



2016

Geauga County Health District Annual Report

The Geauga County Health District is dedicated to improving public health by monitoring, educating, and promoting community and environmental health services in Geauga County, Ohio.

A Note from the Health Commissioner

The Geauga County Health District (GCHD) has implemented a number of new ideas and streamlined methods in 2016 to assist the residents of Geauga County. One new item is that all staff now have the ability to access a property file and examine the file information from a digital format. The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) implemented new sewage rules January 1, 2015. The new rules are very detailed and provide a number of options to homeowners regarding different types of sewage systems. Based on the content and detail of these rules, many individuals have become frustrated with respect to their interpretation. While it may take a few years to determine if these new designs are sufficient and work to the homeowner's benefit, the new design standards have increased the cost of these systems, as many had anticipated. The cost of a new on-lot sewage system varies, but averages approximately \$23,000, which is roughly \$5,000 more than the previously standard on-lot leaching trench systems.



In 2016, GCHD was awarded a grant from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to help homeowners pay for costs associated with the installation of a new sewage system. Totalling \$300,000, the grant is available to homeowners with failing sewage systems who meet the eligibility requirements.

The GCHD has been actively recruiting new staff members to fill vacant positions. The Environmental Health sanitarians field staff has been reduced by a total of four individuals. The Nursing Division has reduced the number of immunization clinics in response to ODH's shifting service focus. Additionally, there has been much discussion that grants received by GCHD will now be designed and evaluated according to a deliverable-based model. The requirements of the aforesaid model dictates that the agency will not receive grant money until a specific requirement has been successfully completed to the satisfaction of ODH. As such, this change will force GCHD to spend our local revenue on a given grant program prior to being reimbursed, and will force our agency to rethink how we budget for future expenses.

Lastly, GCHD has begun the process of becoming an accredited health department, as required by the ODH through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). Every Ohio health district is required to go through the accreditation process, and subsequently become accredited by July 2020, or may otherwise be forced to merge with another accredited health district.

Robert K. Weisdack
Health Commissioner



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Residential Sewage Treatment

GCHD regulates household sewage treatment systems for one, two, and three family residences in Geauga County, respectively. Approximately 70% of the homes in the county utilize individual household sewage systems, and in 2016, the health district issued 454 permits for sewage systems, including both new home systems, and replacement systems for existing homes.

On June 23, 2016, GCHD conducted a sewage installer training/education seminar for 40 attendees in the health district’s conference room. The course provided attendees with information on how to interpret standard soil report data, and thereafter use these soil load tables to calculate the required contour lengths and absorption areas for sewage treatment system designs. It also provided education on restrictive layers, and how these layers affect the sewage system design. Attendees were given an overview of the 2014 National Electricity Code, and its role in the installation of new septic systems within Geauga County. Additionally, the seminar outlined the required wire types and connections for wet locations, wire/conduit bury depths, and the requirements for electrical disconnects.

A sewage permit must be obtained prior to the installation or alteration of a sewage system, and the following permit requires a site evaluation by GCHD, in order to determine the location and type of system that can be installed on the property. Sewage systems are inspected at the time of installation, in order to assure compliance with sewage rules, and all homes sold in Geauga County that have a household sewage system are required to have a point of sale inspection by the health district.

In 2016, GCHD took full advantage of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency’s Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF). The WPCLF grant provides financial assistance to homeowners with failing septic systems that are unable to afford a new system. These failing septic systems are determined by nuisances, or through the health district operation and maintenance program (For Sale of Property Program, established in 2002). Currently, GCHD is helping a total of eight home owners through this grant assistance process, and the health district plans on enrolling in the 2017 WPCLF.

The department also maintains an active nuisance complaint program for sewage and other complaints. Complaints must be submitted in writing, and signed. Complaints are investigated and, if the complaint is justified, orders will be issued to obtain compliance.

