

# HEALTH LINE

THE EXTERNAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DARKE COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT



## MISSION STATEMENT

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.

## VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to be an innovative leader in achieving the highest possible health and wellbeing for Darke County and the environment.

## PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

During the first full week of April each year the United States promotes National Public Health Week as a time to recognize the contributions of public health and highlight issues that are important to improving our nation. This year the main theme for National Public Health Week is "Public Health Is Where You Are." In alignment with the main theme, the daily themes for National Public Health Week are as follows:

- **Monday**- Racism: A Public Health Crisis
- **Tuesday**- Public Health Workforce: Essential to our Future
- **Wednesday**- Community: Collaboration and Resilience
- **Thursday**- World Health Day: Health is a Human Right
- **Friday**- Accessibility: Closing the Health Equity Gap
- **Saturday**- Climate Change: Taking Action for Equity
- **Sunday**- Mental Wellness: Redefining the Meaning of Health

Every year during Public Health Week, DCGHD staff is shown appreciation and recognition at a Public Health Breakfast.



NATIONAL  
**PUBLIC  
HEALTH  
WEEK**

AN INITIATIVE OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

# NURSING DIVISION

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT



The Darke County General Health District would like to congratulate Dr. William Osterbur MD, as he recently retired from serving as our Medical Director. Dr. Osterbur served as our Medical Director for 37 years. The Board of Health along with Health Commissioner Dr. Terrence Holman, DVM, REHS, and Health Department staff are appreciative of all he has contributed over the years and wishes him well in retirement.



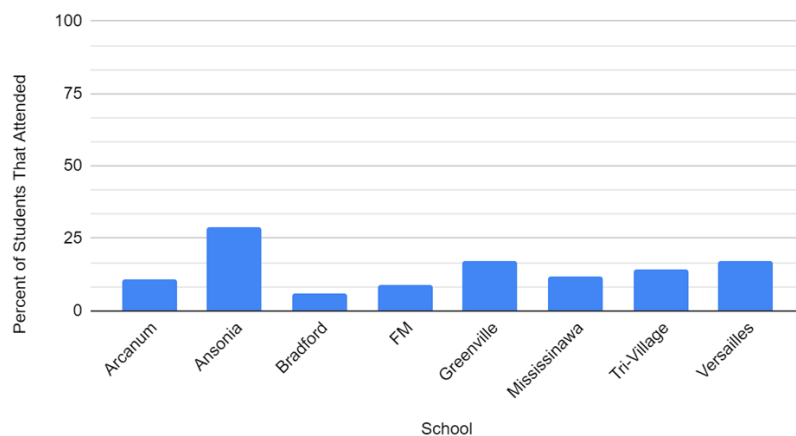
The Darke County Health Department welcomes Dr. Sherry Adkins to serve as our new Medical Director. Dr. Adkins MD, MPH, practices Family Medicine at the Family Health New Madison location. Dr. Adkins is local to the area as she grew up in Darke County.

## TDAP AND MENVEO CLINIC

In order to meet school immunization requirements, the Darke County Health Department hosted a Tdap and Menveo vaccine clinic at the Darke County Board of Developmental Disabilities from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, 2022. This was a walk-in clinic, at no cost to families.

Students who are incoming 7th and 12th graders in the fall (current 6th and 11th graders) are both required to receive vaccines. Those going into the 7th grade will need a Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Acellular Pertussis) and Menveo (Meningococcal) vaccine. The required vaccine for incoming 12th graders is the Menveo vaccine.

TDAP Menveo Clinic 2022



## BACK TO SCHOOL IMMUNIZATIONS

The Health Department staff would like to remind parents that back-to-school immunizations are quickly approaching. Students entering Kindergarten, 7th grade, and 12th grade are required by the State of Ohio to receive immunizations.

For the Kindergarten children, the required vaccines are Dtap, IPV (Polio), Varicella, MMR, and Hepatitis B. For the 7th grade children, the required vaccines are Tdap and Menveo. For the 12th grade children, the required vaccine is Menveo. All vaccination requirements can vary depending on vaccination history and age of the child at the time of the vaccination appointment.

# ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Congratulations to Caitlin Molina for passing the National Environmental Health Association's exam. In May, after earning two years of experience, Caitlin will officially be a Registered Environmental Health Specialist.



The Darke County Health Department would like to congratulate Teresa Plessinger on her retirement. Teresa has served as our Environmental Division Secretary for 19 years and 10 months. When asked about her favorite part of her job, without hesitation she answered her coworkers. "We are one big family and make a good team." Teresa also mentioned how she is excited to travel and sleep in during her retirement.



Our staff would like to welcome Kayla! Kayla is our new Environmental Division Secretary. Here is a little bit about her: "I was born and raised in Florida. I enjoy art and off-road parks with my 2 wonderful kids and amazing husband. I'm really excited about being a part of the team here and can't wait to learn more."

