

Website and Social Media:

The Darke County General Health District uses multiple media sources to spread the word about Public Health in Darke County.

Check out our new user friendly website:



www.darkecountyhealth.org

You can also like our page on Facebook or follow us on Twitter



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Greenville, Ohio 45331
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Website: www.darkecountyhealth.org

Darke County General Health District

Public Health Services

2016 Annual Report



Contributing to a stronger healthier
community.

What does the Darke County General Health District Do?

- A message from Dr. Holman
- Overall Health of Darke County
- Financial Report
- Nursing Division Services
- Vital Statistics
- Environmental Division Services

About Us:

What is Public Health?

Public Health is a term used to encompass a variety of activities designed to prevent the spread of disease and promote optimal health.

Our Mission:

To develop and maintain an efficient and effective system which will provide for the highest quality of public health services and to promote and protect the Darke County community's physical, mental, social, and environmental well being.

What does the Darke County General Health District do for the community?

Local health departments were developed to provide an organized approach to public health activities in communities. Activities of the Darke County General Health District include immunizations, vital statistics, environmental health, nursing, emergency preparedness, communicable disease control, epidemiology and education.

Every time you visit campgrounds, restaurants, swimming pools, schools and grocery stores, the Darke County General Health District plays a role in protecting public health. The health department is also responsible for providing immunizations, performing epidemiological investigations, coordinating emergency response with other agencies, and providing public health education.

Health Commissioner's Message:

Terrence Holman, DVM, RS

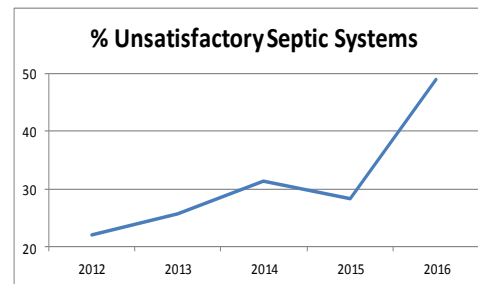
Our promise to you, the people of Darke County, is to remain committed to meeting and hopefully far exceeding your public health needs, whether it's as simple as providing answers to your phone calls, keeping the county safe from potential disease outbreaks, or making sure your drinking water is safe.



The Environmental Division has many services we provide to protect the community and the environment. These programs include: Home and Small Flow (less than 1,000 gal/day) Sewage Treatment Systems, Private Water, Plumbing, Tattoo & Body Piercing, Swimming Pools/ Recreational Camps/ Bathing Beaches, Schools and Correctional Facilities, Rabies, Nuisances, Healthy Homes, and Lead/ Radon/ Air Quality. The Health Department works closely with other agencies such as ODH, Darke County Solid Waste District, OEPA, and RAP-CA (Regional Air Pollution Control Agency) to inspect, test, and provide educational materials to the public and homeowners.

Sewage Operation & Maintenance Program (O&M)

The O&M program is intended to help reduce pollution and save homeowners money by preventing septic system failures. This is done through homeowner education, record keeping, along with system monitoring and maintenance. Unfortunately, 58% of Darke County homeowners do not have an adequate system. The chart shows the percent of septic systems that were unsatisfactory during the O&M



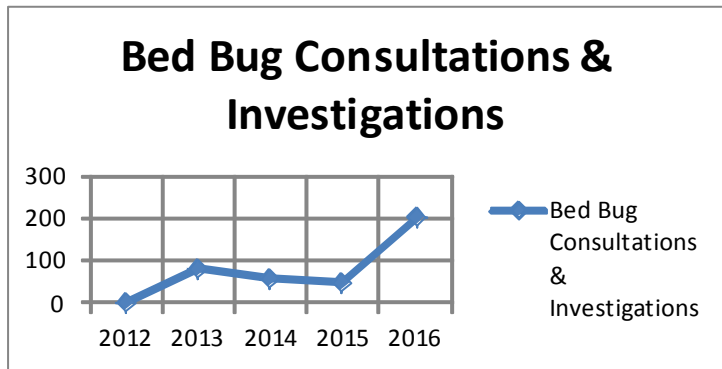
inspection. As you can see, the O&M program is necessary to protect public health and keep systems working properly. To date, there are 5,470 out of approximately 12,000 properties on the program.

