



# Health Commissioner / Medical Director Report

## Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County

**June 1, 2016**

This report provides a monthly update for the Board of Health, staff and the community. Our key activities are listed for the seven pillars that support our vision for improving the health of our community.

- Prevent the spread of disease
  - Protect against health threats
  - Promote healthy behaviors
  - Reach out to vulnerable populations
  - Mobilize community action through partnerships
  - Prepare for and respond to public health emergencies
  - Serve as a public health information resource
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## Special items

### **Diversity and Inclusion is Moving Forward at Public Health**

Public Health is committed to creating a more diverse and inclusive agency. Meetings are underway with our Diversity and Inclusion Council and the Champions as they direct efforts toward accomplishing strategies outlined in the Work Plan. Currently, staff has completed three required trainings: *Introduction to Diversity*, *Unconscious Bias*, and *Communication Skill Development*. These trainings serve to raise our awareness and understanding of diversity in the workplace and provide essential tools to help us improve our relationships with others. We are applying these foundational concepts in our daily interactions to continually improve our culture at Public Health.

### **Walk! Downtown Dayton 2016**

Public Health successfully launched the 11<sup>th</sup> annual *WALK! Downtown Dayton* event on May 18 at RiverScape MetroPark. The purpose of this event was to encourage those working in the Downtown Dayton area to celebrate the start of the summer season while promoting personal fitness. There were over 400 participants between agencies, businesses, community members, schools, and child care centers. Public Health promoted the walk on local radio station 92.9 FM and also had a live broadcast with *Living Dayton*. There were about 80 free blood pressure screenings done by our Public Health staff and 15 vendors present to promote their services. Key community partners contributing to the success of the event were Downtown Dayton Partnership, Five Rivers MetroParks, and Premier Health. Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley also attended the event.

## Prevent the spread of diseases

### Local Investigations

The local mumps outbreak included a total of 18 confirmed cases, 15 probable cases and 5 suspect cases; all were University of Dayton students except four. Totals are through May 26. Public Health coordinated two immunization clinics with the University of Dayton for students/staff/faculty who had not yet completed a MMR vaccine series. The onset of illness for the last reported case was May 9. Several universities across the country reported mumps outbreaks this spring, including Harvard University (45 cases), Eastern Illinois University (10 cases), Indiana University (34 cases), Butler University (24 cases) and Purdue University (11 cases). Totals are through April 29. Mumps causes parotitis and can cause orchitis in males. Most of the local cases had received the MMR; reasons for vaccine failure are uncertain at this time.

Gastrointestinal illness has increased, as often happens in the warmer months. There were four cases of campylobacter reported in May (through May 23), 18 cases of shigella, one case of salmonella, and one case of Shiga toxin producing E. coli (STEC). The majority of cases were in children; the age ranges were 2 to 41 years among the reported campylobacter cases, and 9 months to 26 years among the shigella cases. There were multiple epidemiology links between shigella cases: a cluster of two siblings, a cluster of five siblings, and three children who attended the same grade school. None of the adults work in daycares or as food handlers.

## Protect against health threats

### Festival Season is a Busy Time for Environmental Health Staff

The month of May is a busy time for Environmental Health's General Services staff, as it is the kick-off of the festival season. This year, Environmental Health processed over 70 temporary food service licenses for the month. Sanitarians conducted over 100 inspections to ensure perishable foods were not being held in the danger zone – making sure cold foods were held at 41 °F or less and hot foods were at 135 °F or more. They also verified that hand washing was properly set up and being used, food equipment was being cleaned and sanitized correctly, and that food and clean equipment were stored off the ground. The events inspected included:

- The 25<sup>th</sup> year of the Fleurs de Fête event at Carillon
- Farm Babies Fest at Aullwood Audubon Center
- The 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual World A'Fair Festival at the Dayton Convention Center
- Big Brews & Blues event at Riverscape Pavilion
- The 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Hamvention at Hara Arena
- Miamisburg Spring Fling Festival at Library Park in Miamisburg
- The 2016 Adidas Warrior Soccer Classic tournament at various soccer fields throughout the county
- Memorial Bash Baseball Tournament at Centerville baseball fields
- Furry Skurry 5K & Furry Fest at Eastwood MetroPark

## **Healthy and Safe Swimming Week 2016**

Memorial Day signals the start of the pool season and the unofficial beginning of summer. This spring, Environmental Health's General Services office support specialists processed 350 swimming pool, spa, wading pool, special use pool, and sprayground license applications. Sanitarians performed opening pool inspections for seasonal pools. The swimming pool inspection ensures compliance with governing rules and consists of making sure that the filter and pumps are working correctly, the pool chemistry is balanced in the water, and safety equipment and signs are provided.