Plumbing

The role of a plumbing inspector is to assure that both new and remodeled plumbing meets the requirements set forth by Ohio Plumbing Code. In 2016, a total of 50 commercial plumbing permits were issued, accompanied by 125 inspections; 343 residential plumbing permits were issued, accompanied by 598 inspections. Issues routinely addressed include the permitting and inspection of new construction residences or commercial structures, and alterations or additions to existing homes or commercial structures, including hot water tank replacements. The GCHD plumbing inspector works with GCHD Environmental Health sanitarians and Geauga County Building Department inspectors to ensure food service operation and retail food establishment compliance, and that any remodeling in these facilities align with current codes and regulations. Commonly identified violations include air gaps on waste lines, grease trap flow restrictions, and indirect and direct sink connections.

2016 FOR SALE OF PROPERTY INSPECTIONS					
System Type	Total	Pass	Malfunction	% Pass	% Malfunction
Off-lot discharge					
1000 gallon tank & filter bed	21	5	16	24%	76%
2 x 1000 gal tank & subsurface sand filter	17	15	2	88%	12%
NSF Class 1 aerator, surface sand filter, disinfection	42	42	0	100%	0%
NPDES off-lot discharge	20	10	10	50%	50%
Misc.	15	9	6	60%	40%
On-lot dispersal systems					
2 x 1000 gal tanks & split trench	338	327	11	97%	3%
2 x 1000 gal tanks & 500' trench (pre-1982)	131	105	26	80%	20%
Misc.	22	21	1	95%	5%
Total (including 5 incomplete)	611				

2016 NEW AND ALTERATION PERMITS	
# of Permits	Type of Sewage System
181	Septic tanks followed by leach trenches
11	Pre-treatment followed by leach trenches
35	Septic tanks to mound system
14	Pre-treatment to mound system
6	Septic tanks to drip distribution
3	Pre-treatment to drip distribution
169	EPA NPDES permit to discharge
7	Spray irrigation
6	Miscellaneous
22	Alteration permits
454	Total New and Alteration Permits

Private Water Systems Program

GCHD regulates private water systems in the county through the enforcement of the private water system rules, as outlined in the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), Sections 3701-28-01 thru 3701-28-19. As such, a permit is required for the installation, alteration, or sealing of a private water system. In 2016, the Health District issued 162 new well permits, 27 alteration permits, and 12 sealing permits.

All new private water systems are required to be tested for total coliform bacteria and nitrates, as the safety of a household's water supply cannot be assumed from colorless, odorless, and/or neutral-tasting water. Regulations established by ODH require private water systems to contain a total of four coliform units or less to permit the use of the water. During the testing process, total coliform bacteria are considered an "indicator" organism, as pathogen concentrations from fecal contamination are small, the number of potential pathogens is extensive, and it is not practical to test for pathogens in every water sample collected. Instead, the presence of pathogens can be determined with indirect evidence by testing for an "indicator" organism, such as total coliform bacteria. Total coliform bacteria are simple to identify, are present in larger numbers than more dangerous pathogens, and react to the natural environment and treatment processes similarly to pathogens. As a result, testing for total coliform bacteria can be a reasonable indication of whether pathogenic bacteria are present.

There are several kinds of defects that can allow for a private water well to become contaminated with total coliform bacteria, and may include a missing or defective well cap, insufficient wire, pipe, or cap seals, well casing cracks or holes, and local contaminant seepage from the well casing exterior.

If a well has been contaminated with total coliform bacteria, these contaminants can be effectively eliminated by way of several methods, which include ultraviolet disinfection, chlorine disinfection, filtration, and/or ozonation. Long term options for a contaminated well include well repair, the installation of continuous disinfection equipment, construction of a new well, or connection to a regional public water system.

Mosquito Control

The Environmental Health program was enhanced in 2016 by a Mosquito Control grant from the EPA, aimed at blunting the spread of mosquito-borne diseases, such as the birth defect-causing ZIKA virus, which both state and federal health officials expect to become endemic to northern Ohio within the next four to five years. This special program consisted of a two-phased approach: (A) public education, and (B) reduction of mosquito breeding sources.