WPCLF (Water Pollution Control Loan Fund)

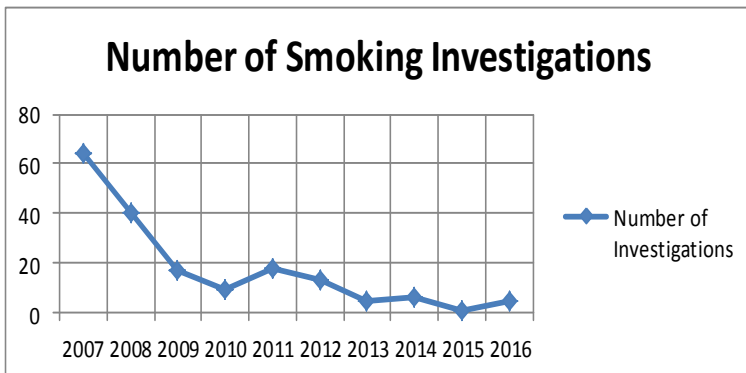
To help homeowners with the repair/replacement of failing septic systems, the Health Department has been awarded \$300,000 from the OEPA. To be eligible, the home must be owner occupied and the homeowner must be current with property taxes and mortgage payments. The household income must be at or below 300% of the HHS poverty guidelines for *at least* 50% funding of the project. For example, a family of 4 with a total household income or \$72,750 or less would be eligible for at least 50% funding.

Environmental Division Services Continued:

Darke County has experienced an increase in Bed Bug reports. Although not considered a public health issue, Bed Bugs are a nuisance and can be very costly to homeowners. The Health Department in conjunction with the Darke County OSU Extension office sponsored a free educational seminar to residents in November. We continue to utilize our Premise Regulations to help tenants of multi-family dwellings by requiring owners to have some responsibility for treatment. Along with insect and rodent control, we also inspect nuisances based on a complaint or concern. We check dwellings with suspected problems for sanitation, fire, and safety hazards and have them maintain minimum standards for health and safety reasons.



This year we saw an increase in Smoking Investigations. This may indicate the need for more education on the law. We provide services to prohibit all forms of tobacco smoke in all public places and places of employment through Chapter 3794 of the ORC.



What is the Overall Health of Darke County?

This is a difficult question to answer, however the Darke County General Health District partnered with area agencies in an effort to assemble data and analyze the health of our community. The causes of greatest health risk, areas of disparity, and access to care were evaluated. Demographic information along with socioeconomic, and causes of death were looked at to determine what is causing sickness and death in our community. Knowing this information allows for improvement where we are losing ground.

Leading Causes of Death in Darke County:

Heart disease, malignant neoplasm's, chronic lower respiratory diseases, stroke, accidents (unintentional injuries), Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, nephritis and nephrosis, influenza and pneumonia, and chronic liver disease and cirrhosis.

Top Diagnoses:

Hypertension, alcohol and drugs, heart disease, diabetes, COPD and asthma, spinal disorders, complications of pregnancy/childbirth, and urinary tract infections.

So what do we do?

The Darke County General Health District used the data identified and developed priorities, organized efforts to address chronic diseases affecting our community, and to educate the public. In order to do this the Darke County General Health District also joined forces with other agencies creating a coalition. The coalition formed is known as the *Coalition for a Healthy Darke County*, in which the Health Department serves as one of the Board of Directors.

The purpose of the Coalition for a Healthy Darke County is:

To understand and promote community decision making, collaboration and ownership among many different organizations through joint action. The Coalition permits these organizations to work together to resolve specific community challenges such as health and substance abuse. The Coalition creates a community of care revolving around health with opportunities for collaborative funding, creating structured systems and processes, shared resources, comprehensive planning, ongoing reporting and public communication, celebrating results and continuous improvement.