### ***What should you be looking for at the pool?***

- Clean and clear pool water; you should be able to clearly see any painted stripes and the bottom of the pool (main drain cover should be visible).
- Smooth pool sides; tiles should not be sticky or slippery (green and slimy usually indicates algae growth).
- No odor; a well-chlorinated pool has little odor. A strong chemical smell indicates a maintenance problem (either used-up chlorine or too much chlorine).
- Pool equipment working; pool pumps and filtration systems make noise and you should hear them running.

## **RAPCA Hosts Air Quality and Permitting Workshop**

In May, RAPCA hosted an Air Quality and Permitting Workshop for the regulated community and environmental consultants. The purpose of the workshop was to provide attendees with an air quality update of the region, highlight RAPCA programs and offer permitting and inspection advice to help facilities comply with air pollution regulations. RAPCA partnered with the Southwest Ohio Chapter of the Air and Waste Management Association (AWMA) to promote the event. AWMA is a nonprofit, nonpartisan professional organization that promotes information exchange, professional development, networking opportunities, public education, and outreach to more than 5,000 environmental professionals in 65 countries.

## **Promote healthy behaviors**

### **New FDA Rules Regulate E-Cigarettes, Cigars, Pipe and Hookah Tobacco**

On May 10, the FDA issued a sweeping set of tobacco rules that will regulate electronic cigarettes, cigars, and other products for the first time in our nation's history. This rule allows the FDA to improve public health and protect future generations from the dangers of tobacco use through a variety of steps, including restricting the sale and sampling of these tobacco products to minors nationwide.

Provisions in the FDA ruling will subject all manufacturers, importers and retailers of these newly regulated products to any applicable provisions, bringing them in line with other tobacco products the FDA regulated under the Tobacco Control Act of 2009.

These requirements include:

- registering manufacturing establishments and providing product listings to the FDA
- reporting ingredients, and harmful and potentially harmful constituents
- requiring premarket review and authorization of new tobacco products by the FDA
- placing health warnings on products packages and advertisements

The rule is effective on the final rule publication date plus 90 days or August 8, 2016.

Local vape shops that mix or prepare e-liquids for direct sale to consumers for use in electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) will be considered tobacco product manufacturers. Vape shops that are manufacturers are subject to all of the statutory and regulatory requirements that apply to manufacturers, including the requirements to register their establishments, list their products, and obtain premarket authorization.

## Mobilize community action through partnerships

### **Board of Health and ADAMHS Board Discuss Opioid Epidemic**

On May 18, the Board of Health and the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board met jointly to discuss the opioid epidemic in Montgomery County. Discussion topics included a brief overview of the overdose data, Public Health's Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), Naloxone repository and distribution and a proposed pilot project aimed at improving on-demand access to treatment services. The target population for the pilot project is individuals who have been administered Naloxone by law enforcement and/or Fire/EMS to reverse an opioid overdose. Public Health and ADAMHS staff will continue to align our efforts to build capacity for the continuum of care for substance abuse.

## Prepare for and respond to PH emergencies

### **Influenza Activity**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Influenza Division collects and analyzes surveillance data year-round and produces a weekly report on U.S. influenza activity from October through May. For the 2015-2016 Influenza season, through May 14, there were 63,456 positive specimens submitted to clinical laboratories with a peak in early March. Of these, 43,687 (68.8%) were influenza A. Of those isolates that were subtyped, 81% were A (H1N1). Among these strains, 99.9% were antigenically similar to the influenza A (H1N1) component of the vaccine used this season. There were similar high rates of antigenic match for the H3N2 and influenza B components of this season's vaccine. Regionally (Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, and Warren counties), there were 1354 cases of influenza A and 397 cases of influenza B through May 7, with 423 influenza-related hospitalizations.

