



HealthLine

A newsletter of the Darke County Health Department

Message from the Health Commissioner

Dr. Terrence L. Holman, DVM, RS

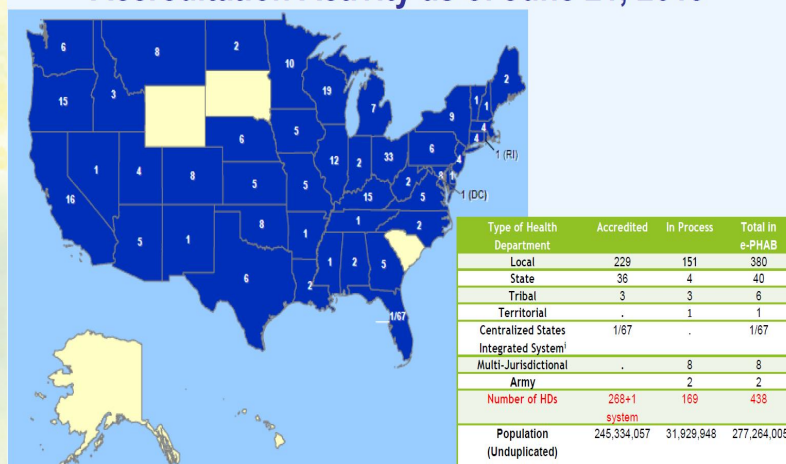
The process of accreditation has been a great learning experience and challenging at times. The Southwest/West Central Region of Ohio has come together with Wright State University to develop a template for agencies to use when conducting a Community Health Needs Assessment. The Community Health Assessment provides Public Health and Health Care Officials with a broad range of information to use as a catalyst for improving health equity in our community. Health equity is a term that basically means everyone should have the same opportunities to live a healthy lifestyle. The Community Health Assessment plays a big role in accreditation. The template being developed by Wright State University will include requirements that PHAB is looking for when they determine who qualifies. The health department will be out and about trying to collect some information for this process. The best way for us to make improvements is to learn from our residents. Stop by and see us in the Wayne Hospital tent or the Wildlife tent at The Great Darke County Fair, and be part of making your community a healthier one.



ACCREDITATION

We are now moving into the next phase of our journey to Accreditation. If you've been following along, we have been updating you through each step of the way. Our next phase is to create an action plan that will help us gather more documentation or evidence of the work we do.

Accreditation Activity as of June 21, 2019



Source: PHAB website www.phab.org

Applicant Names Are Kept Confidential



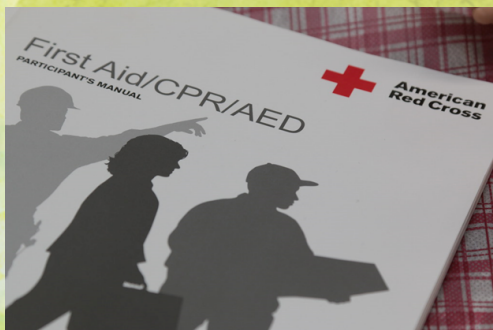
*The Health Department is on Facebook & Twitter.
Please "Like us" to receive up to date messages.*



STAFF HIGHLIGHT



Casey has become certified by the American Red Cross to teach CPR and First Aid. We were her guinea pigs as she refreshed all of the health department employees on this training. If you know of a group that is looking to become CPR certified, call Casey to schedule a class. 937-548-4196 ext. 215



REMINDER - New Documents needed when renewing your drivers license...



Obtaining a Compliant card requires more identity documents than the Standard Card. You will need to provide documents to prove the following:

- full legal name
- date of birth
- social security number
- proof of Ohio residency
- proof of legal presence

New federal travel restrictions requiring secure identification go into effect October 2020 and Ohio is getting a jump-start on this process beginning July 2, 2018.

If you need a copy of your birth certificate, DCHD can provide a copy to anyone born in the state of Ohio. You can get a copy by coming in to our office. Birth/Death Certificates are provided by the Office of Vital Statistics, located in the lower level of our building at 300 Garst Avenue in Greenville. Cost \$23, cash, check or credit/debit card accepted (service fee for credit/debit cards). We also have the option for you to request a copy of your birth certificate online, via our website: www.darkecountyhealth.org/services/birth-death/



Back to school is right around the corner. Stop in for your shots!

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 insurances are accepted.

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

To be or not to be...Ticked off!!

Because many folks walk, play, and spend time outside when the weather is nice, the following suggestions will help **avoid tick bites and Lyme Disease exposure:**

When visiting wooded or thick brushed areas, wear light colored clothing.