About Us:

The Darke County General Health District :

The Darke County General Health District is a combined health district representing Greenville City and the Darke County Community. There are five individuals appointed to the Board of Health. The Mayor of Greenville City appoints two members of the Board of Health to represent Greenville City. The District Advisory Council (DAC) appoints one member of the Board of Health to represent Darke County and they elect a five member Licensing Council of regulated parties that selects an additional board member from their group. The District Advisory Council includes the Township Trustees and the Mayors of the Villages within Darke County. The DAC membership also includes a County Commissioner. At least one board member must be a physician which can be chosen by either the DAC or the Greenville City Mayor.

Board of Health:

The Board of Health (BOH) has many responsibilities: appoint the Health Commissioner, approve hiring of employees, and meet monthly to discuss topics that are occurring within the Health District. The BOH helps make many important decisions, such as the adoption of regulations and policies, as well as the approval of expenditures. The current members include:

Wayne Deschambeau
 James Schaar
 Krista Fourman
 Curtis Yount
 Dr. Timothy Kathman



Why Is Accreditation Important?

The Darke County Health Department has applied for Accreditation through the National Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). PHAB’s public health department accreditation process seeks to advance quality and performance within public health departments. National public health department accreditation has been developed to improve service, value, and accountability to stakeholders. The State of Ohio has made it mandatory for both state and local health departments to become accredited by 2020. We have been busy working on various plans including: community assessment, community health improvement, strategic planning, quality improvement, performance management, and workforce development.

Program		Solid Waste	
Food Safety		Solid Waste Transfer Station	1
Food Service Operation	158	Closed Landfills	5
Retail Food Operation	68	Closed Construction & Demolition	1
Mobile Food Service	82	Compost Facilities	3
Temporary Food Service	111	Solid Waste Haulers	7
Vending	28	Scrap Tire Facility	1
Food Safety Inspections	966	Trash Complaint	10
Food Safety Consultations	1,461	Solid Waste Inspections	145
		Solid Waste Consultations	192
Recreational			
Swimming Pools & Spas	16	Plumbing	
Bathing Beaches	5	Plumbing Permits	218
RV Parks/ Camps	7	Plumbing Plan Reviews	123
Temporary Camps	24	Registered Plumbers	91
Recreational Inspections	39	Appliance Installer	4
Recreational Consultations	50	Sewer & Water Line Installer	3
		Plumbing Inspections	588
Private Sewage Treatment Systems		Plumbing Consultations	1,683
New Sewage Treatment System (STS) Permit	19		
Replacement STS Permit	27	Rabies	
Alteration STS Permit	23	Animal Bites Reported	101
Final Installation Inspection	69	Animal Submitted for Testing	4
Site Inspections	34	Positive Rabies in a Bat	1
Special Service Inspections	78		
Operation & Maintenance Inspections	726	School & County Jail Inspections	19
Other Sewage Inspections	147		
Septic Installers	25	Smoke Free Ohio	
Service Providers	13	Smoke Free Ohio Investigations	5
Sewage Haulers	14	Smoke Free Ohio Consultations	18
Sewage Consultations	2,169		
		Premise	
Private Water Systems		Housing Inspections	49
New Private Water System (PWS) Permit	56	Mold Inspections	5
Alteration PWS Permit	16	Radon Inspections	6
Well Sealing Permits	12	Lead Inspections	8
Water Samples	238	Bed Bug Inspections	9
Unsatisfactory Bacteria Water Samples	25	Other Insect/ Rodent Inspections	3
Unsatisfactory E-Coli Water Samples	5	Methamphetamine	2
Water Hauler	3	Other Nuisance	9
Private Water Inspections	146	Premise Inspections	88
Private Water Consultations	111	Premise Consultations	945
Tattoo Operations	4	All Program Letters Sent	9,805

Environmental Division Services:

The Environmental Division works to protect the health of the community, prevent disease, and protect the environment through the enforcement of local and state rules and regulations, along with providing consultations and educational material regarding our health programs and activities. Our public health sanitarians conduct routine inspections of licensed establishments reducing the risk of such things as food-borne illnesses and contaminated drinking water supplies and swimming pools. We investigate public health nuisance complaints and help to clean up trash and scrap tires. All programs are to help ensure the well-being of Darke County residents and the environment.

