



Pickaway County General Health District

Winter 2019
Volume 1, Issue 1

Health Matters

OUR NEW NEWSLETTER

We welcome you to our new quarterly newsletter! You'll find that it is filled with educational information, helpful hints and tips, events, and news. We want this newsletter to be valuable for you so please feel free to share your feedback and suggestions.

FROM THE DEPUTY HEALTH COMMISSIONER

Dear Community Partner,

Happy New Year! There is truly something special about the beginning of a new year. A chance to look back on the past year and count our blessings. The chance to set goals and look for opportunities to improve, change and grow. Like many of you, we too are excited about the opportunities that await us in 2019. Thanks to our Public Health Accreditation efforts, we have identified many areas in which we would like to improve. In 2019, we will be continuing these efforts to improve the health of our county and to better serve our residents.

The staff and I are pleased to be able to provide you with this quarterly newsletter. In this edition, you will find many things that we are currently working on and will be in the new year. We hope you find it to be a valuable resource. As always, if you ever need anything from your health district, we are just a phone call away.

Jimmie Davis
Deputy Health Commissioner



Find us on 

Visit us on the web at
www.pchd.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Program Spotlight	2
Stories from the Field	2
Environmental Health.....	3
Clinical Health Services.....	3
Community Health	4
Public Health Today	4

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT STATS

2018 Pickaway County Info

- * 9 Projects
- * \$112,942.87 in Assistance Given

OHIO EPA—2019 WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT PLAN

- * Ohio EPA is offering up to \$36.1 million in principal forgiveness to communities to upgrade or connect failing household sewage treatment systems, to promote regionalization efforts, to correct combined sewer overflows and unsewered areas and to promote backup power facilities.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND

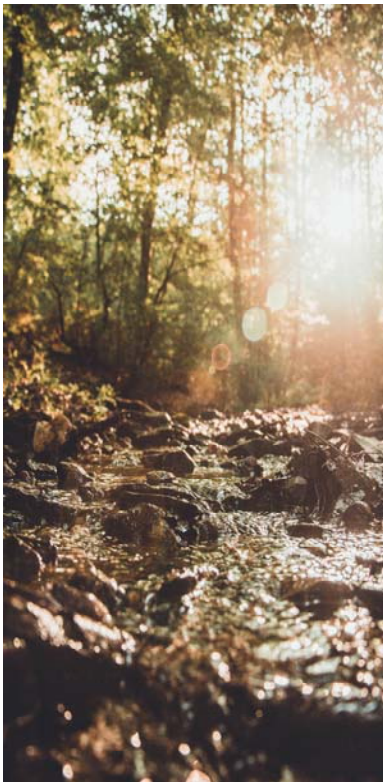
Do you or anyone you know have problems with a septic system or aerator?

Through a grant from the Ohio EPA, Pickaway County Residents may qualify for funding assistance to repair or replace their system if they have a household sewage treatment system that has failed, is failing or is in need of repair. To qualify for this assistance:

- The home must be owner occupied (no rentals, new builds, or foreclosures).
- The system must be documented as failed by PCGHD.
- The owner must be income eligible

For additional information or to apply for financial assistance through this program, please call (740) 477-9667 or visit www.pchd.org.

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.”
-Benjamin Franklin



STORIES FROM THE FIELD

During the summer months, our office receives a high number of complaints. Calls regarding poor housing conditions seem to be on the rise. We received a complaint from a family this past summer who was renting a home and their basement had flooded with sewage. Their landlord had neglected to address the issue and they had small children in the home. Their home was connected to public sewer. Our office has very little authority over interior housing conditions, but due to the inherent risks of the situation we made it a priority to investigate. Odors from sewage can cause harmful health effects. We contacted the Pickaway County Building Department, who met us on site. They identified the problem as being a blocked or damaged building drain. The family's laundry that was in the basement at the time was soaked through with sewage water and there were a few inches of standing liquid in the basement. We were able to cite ORC 3707.01, regarding plumbing which is in a condition dangerous to life or health. We sent a notice of violation to the landlord, who had the drain fixed and the basement cleaned within one week.

