are based on local Municipal Ordinances, thus allowing us to easily incorporate local Recycling Coordinators and Code Officials into the enforcement process. We typically refer all initial violations to the municipality where the violation occurred. Guidelines under the grace period law call for initial offenders to be afforded a period of 30 days to implement programs or strategies to bring the recycling program into compliance. In most cases this is achieved under the jurisdiction of local municipal enforcement. For towns that request MCHD follow-up on the NOV's will re-inspect the violators to ensure that the deficiencies have been corrected. Evidence of the effectiveness of this system can be noted by the penalty actions taken by SWET in 2016. We issued just two penalty assessments for the 181 violations cited at local establishments for failure to recycle items mandated in the local ordinances. Our focus this past year was concentrated on outdoor events including recreation, beaches, fairs and carnivals and all sporting events. We plan on continuing this more goal oriented approach in 2017 with a focus on major retail chains, outdoor events and small retail establishments. In addition to recycling inspections of retailers, we also focus our inspections on individual loads of trash being dropped off at the transfer stations.

We inspect the loads for recycling content and follow-up with the generator and the hauler on correcting any infractions. A total of 196 loads were inspected resulting in 25 Notices of Violations and 1 penalty assessment being issued.

A total of 1,512 solid waste vehicles and/or roll-off containers/dumpsters were inspected at various job sites and at the Monmouth County's four transfer stations resulting in 159 NOV's and 31 penalty assessments being issued. Inspectors check for compliance with all registration

and transporter requirements which are regulated under the New Jersey Administrative Code and the Monmouth County Solid Waste Management Plan. This includes inspections for banned or hazardous materials, regulated medical waste, or mandated recyclable materials being disposed in the waste stream. We also monitor haulers for compliance with Monmouth County Intrastate Waste Flow Control Requirements. This requires haulers transporting household waste to dispose of this material at the Monmouth County Reclamation Center (MCRC) or take it to an out of state solid waste facility for final disposition. Since the MCRC is a user funded public utility, it is extremely important that a steady flow of waste is received to keep the operation fiscally secure. The transporter violations that occur most frequently include: Failure to maintain solid waste vehicles or containers; Failure to ensure the device used for solid waste transport is registered with the Department; Failure to properly mark solid waste vehicle/container; Failure to carry current DEP registration certificate; Failure to comply with limitations on approved registration; and Collecting solid waste and source separated recyclables in the same vehicle. Solid waste containers are also inspected at various developments and construction sites. For the fifth consecutive year, no Regulated Medical Waste or Waste Flow Control violations were cited. In addition SWET monitored proper disposal of 163 asbestos loads brought to MCRC by both homeowners and contractors. Monmouth County SWET is one of only several regional offices in the state that conduct exempt hauler self-generator solid waste transporter interviews on behalf of the NJDEP. A total of 31 applicants met the criteria and were interviewed and assisted in completion of the application for final processing by NJDEP.

We investigated a total of 60 complaints from local citizens and 31 complaint referrals from the NJDEP. Historically the majority of our complaints center on either: solid waste transporter activities, asbestos transport and disposal, or illegal dumping. Violations commonly cited include: Use of poorly maintained equipment resulting in waste spillage onto public roadways, Failure to dispose of solid waste at an approved facility; Illegal Dumping; Operating an Illegal Solid Waste Facility; Operating an Illegal Recycling Facility; Failure to properly seal asbestos in leak tight containment during transport, Failure to send to the State the Notification of Intent to Remove Asbestos prior to engaging in the activity; and Conducting business as a Solid Waste Broker without possessing the required State license and certificate. All minor violations are served Notices of Violation and are reinvestigated for compliance after appropriate grace periods ranging from one to thirty days. Violations which are non-minor (repeat offenses or knowingly/purposely committing a violation) result in the issuance of a municipal court summons or a Notice of Penalty Assessment. We adhere strictly to all CEHA notification and reporting requirements regarding enforcement activities. The investigations of all NJDEP referrals were reported back to the State within five days.