While you were at the Fair this year enjoying funnel cakes, elephant ears, and lemonade our Food Program public health sanitarians were working diligently behind the scenes to ensure your safety while attending the event. We inspected 53 Darke County Mobile food facilities and re-inspected 9 of them. There were 65 out of county mobile inspections and 20 re-inspections. Sanitarians also inspected 20 Temporary Food facilities with 5 re-inspections. We stayed active during the fair by making repeated visits to these facilities and checking temperatures and monitoring food safety concerns. We estimate over 200 field consultations during the 8 day event!



Food Program

A Mobile Food Service Operation is operated from a moveable vehicle or portable structure that routinely changes location and remains at one location for no more than 40 consecutive days. Temporary food operations must have a way to wash their hands, clean and sanitize dishes, and keep foods at the appropriate temperature. They must also obtain food from approved sources.

Along with keeping our food safe at these facilities and educating them on safe food handling practices, the Food Program also Inspects Milk Plastic Products for sanitation and Vending Machines.

FINANCIAL REPORT

As you can see from the Financial Summary Statement below, the Health District has managed to maintain a carryover balance. The Health District has also been able to maintain grant funding by diligent field work and fiscal management throughout the years. We are committed to remain fiscally healthy in 2017 and beyond.

FUNDS	2015 CARRY-OVER	2016 REVENUE	2016 EXPENSES	2016 BALANCE
GENERAL HEALTH	\$193,094.18	\$923,597.97	\$875,159.25	\$241,532.90
SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEMS	\$66,898.26	\$177,932.67	\$202,577.84	\$42,253.09
FOOD SERVICE	\$15,672.64	\$104,588.44	\$86,480.18	\$ 33,780.90
MEDICAL RESERVE CORP	\$14,789.33	\$0.00	\$280.91	\$14,508.42
CAMPS	\$2,819.93	\$5,083.00	\$4,229.80	\$3,673.13
PRIVATE WATER	\$18,839.27	\$39,469.00	\$41,546.03	\$16,762.24
SOLID WASTE	\$73,295.59	\$1,570.00	\$36,199.40	\$38,666.19
HELP ME GROW	\$21,210.84	\$199,826.82	\$176,246.81	\$44,790.85
IMMUNIZATION ACTION PLAN GRANT	\$22.48	\$19,390.00	\$19,412.48	\$0.00
POOLS / SPAS	\$6,036.33	\$8,216.00	\$8,027.38	\$6,224.95
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY	\$13,476.85	\$81,027.07	\$88,220.24	\$6,283.68
	\$426,155.70	\$1,560,700.97	\$1,538,380.32	\$448,476.35

Registrar: Terrence L. Holman, DVM

Deputy Registrar: Kristin Clayton

Vital Statistics records birth and death certificates for individuals who were born or have died in Darke County. The Birth and Death Records begin December 20, 1908 to the present date. The vital statistic office collects and reports statistics for the county. This information is used to determine trends in causes of death, health assessment, receiving funding in various forms, and genealogical purposes.

The Vital Statistics division and the Ohio Department of Health have implemented the Integrated Perinatal Health Information System and Electronic Death Registration System that allows birth and death certificates to be filed electronically. Anyone wishing to deliver their baby at home must contact the vital statistics department and complete the proper forms to register their child. The division also maintains Certificates of Service for people who have died in another state but are buried in Darke County.

For your convenience, you can process online requests through VitalChek Network Inc. at their website, www.vitalchek.com. All major credit cards are accepted, including American Express®, Discover®, MasterCard®, or Visa®.



Some 2016 Priority Public Health Issues:

Zika Creates Fear

Zika is a virus that is transmitted through an infected Aedes species mosquito. Common symptoms of zika are fever, rash, and conjunctivitis. The illness is typically mild. For this reason many people do not even realize they have been infected. But the zika virus during pregnancy can cause a serious birth defect known as microcephaly along with other fetal brain defects. This puts pregnant women on edge and caused many travelers to cancel trips. Those that did not cancel trips reported using insect repellent from head to toe, spending more time indoors, and wasting no time killing mosquitoes. The Health Department expects to begin trapping mosquitoes in 2017.