### **Zika Activity**

In May 2015, the World Health Organization reported the first local transmission of Zika virus in the Western Hemisphere (in Brazil). In November, a possible association between Zika and microcephaly was reported. On January 15, 2016 the CDC began requesting providers report

suspected Zika virus disease. Through May 18, there have been 544 travel-associated cases reported in the U.S. (12 in Ohio) and no locally acquired vector-borne cases reported. Through the U.S. Zika Pregnancy Registry, there have been 157 pregnant women with laboratory evidence of possible Zika virus infection. Data from this registry will be used to update the guidelines for clinical care and improve prevention of Zika virus infection during pregnancy.

## Serve as a public health information resource

### **Public Information Launches Upgraded Website**

On May 5, the Public Information department launched an upgrade to the agency's main website (<http://www.phdmc.org>), replacing the previous version launched in 2011. The upgraded website now has a new look and improved navigation, highlighting the most often requested content as well as providing direct links to the agency's other websites. The site also has an auto-updating social media stream that advances the agency's goal to increase our online presence and attract more followers. In addition, the site is now fully mobile responsive - viewable from tablets and phones, in addition to desktop PCs.

The upgraded website is the result of recommendations made by a select committee of Public Health employees. Public Health's Web Administrator Randy Brown, spearheaded the project and developed the site.

### **Quality Improvement Plan Presented at the 2016 Ohio Public Health Combined Conference**

Members of Public Health's Quality Improvement Plan Writing Team including Paul Clark, Kelly Scranton, and Matthew Tyler submitted an abstract of our plan writing process for presentation at the *2016 Ohio Public Health Combined Conference* in Columbus. The abstract was selected by the review committee and Paul and Matt presented the poster.

The session provided us with the opportunity to share our experiences and lessons learned with public health professionals throughout Ohio. Joanne Pearsol, Associate Director for the Center for Public Health Practice at The Ohio State University, stated that our plan was "one of the best examples out there," and requested permission to share it during quality improvement training workshops throughout the country.

Conference organizers invited our team to return next year to provide a full presentation on our QI efforts. Public Health teams continue to lead and innovate as we strive to build and sustain a culture of continuous quality improvement. Employees are encouraged to stop and review the poster which will be displayed on the second floor of the Reibold Building in the common area.

### **Physical Activity Linked to Lower Cancer Risk**

Researchers have reported the results of a large study which examined data from 1.5 million participants in 12 prospective U.S. and European cohorts with self-reported physical activity. Participants were tracked for anywhere from nine to 21 years, and cancer diagnoses were noted. Compared with people who reported the least "leisure-time physical activity," those who got the most exercise reduced their risk of developing seven kinds of cancer by at least 20%. Specifically, they were 42% less likely to develop esophageal adenocarcinoma, 27% less likely to develop liver cancer, 26% less likely to develop lung cancer, 23% less likely to develop kidney cancer, 22% less

likely to develop gastric cancer, 21% less likely to develop endometrial cancers, and 20% less likely to develop myeloid leukemia. The median amount of exercise was roughly 150 minutes of moderate-intensity activity, such as walking, per week. The findings of the analysis strongly suggest that exercise's effect on cancer is not solely a function of weight loss, since even overweight and obese participants who were very active saw their risk of developing cancers reduced.

### **Mass Media Interactions**

During the past few weeks, we have had numerous contacts with TV, radio, and print.

The following are a few examples:

- Interview with Channel 7 and DDN about insect repellents
- Interview with Channel 22/45 about pool inspections
- Multiple interviews with Channels 7, 22/45, 2, and DDN about mumps at University of Dayton
- Interview with Channel 7 about FDA regulations on e-cigarettes
- Interview with DDN about the Childhood Asthma Coalition
- Interview with Associated Press about HIV
- Interview with Channel 2 about Zika
- Interview with 92.9 FM and Living Dayton about Walk! Downtown Dayton
- Interview with Channel 2 about the heroin epidemic
- Interview with DDN about birth and death numbers for Montgomery County
- Interview with DDN about the PREP program
- Interview with Channel 22/45 about food safety for Memorial Day cookouts
- Interview with DDN about food labeling
- News Release on the Heroin Epidemic – Community Conversation
- Coverage from Channel 7 on the Heroin Epidemic - Community Conversation
- News Release on Montgomery County Unintentional Drug Overdose Data Reports
- News Release on free Hep C testing
- Coverage from Channel 7 on free Hep C testing
- Interview with WDTN about the “SUPER BUG”

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