SWET personnel were in attendance for the following educational and training courses; Annual 8-Hour Hazmat Refresher, Hazmat Technician, Blood Borne Pathogens, Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation, Hazmat Training Drills, Municipal Recycling Coordinators Bi-Monthly Workshops, NJ Compost Operator Certification, Odor Enforcement, Hazardous Waste Handler Seminar, Recycling Time management, Population Monitoring for Radiation Training, Recycling Webinars, Respirator Fit Testing, Right To Know, Solid Waste & Recycling Compliance Assistance Training, DOT Training for Hazardous Waste Transporters, and Active Shooter Training.

SWET ACTIVITY BREAKDOWN		
<b>Complaints:</b>	<b>Totals</b>	
Complaints from Local Source	60	
Complaints from NJ DEP	31	
	<b>91</b>	
<b>Activity:</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>NOV</b>
Municipal Summonses Issues:	34	0
Settlement Conferences	2	0
Court Actions	39	0
Major Landfill Inspections (OP)	1	0
Closed Landfill	32	1
Transfer Station	6	0
Recycling Investigation	963	181
Exempt Compost Facility	54	3
Class C Facility	14	0
Exempt and Limited Class B Facilities	356	3
Beneficial Use Determination (BUD)	4	0
Class A Recycling Centers	15	0
Farmland Mulch Sites	51	0
Convenience Centers	134	0
DPW Inspections	20	0
Class B-General:	26	1
Leaf Transfer Inspection	31	0
Recycling Truck Inspection	196	25
Transporters Interviewed	31	0
Exempt Hauler Investigation	3	0
Truck Checks	502	72
Container Inspections	1,010	87
Wasteflow Investigations	1	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3,622</b>	<b>373</b>

## Household Hazardous Waste Facility

With continued support from the Board of Chosen Freeholders, The Monmouth County Household Hazardous Waste Facility (HHW) will begin its 21st year of operation. Since its inception, this permanent facility has provided county residents, non-profits, and government entities, with an environmentally safe disposal outlet for a variety of hazardous household chemicals that may otherwise end up in our waste stream.

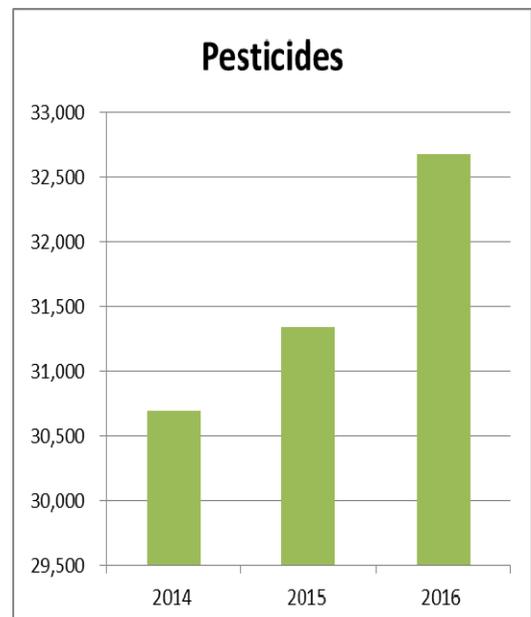
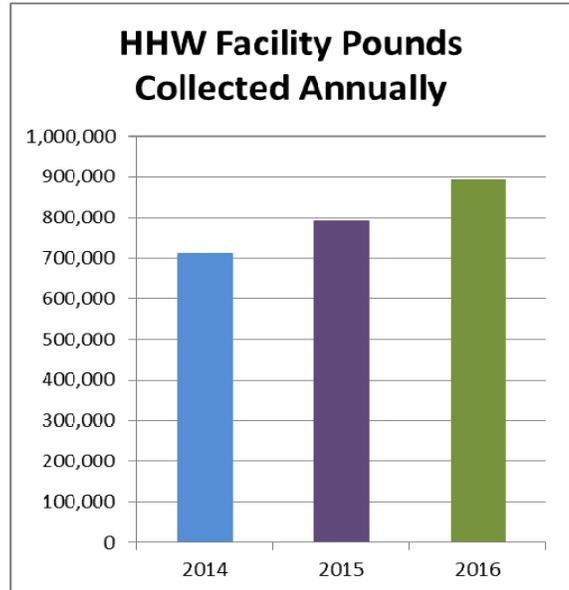
In 2016, more than 11,000 participants utilized this facility which generated almost 900,000 pounds of household hazardous waste.