-Emily Dieterich, Registered Sanitarian



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Environmental Health Division is responsible for licensing and inspecting local food service operations, retail food establishments, campgrounds, public pools and spas, and local food vendors in Pickaway County. The division also permits and inspects private water systems and residential sewage systems installed in the county. The Environmental Health Division responds to nuisance complaints and animal bite reports. The division inspects public and private schools in the county. The division works with the Ohio EPA to inspect semi-public sewage systems for businesses and commercial properties and administers the solid waste program for the county.

News and Updates

The Environmental Health Division has been busy with a recent survey of our Food Safety Program. This survey is conducted by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). It involves staff from ODH conducting an intensive review of our food inspection records, as well as accompanying our sanitarians on some of their inspections. While we are still waiting on the final results, it was clear from the ODH staff person that our environmental health staff are running a quality program. This is another example of how our staff works hard to protect the health of the residents of Pickaway County.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STATS

October, 2018 —December, 2018 Program Data

- ◆ 95 Food Inspections*
- ◆ 26 Sewage Treatment System Permits Issued
- ◆ 15 Private Water Systems Permits Issued
- ◆ 66 Public Health Nuisances Investigated
- ◆ 33 Animal Bite Investigations (Rabies Control)

**the number of food inspections does not include the Circleville Pumpkin Show.*

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STAFF

Jere Marks—Environmental Health Director

Emily Dieterich—Registered Sanitarian

Anastasia Fries—Registered Sanitarian

Patrick Hartung—Registered Sanitarian

Candy Schwalbauch—Environmental Health Clerk

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT	
Communicable Disease	Total
Chlamydia Infection	54
CP-CRE	<5
Cryptosporidiosis	<5
E. Coli, Shiga Toxin Producing	<5
Gonococcal Infection	12
Hepatitis A	20
Hepatitis B	12
Hepatitis B Perinatal	<5
Hepatitis C	36
Hepatitis C Perinatal	<5
Influenza hospitalization	<5
LaCrosse Virus Disease	<5
Malaria	<5
Meningitis aseptic/viral	<5
Meningitis-bacterial (Not N. meningitidis)	<5
Pertussis	<5
Salmonellosis	<5
Streptococcal Group A Invasive	<5
Streptococcus pneumoniae	<5

CLINICAL STAFF

Elaine Miller— Director of Clinical Services

Sabrina Alphin—Clinical Services Clerk

Karen Greider—CMH Nurse

Sam Neill—Emergency Response Coordinator

Barbara Steward—Communicable Disease Nurse/Immunizations

CLINICAL HEALTH SERVICES

The primary goal of the Clinical Services division is to promote healthy lifestyles through community planning, health education, and public health nursing services. These services are tailored to meet the community health assessment concerns and needs.

News and Updates

Ohio has seen an increase in Hepatitis A this year. As of December 31, 2018 there have been 1,311 cases in Ohio. Sixty-six counties have confirmed cases, including Pickaway County.

Health Officials urge residents to take the proper precautions to prevent Hepatitis A. Hepatitis A is vaccine-preventable. If exposed you could have symptoms such as, fatigue, low appetite, stomach pain, nausea, and jaundice. These usually resolves within 2 months of infection.

Pickaway County General Health District offers the Hepatitis A vaccine for anyone who has Medicaid or is uninsured. For more information please call (740)477-9667 or visit www.pchd.org.

CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL HANDICAPS

Our Children with Medical Handicaps (CMH) program is designed to link families of children with medical handicaps and special needs care to a network of qualified providers helping families pay for the medical services their child needs. A public health nurse (PHN) assist families to connect with CMH providers. CMH works with doctors and other health care providers to ensure that every child with a special health care need will have a medical home and case management.