When visiting wooded and/or high grass areas, keep long legged pants tucked into socks or boots and wear long sleeved shirts.

When returning from the outdoors spent in the woody areas, thoroughly check yourself and your children's body surfaces for any possible tick-bites.

If a tick has bitten your skin surface, remove it completely (and correctly) with tweezers.

Taking a shower as soon as possible after the outdoor activity helps remove any chances of small sized ticks remaining on the body that may not be visible with the human eye.

When participating in outdoor activities, use repellents containing 0.5% permethrin or 20-30% DEET. Follow directions carefully.

Avoid walking in tall grass & weeds.

Keep yard and play areas well mowed to discourage ticks.

Since dogs can also carry a tick on their body surface into a household, make sure you have thoroughly checked their skin surface for ticks as well.

The important point to strive for is the removal of a tick from one's body surface as soon as possible – the sooner the better. Although more commonly found in the late spring & summer months, the blacklegged tick exists throughout the entire year. Darke County Health Department has reported 1 case of Lyme Disease this year.

The most common marker of a tick bite is that of a skin lesion which occurs in 60 to 80% of victims. If not caught and treated, the lesion area will expand in size and spread for several days to weeks. As time passes, the infected individual can develop various flu-like symptoms – such as, fatigue, fever, headache, mild stiff neck, arthralgia, and/or myalgia. But the good news is that Lyme Disease caught and diagnosed in its early stages can be treated with full recovery. Please note: Lyme Disease is NOT transmitted from person to person.

UNTREATED Lyme Disease can have long term, debilitating effects on the body. Undiagnosed, misdiagnosed, or late diagnosed Lyme Disease can result in the infection spreading to other areas of the body. These additional concerns could include loss of muscle tone on one or both sides of the face (Bell's palsy), severe headaches, neck stiffness due to meningitis, additional rashes in other body areas, pain in tendons, muscles, joints, and bones, heart palpitations, dizziness, nerve pain, and/or swelling in large joints.

The majority of Lyme Disease cases are successfully treated with oral antibiotics. Since serology testing is the only definitive way of diagnosing Lyme Disease – anyone who suspects or knows they have been bitten by a tick should consult their physician. Often times symptoms remain hidden and surface later after the infection has taken hold within one's body. Early diagnosis and early treatment is the best way to avoid unnecessary illness.

Written By: Dennis Wein, RN, BSN, MPH, Epidemiologist
(937) 548-4196 (ext. 202)

References:

Ohio Department of Health - Infectious Disease Control Manual (2019).



The Darke County Health Department and the Ohio Department of Health are not able to test ticks to see if they carry disease.

**STAFF
SPOTLIGHT**



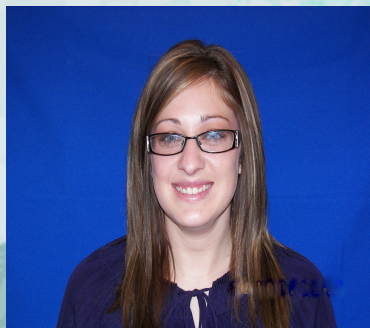
We would like to welcome Zachary Miller to our Darke County Environmental Health team. Zachary is a student at The Ohio State University majoring in Molecular Genetics and minoring in Epidemiology and Spanish. This summer, Zachary will be working for us as our Mosquito Surveillance Intern. During his time here, he will be setting up traps around the county to collect mosquitoes and send them in to the Ohio Department of Health to be tested for diseases such as West Nile Virus. Zachary is also planning on having outreach programs to talk about mosquito growth and bite prevention. For any questions about our mosquito program or to make a mosquito nuisance complaint, please contact Zachary at intern@darkecountyhealth.org or call him at 937-548-4196 extension 208.



**2 OPEN POSITIONS FOR A
REGISTERED SANITARIAN OR
SANITARIAN-IN-TRAINING AND 1
HELP ME GROW HOME VISITOR**

**GO TO
WWW.DARKECOUNTYHEALTH.ORG/
ABOUT/EMPLOYMENT-
OPPORTUNITIES**

Staff Spotlight



We accept the resignation from Megan Keller, SIT with much regret. We thank her for her hard work here at the health department! Good Luck!

**Keep your Employees
Healthy this year!**

The Darke Co. Health Dept. will come to you!

Just fill out this form and
fax back to us at 548-9128.

We will then set up a time when we will come and vaccinate
those valuable employees!

We can bill most insurance, so it might be FREE!
Any questions, please call 548-4196 ext 224.



**Regular Clinic Hours
Tuesdays - WALK-IN
8:00-10:30am and 2:00-5:00pm**

Company _____
Contact Person _____
Address _____
Phone _____