## LEGIONNAIRES' DISEASE

Legionella bacteria are found naturally in freshwater environments, like lakes and streams. The bacteria can become a health concern when they grow and spread in human-made building water systems like showerheads, sink faucets, cooling towers, hot tubs, decorative fountains, water features, hot water tanks and heaters, and large, complex plumbing systems.

Home and car air-conditioning units do not use water to cool the air, so they are not a risk for Legionella growth. However, Legionella can grow in the windshield wiper fluid tank of a vehicle (such as a car, truck, van, school bus, or taxi), particularly if the tank is filled with water and not genuine windshield cleaner fluid.

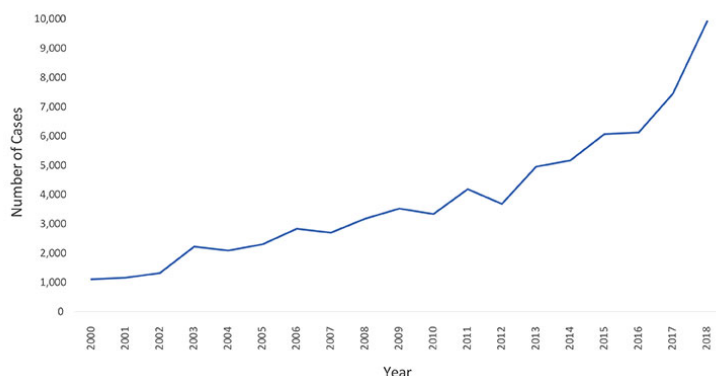
Health Departments reported nearly 10,000 cases of Legionnaires' disease in the United States in 2018. However, because Legionnaires' disease is likely underdiagnosed, this number may underestimate the true incidence. A recent study estimated that the true number of Legionnaires' disease cases may be 1.8–2.7 times higher than what is reported.

In the United States, the rate of reported cases of Legionnaires' disease has grown by nearly nine times since 2000. It is unclear whether this increase represents artifact (due to increased awareness and testing), increased susceptibility of the population, increased Legionella in the environment, or some combination of factors.

This may reflect a true increase in the frequency of disease due to a number of factors (e.g., older U.S. population, more at-risk people, aging plumbing infrastructure, climate). It may also be in part a result of increased use of diagnostic testing or better reporting.

Source: CDC

Legionnaires' disease is on the rise in the United States  
2000-2018



# IN THE NEWS

## YOUTH TOBACCO USE SERIOUS PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN

The 2021 National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS) was conducted among U.S. middle and high school students during the COVID-19 pandemic and revealed that youth tobacco use remains a serious public health concern. About 2.55 million U.S. middle and high school students reported current (past 30-day) use of a tobacco product in 2021, according to new data released in today's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.

Because of the implementation of COVID-19 protocols across the country when the 2021 NYTS was conducted (January 18–May 21, 2021), the survey was administered online to allow eligible students to complete the survey at home, school, or somewhere else. While we remain confident in our study results, the reporting of tobacco use might differ by the setting where the survey was completed. Therefore, these results cannot be compared with results from previous NYTS surveys that were primarily conducted on school campuses.

In collaboration with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) analyzed data from the 2021 NYTS. Among middle and high school students who currently used tobacco products, about 1 in 3 used at least one type of combustible tobacco product, and about 3 in 10 used two or more tobacco products. As previously reported, e-cigarettes were the most common tobacco product currently used among middle and high school students (2.06 million) in 2021. This was followed by cigarettes, cigars, smokeless tobacco, hookahs, nicotine pouches, heated tobacco products, and pipe tobacco. "Youth use of tobacco products is unsafe in any form – combustible, smokeless, or electronic," said Karen Hacker, M.D., M.P.H., director of CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. "This report provides critical insights needed to combat this serious public health concern and help protect our nation's youth from the harmful effects of tobacco."

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- National Public Health Week
  - April 4th–April 10th
- Eldora's Test and Tune
  - April 9th
- Eldora's Floracing Night in America
  - April 12th
- Eldora's #LetsRaceTwo
  - May 6th–May 7th
- Darke County Food Truck Rally and Craft Show
  - May 14th
- Eldora's Family Fireworks Night
  - May 21st
- Eldora's Johnny Appleseed Classic
  - May 29th
- Downtime Greenville Farmer's Market
  - Saturdays June 4th–Oct. 8th
- Eldora's Prelude to the Dream
  - June 8th–June 11th
- Versailles Poultry Days
  - June 10th–June 12th
- Burkettsville Community Picnic
  - June 11th–June 12th
- Ohio Dreamfest
  - June 16th–June 19th
- Eldora's Summertime Showdown
  - June 25th
- Willowdell Weinerfest
  - June 25th–June 26th