Rabies

Rabies is present throughout the world and is a preventable viral disease that causes acute encephalitis (inflammation of the brain). The virus exists in the saliva of mammals and is usually transmitted from animal to animal or from animal to human by biting. If left untreated in humans and animals, rabies is fatal. Therefore, to survive rabies exposure, it is necessary to complete a rabies treatment under the supervision of a medical professional. In the U.S., the animals that most often get rabies are wild animals such as bats, foxes, raccoons & skunks. In 2016, Darke County has had one confirmed rabies human exposure case in which the individual had post exposure vaccine treatments completed. Animal bites are required to be reported to the Health Department.



Ebola

The Aftermath of the Outbreak

Ebola caused panic in the past and because of the panic it helped us strengthen our monitoring protocols, look at our preparedness, further exercise our drills, and build even more relationships with providers. All local health departments, the CDC, and the Ohio Department of Health have been involved with efforts to ensure we are prepared. Currently the Health Department is working on an Ebola plan for the county to use in the event of an Ebola emergency.

Statistical Information

Births		Number	Deaths		Number
Births Recorded		334	Deaths Recorded		494
Hospital		325	Males		250
Out of Institution		9	Females		244
Males		168	Oldest		106
Females		166	Youngest		16
Sets of Twins		2	Death Certificates Issued		1933
Youngest Mother		16	Burial Permits Issued		471
Oldest Mother		43			
Parents' Marital Status					
Wed		175			
Unwed		159			
Birth Certificates Issued		1,780			
			Causes of Death		Number
			Certain infectious and parasitic diseases		12
			Malignant Neoplasms		86
			Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs		5
			Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases		7
			Mental, behavioral, and neurodevelopmental disorders		23
			Diseases of the nervous system		33
			Diseases of the circulatory system		192
			Diseases of the respiratory system		39
			Diseases of the digestive system		8
			Diseases of the genitourinary system		11
			Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period		0
			Not elsewhere classified symptoms, signs and abnormal findings		17
			Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes		19
			External causes of morbidity		9

Nursing Division Services Continued:

Are you prepared for a Zombie Apocalypse? Not highly likely, but just in case...

We need to be prepared for anything that comes our way. There is a nationally funded program for Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) which outlines 15 capabilities for local public health to attain. We are continually developing, reviewing and revising plans to assure our preparedness in order to take care of this community in the event of a public health emergency. We work in close collaboration with local, regional and state partners from a variety of agencies to stay ready to respond and work together. Whether it is a small scale event like a heat or winter weather alert where we disseminate valuable information, or large scale like a tornado, pandemic flu or other emerging infectious diseases where we may need to operate large clinics to vaccinate or provide medication to the citizens of Darke County. All staff are required to have National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System (ICS) training in accordance with Federal mandates. The overall goal for public health is to “keep well people well” during times of disaster or public health emergencies. The health district oversees a continuous surveillance and monitoring system that provides community partners, media and the general public with valuable information daily. There is ongoing surveillance, monitoring, planning, and testing of the plans using simulated scenarios to improve our overall readiness and meet the national preparedness capabilities. The health district is also a strong promoter of personal preparedness for our staff and community members. We provide encouragement, tools, and information via our website, social media, and community presentations



Aids Case Management

Through collaboration with the Ohio Department of Health and the Miami Valley Ryan White Consortium there are services for those requesting testing for HIV as well as those who are HIV positive and require case management.



Preceptorships

As needed, there are nursing students from multiple colleges that utilize the Darke County General Health District as a clinical site. The Darke County General Health District appreciates the opportunity to contribute to the development of the health profession by helping shape future health care providers.

Project DAWN

Project Dawn is a community-based drug Overdose Prevention Project. DAWN stands for Deaths Avoided With Naloxone (DAWN). Naloxone is a medication that can reverse an overdose that is caused by an opioid drug. When administered during an overdose, Naloxone blocks the effects of opioids on the brain and restores breathing within two to eight minutes. Naloxone has been used safely by emergency medical professionals for more than 40 years and has only one function. That function is to reverse the effects of opioids on the brain and respiratory system in order to prevent death. If Naloxone is given to a person who is not experiencing a opioid overdose, it is harmless. The Ohio Department of Health allocated funds to each county to purchase project DAWN kits to be distributed to emergency personnel in the county. The Darke County General Health District received 26 kits and distributed them to the Darke County Sheriffs office.



