



HealthLine

(A newsletter of the Darke County Health Department)

Message from the Health Commissioner Dr. Terry Holman, DVM, RS:

The Great Darke County Fair

The Great Darke County Fair is quickly approaching and the Health Department is getting prepared to perform food and camping inspections as well as help educate the public in keeping them safe and healthy during the fair. While you are at the Fair enjoying funnel cakes, elephant ears, and lemonade, the Darke County Health Inspectors are working diligently behind the scenes to ensure your safety while attending the event. They inspect ALL of the food & drink concessions. There are approximately 250 inspections that are completed during the 9 day event.

There are two main types of food concessions at the fair: temporary and mobile. Temporaries set up for just this event, whereas mobiles can travel across the state. Both types must meet particular criteria in addition to having a license to operate. All operations must have a way to wash their hands, clean and sanitize dishes, and keep food at the appropriate temperature. They must have hot and cold running water. They must also obtain food from approved sources. The Health Department inspectors make sure all the food concessions have what they need to operate in a manner to keep the food safe.



Do you like to camp at the Fair? If so, please remember that your gray water must be properly disposed of in a blue belly or holding tank. The Health Department will perform inspections to assure there is no dumping of gray water onto the grounds. If you have additional camping concerns while out at the fair please feel free to contact the health department or the fair board.

One of the best things about the fair is looking at the animals. Please make sure you are using hand sanitizing stations found at the entrances and exits of the animal barns. Sanitizers may not eliminate all germs so be sure to wash your hands frequently with soap and water.

Please take a moment to stop by the Darke County Wildlife Tent and visit the Health Department's display for a variety of information. The Darke County Health Department hopes everyone enjoys their time at the Darke County Fair. If you have any questions, feel free to call the Health Department at 937-548-4196 ext. 209.

*The Health Department is now on Facebook & Twitter.
Please "Like us" to receive up to date messages.*



Kari Shuttleworth, RN

Staff Highlight:

Kari Shuttleworth, RN, is a 2007 graduate of Sinclair Community College with an associate degree in nursing. Her primary responsibilities as a public health nurse include working as the accreditation coordinator, an immunization nurse, and an infectious disease nurse.

She has been working with the Health Department since 2007.

Regular Clinic Hours: Tuesdays

**Hours: 8:00 – 10:30 a.m.
and 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

Clinics are walk-in with no appointments needed.

Most insurance are accepted.

Call 937-548-4196, extension 224, with questions or concerns.

It is time for back-to school shots!



The Darke County Health Department is encouraging all parents of children entering Kindergarten, 7th grade, or 12th grade to get the needed immunizations this summer. The Health Department's clinic hours are every Tuesday, 8:00-10:30 am, and 2:00-5:00 pm, located at 300 Garst Avenue in Greenville.

Typical Kindergarten immunizations are: MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), Chickenpox, DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis—whooping cough) and IPV (Polio). These are the requirements for school entry, provided the child is currently up to date with infant vaccinations.

New requirements for children entering 7th grade Fall of 2016, include Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis) and Meningococcal (MCV4), one dose of each.

For all students entering 12th grade this fall, the requirement for school entrance is one dose of MCV4 after the age of 16 years.

Please call the Health Department at 937-548-4196 ext. 224, with any questions concerning vaccinations.



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. The virus can also be spread by licking, when infected saliva makes contact with open cuts or wounds, the mouth, eyes and nose. 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.

People usually get rabies when they are bitten by an animal that has the virus. In the U.S., the animals that most often get rabies are wild animals such as bats, foxes, raccoons & skunks.

Most human deaths occur in Asia and Africa where canine or dog rabies is common. Each year around the world, rabies results in more than approximately 59,000 deaths— that is nearly one death every 9 minutes. About 50% of all human rabies deaths worldwide occur in children under the age of 15. Only about 3 people per year die of rabies in this country, thanks to our veterinary, medical and public health infrastructure.

In 2015, the Ohio Department of Health, Zoonotic Disease Program, confirmed 20 bats and 6 raccoons that tested positive for rabies. Should you ever encounter an animal bite you should report it to your medical professional immediately. You should contact your local health department as well to get the facts on how to submit the animal for rabies testing if you so choose.

World Rabies Day is September 28, 2016.

World Rabies Day is a day to recognize the efforts of public health, medial, veterinary and animal control professionals in preventing animal rabies and protecting people from this fatal disease in the United States.

For more information and statistics, you can visit the Ohio Department of Health Zoonotic Disease Program Rabies Website at:

<https://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhprograms/bid/zdp/diseases/rabies.aspx>



*Picture of Teresa Plessinger,
Environmental Secretary*

Staff Highlight:

Teresa Plessinger is the environmental division secretary. In addition to managing all the paperwork on the animal bite investigations for rabies prevention, her duties include assisting customers within the office and preparing permits, licenses, and environmental reports. She has been employed with the Health Department since 2002.

Private Water System Rules Being Revised

Every 5 years the State of Ohio revises the Private Water System Rules.

They are currently in the process of making these revisions. One set of draft rules has been issued and a new set of draft rules will be available in the near future for comment. For additional information on these draft rules or on how to comment on the rules, please contact the Private Water Program Bureau of Environmental Health at 614-995-5084 or email: BEH@odh.ohio.gov.



The anticipated effective date for the new rules is January 1, 2017.

Smoke Free Ohio



Did you know that you can report violations of the Smoke Free Law to your local health department or the Ohio Department of Health? And, you can remain anonymous.

Major requirements of this law include:

- Prohibiting smoking in any public place or place of employment.
- Posting conspicuous signs in every public place and place of employment where smoking is prohibited, including at each entrance. The signs must be clearly legible and shall contain the toll free number [1-866-559-OHIO (6446)] for reporting violations. Downloadable versions of acceptable signs are posted on the ODH main Web site at www.odh.ohio.gov.
- Removing all ash trays and other receptacles used for disposing of smoking materials from any area where smoking is prohibited by the statute.

ODH has established two toll free lines regarding this new law. For enforcement related questions or for reporting violations, please call ODH's Toll-free enforcement line at 1-866-559-OHIO (6446). For general information concerning the law or for non-enforcement related questions, please call ODH's Toll-free information line at 1-866-ODH (634)-7654.