There has been a significant increase in participation over the last three years including, 8,604 participants in 2014, 9,265 in 2015, and 11,042 participants in 2016. Participation amongst government entities, nonprofits, and schools, has more than doubled since 2014. They are as follows: 38 in 2014, 41 in 2015, and 82 visits in 2016.

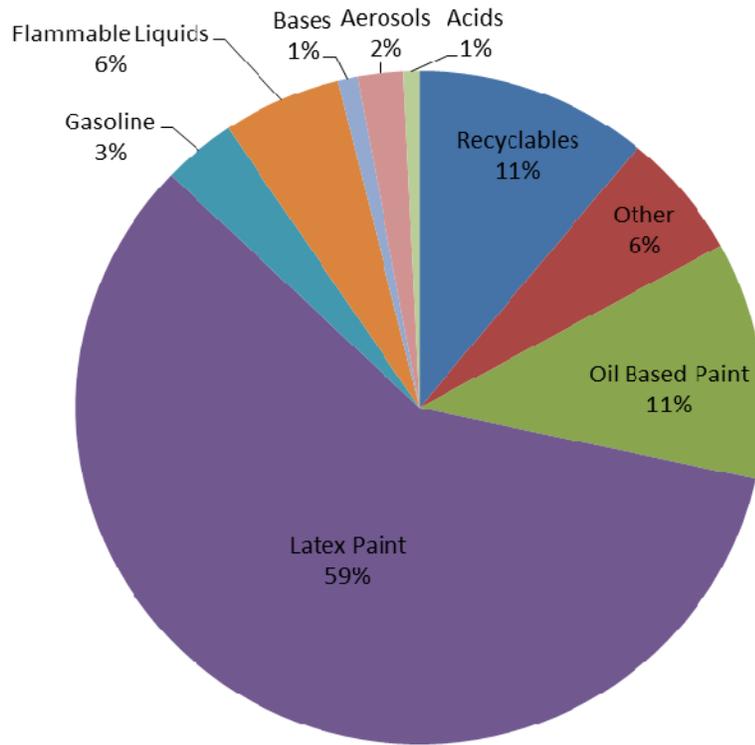
Increases in HHW facility participation are likely to continue as residents become more aware of operating hours, the absence of single day HHW events, and the elimination of previously required appointments.

County residents may continue to use this facility without the need to make appointments on a first come, first serve basis.

Effective January 7, 2014, the County of Monmouth awarded the contract to Radiac Environmental Services to operate The Monmouth County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility. The Monmouth County Reclamation Center provides this essential service with continued Health Department oversight. The Health Department has dedicated one of its staff members to oversee operations at the HHW Facility. Radiac Environmental Services will operate HHW through June 1, 2018.

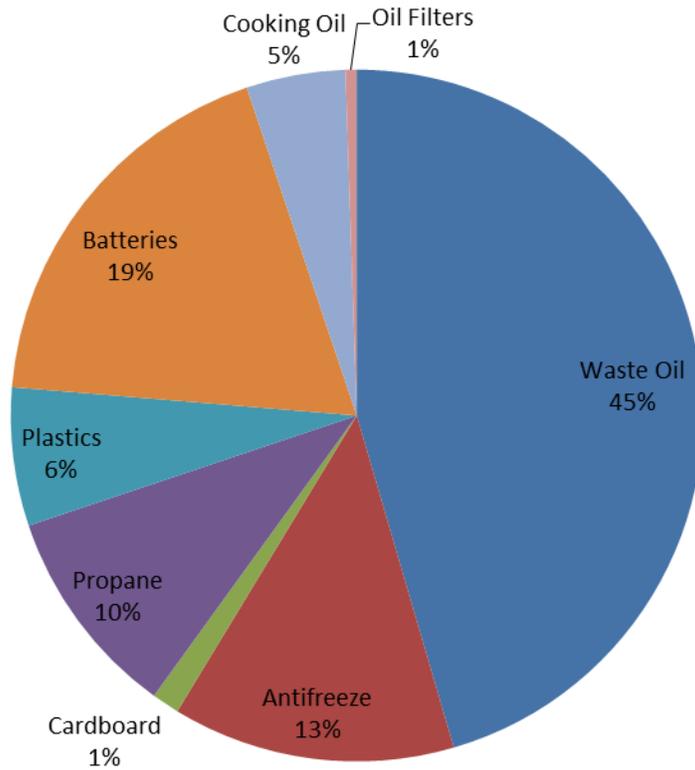


## 2016 HHW Facility Waste Breakdown



2016 HHW Facility Waste Breakdown	Pounds
Recyclables	97,787
Other	54,064
Oil Based Paint	101,560
Latex Paint	524,438
Gasoline	30,948
Flammable Liquids	49,799
Bases	8,200
Aerosols	19,124
Acids	6,723