Coalition for a Healthy Darke County

An invitation was extended to the citizens of Darke County to attend a community outreach event entitled “A Community Conversation on Heroin”. Substance abuse, including heroin addiction, is one of the leading health issues facing Ohio and the Darke County community. The event brought together and estimated 100 community members for a panel discussion and an update on where the Coalition partners are in the fight against heroin in Darke County. The Coalition is hoping to have more community outreach events in 2017.

Vivitrol Clinics

The Vivitrol Program, was started through the growing need identified by the Coalition for a Healthy Darke County, to address the drug problem in the county. Vivitrol is a medication that is used to maintain a drug-free state in those previously addicted to opiates and alcohol. It is used in combination with behavior adjustment programs and only after having completed a detoxification program. To date, Family Health has assisted 200 individuals and have given 319 vivitrol injections. Darke County Recovery and Wellness has assisted over 100 individuals.

Nursing Division Services:

Lots of Shots

In 2016 there were new school requirements for vaccines. There were also mumps and pertussis outbreaks in neighboring counties. Maintaining high immunization rates is essential to preventing these outbreaks of diseases. In order to help meet the needs of Darke County residents, there was a special clinic held for children entering 7th and 12th grade. This clinic was very successful. There were 416 children who attended and 619 vaccines given in just one day. This clinic alone took care of 30% of the 7th and 12th grade children in Darke County who needed vaccines. Additionally, the Public Health Nurses were busy giving 862 flu vaccinations and held 16 flu clinics throughout the county. The Health Department also served the public during the year with their regular walk in Tuesday clinics and by appointments as needed.



Communicable Diseases

It is important to track and report communicable diseases in our county in order to prevent and control infectious disease. In order to protect the public we identify issues, assess situations, collect data, educate, and refer to community health providers. Being aware of trends allows for recognizing issues, educating individuals, and preventing outbreaks in our community.

Community Health Services

by the **NUMBERS**

CMH Children Served	256
Communicable Diseases	137
FAME Clients Served	82
Flu Vaccines Given	862
Help Me Grow Early Intervention Visits	583
Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program Visits	436
Hepatitis C Cases	45
HIV Clients Served	22
Immunizations Given	3581
Newborn Home Visits	25
STDs Reported	116

This table is just a small sampling of Community Health Services' many programs and services during 2016.

Help Me Grow

Help Me Grow offers 2 voluntary programs to prenatal women, children, and families. One program is known as Early Intervention. It provides family-centered developmental services for infants and toddlers up to age 3. The Darke County General Health District staff works in collaboration with the Board of Developmental Disabilities to provide these free services to the children who need them. Through collaborative efforts, families work with providers to receive therapies, utilize community resources, and understand the present and future needs of their children. The other Help Me Grow Program is known as Help Me Grow Home Visiting. The Help Me Grow Home Visiting nurse answers questions about pregnancy, being a parent, and assists in finding services that help families care for themselves and their children. The nurse is a support person who helps the family reach their goals. The nursing services include parenting education, ongoing screenings, coordination and referrals for community resources, and transition at age 3.



Did you know there is a Program for Children needing a Diagnosis or Medical Treatment?

This program is known as Children with Medical Handicaps (CMH). CMH will help cover families during the testing phase of receiving a diagnosis and during the treatment phase if approved. The Darke County General Health District staff consists of nurses who are experts on this program. They help individuals sign up for the program, locate, and coordinate the services children need.

School Nurses

School nurses collaborate on a regular basis through the school year with the Darke County General Health District staff. They come together to discuss school health issues and have in-services pertinent to the children in Darke County. The Darke County General Health District supports them in their efforts to provide health screenings, manage medications, prevent the spread of disease, and assure appropriate immunization statuses.

FAME

Financial Assistance for Medical Emergencies (FAME) is a local non-profit organization funded by the Darke County United Way. This program assists individuals who do not qualify for any other funding with prescriptions or other medical needs. Requests are approved by the Nursing Division staff. FAME responsibilities are shared jointly with Family Health Social Services.