PCGHD CMH Caseload* = 132 Clients

**Caseload as of 12/31/18*

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Become a Medical Reserve Corp Volunteer

The Pickaway County General Health District is searching for volunteers for the Pickaway County Medical Reserve Corps. Medical and non-medical professionals are needed. If the Medical Reserve Corps sounds like an organization you might be interested in, please contact Sam Neill at 740-477-9667 ext. 236. You can also go online to <https://www.ohioresponds.odh.ohio.gov> and register.

Pickaway County General Health District's emergency plans are always available for public viewing and comment.



COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT



The Pickaway Partners for Community Health Improvement (PPCHI) is a group of stakeholders in the community who have come together to identify and address the health needs of the county. The PPCHI Vision is “A Health Community.”

News and Updates

One of the objectives of the PPCHI was to identify a model 2-1-1 system that can provide information and referral services for Pickaway County residents. The group has identified Pathways of Central Ohio (based out of Newark) to provide this service. Beginning in 2019, Pathways will operate a 2-1-1 system for Pickaway County 24 hours a day, seven days a week. 2-1-1 is one simple, easy-to-remember number to connect residents to all the help and information they need. Just like 9-1-1 eliminated the need to remember the number to call the fire and police, 2-1-1 is the number to dial when you want to be connected to a wide variety of social, human and governmental services. For more information about Pathways please visit their website at <https://pathwaysofcentralohio.com>.



Obesity-related illness, including chronic disease, disability, and death, is estimated to carry an annual cost of \$190.2 billion. - Dept. of Health & Human Services

PUBLIC HEALTH TODAY

WHAT DOES PUBLIC HEALTH DO?

Public health is responsible for many aspects affecting global health, such as keeping our food and water supply safe, containing outbreaks of infectious diseases, informing policy-making and helping remove disparities in access to healthcare.

A FEW THINGS YOU CAN THANK PUBLIC HEALTH FOR:

- THE BIRTH RATE AMONG TEENS DROPPED 46% FROM 2007 TO 2015⁴**
- WATER FLUORIDATION CONTINUES TO REDUCE TOOTH DECAY BY 20-40%⁵**
- RECOMMENDED CHILDHOOD VACCINES THROUGH AGE SIX SAVE AN ESTIMATED 42,000 LIVES EVERY YEAR IN THE UNITED STATES ALONE⁷**
- THE PERCENTAGE OF ADULTS WHO SMOKE CIGARETTES HIT AN ALL TIME LOW IN 2015 (15%)⁶**

THERE IS STILL MORE WORK TO BE DONE⁸

The infographic includes icons for water, a person, a warning sign, a person with a heart, a plate with a fork and knife, and a medical cross.

**PICKAWAY COUNTY
GENERAL HEALTH
DISTRICT**

Our Vision: A healthy community.

Our Mission: The Pickaway County General Health District will protect and improve the health and environment of Pickaway County residents by assuming the leadership role in health assessment, education, and policy development and provision of quality public health services.

Our Values: Client focused, community centered, evidence-based integration.

OUR SERVICES

The Pickaway County General Health District proudly services all townships, villages, and municipalities in Pickaway County. The health district administers the following programs:

- ◆ Vital Statistics (Birth and Death Certificates)
- ◆ Clinical Health Services
- ◆ Immunizations
- ◆ Children with Medical Handicaps Program
- ◆ Communicable Disease Reporting and Investigations
- ◆ Emergency Preparedness
- ◆ Food Safety Inspections
- ◆ Residential Water and Sewage Regulation
- ◆ Pool, Spa and Campground Inspections
- ◆ Solid Waste Management
- ◆ Nuisance Investigations
- ◆ Mosquito Control and Surveillance
- ◆ Community Health Assessments and Improvement Planning



Mailing Label Here

Pickaway County General Health
District
P.O. Box 613
Circleville, OH 43113
Phone: 7404779667
Fax: 740-474-5523
E-mail: contact@pchd.org