## 2016 Breakdown of Recyclables



2016 Breakdown of Recyclables	Pounds
<b>Waste Oil</b>	44,469
<b>Antifreeze</b>	12,912
<b>Cardboard</b>	1,260
<b>Propane</b>	9,660
<b>Plastics</b>	6,320
<b>Batteries</b>	18,130
<b>Cooking Oil</b>	4,522
<b>Oil Filters</b>	514

## Air & Noise Control Program

During 2016, the Monmouth County Health Department Air and Noise Control Program performed 192 site visits 155 of which were minor source inspections.

### Air and Noise Site Visits

In total, 249 site visits were made during 2016 compared to 192 in 2015.

<u>Site Visits</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Citizen Complaints	52	5
DEP Referrals	49	32
Minor Source	<u>148</u>	<u>155</u>
<b>Total</b>	249	192

### Minor Source Inspections

This year, 148 minor source inspections were conducted compared to 155 in 2015. Although our requirement has not changed, the discrepancy in numbers reflects the transition from a calendar year to a fiscal year.

<u>Minor Source</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
B sources	113	122
Dry Cleaners	<u>35</u>	<u>33</u>
<b>Total</b>	148	155

### Noise Control Program

Thirty-three noise complaints were investigated in 2016. This reflects a 33% increase in noise complaints over last year.

### GIS/GPS Completed Projects

All maps for GIS are updated on an as needed basis. The dry cleaners map was updated regarding date inspected, permit renewal and equipment on site.

### Looking Ahead

In 2017 we will complete our fiscal year 2016-2017 DEP requirements for minor source inspections. We will also continue to serve the residents of Monmouth County, particularly as they are affected by issues under the jurisdiction of the Air and Noise Program.

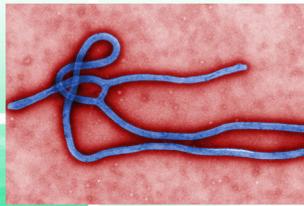
# Monmouth County Health Department

## *2016 Activities Summary*

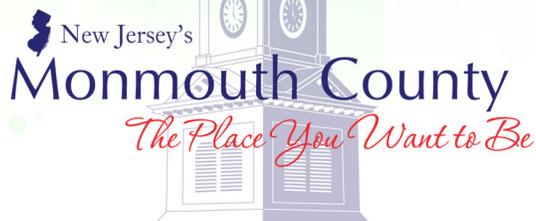
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- 1,221 Flu vaccinations administered
  - 2,216 Tuberculosis clinic services provided
  - 2,258 Communicable disease cases investigated
    - 883 Clients treated at Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) clinic
    - 648 Lyme disease cases identified; education also provided
    - 347 Free eye clinic screenings provided
    - 57 Women screened for cancer
    - 386 Medical Reserve Corp volunteers registered
- 
- 2,187 Dogs and cats vaccinated at 26 clinics
- 
- 2,260 Routine retail food inspections performed
  - 2,114 Well and septic inspections conducted
- 
- 17,900 gallons of sewage were pumped instead of dumped in the ocean and other waterways by the *Royal Flush* pump-out boat
  - 868 Ocean and bay samples were analyzed through Cooperative Coastal Monitoring Program to protect Monmouth County bathers
  - 216 Site visits performed by Air Noise Program staff for minor sources & complaints
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- 488 Environmental property record searches performed by Hazmat personnel
  - 688 Complaint investigations conducted department-wide
  - 952 Recycling compliance inspections conducted
- 9,711 Public and Environmental Health work related activities performed by department staff
- 892,633 Pounds of household waste were received from 11,042 residents at the HHW permanent facility





# 2016 Health Department Annual Report



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