The ZIKA public education phase was spearheaded by volunteers from the Geauga County Medical Reserve Corps (GCMRC), who created a brief educational Power Point and flip chart presentation outlining the mosquito-borne ZIKA disease, as well as practical methods by which residents can practice effective mosquito control in and around their homes and farms. GCMRC Volunteers then delivered the following presentations at a number of service clubs, professional organizations, and schools, as well as Geauga County township and village council meetings, and distributed more than 600 free "Mosquito Dunks" samples, a safe, non-chemical mosquito larvicide.

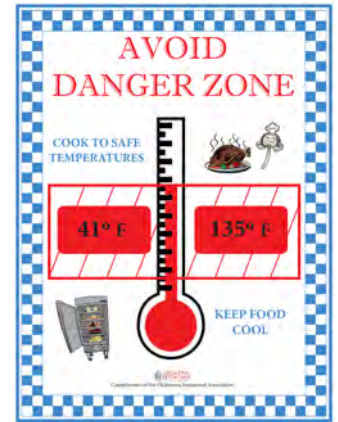
The mosquito breeding source reduction phase, which enlisted the help of local zoning and road maintenance officials, aimed to identify "wild piles" of scrap tires, a prolific mosquito breeding ground, and scheduling them for removal and proper disposal by Ohio EPA-registered scrap tire transporters. A total of ten projects were identified, amassed across both public and private properties, and permissions were obtained from owners to remove thousands of scrap tires (most of these sites were serviced, and the tires removed, by late February 2017). The remaining sites are scheduled for clean up in 2017.

The ZIKA grant supplements the ongoing GCHD mosquito control program through the elimination of breeding sources. GCHD annually inspects some 58 scrap tire generators, which include tire dealers, auto dealers, and automobile repairs shops, in order to ensure that scrap tires remain covered, dry, or are regularly larvicided to prevent mosquito breeding, and proper shipping records are kept to prevent bootleg tire dumping. These efforts help to prevent not only ZIKA, but other mosquito-borne diseases, including, but not limited to West Nile Fever, St. Louis Encephalitis, and LaCrosse Encephalitis.



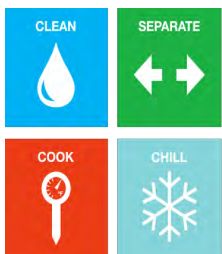
Food Safety Division

The goal of GCHD's Food Safety Division is to ensure that safe and wholesome food is provided to the public. This is achieved by way of effective and reliable enforcement, information sharing, service, and education to both the public and food facility operators. Locations that sell food directly to the public must fulfill the requirements set forth in the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) and the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code (OUFSC). A food service license is purchased from GCHD, and inspections are routinely conducted to ensure compliance with OUFSC rules. The types of inspections can be classified as: routine, follow-up, critical control point, complaint, and foodborne illnesses. A routine inspection is unannounced to the facility, and a complete inspection is conducted to ensure OUFSC compliance. Follow-up inspections are completed when routine inspection items were out of compliance, and a critical control point inspection involves the evaluation and documentation of critical sections pertaining to regulations and critical procedures. A complaint investigation is completed when GCHD receives a food operation complaint, and the complaint details are discussed with the facility manager. When a foodborne outbreak is suspected, an investigation is initiated, food and stool specimens are collected, and laboratory tests are conducted.



GCHD is responsible for inspecting 545 Geauga County food service operations and retail food establishments, in addition to any mobile or temporary operation that sells food at a festival or public event. Examples of a food service operation may include restaurants, school kitchens, daycares, hospitals, bars, and nursing homes. Retail food establishments may include grocery stores, convenience stores, gas stations, bakeries, and pizza shops. Food service inspection frequency is based upon state law, which is determined by a facility risk classification. Content areas addressed during an inspection include staff hygiene, food handling, physical facilities, and general sanitation practices. These inspection areas include, but are not limited to correct food storage and preparation, employee work practices, employee cleanliness, proper equipment operation, and general food facility maintenance and cleanliness.

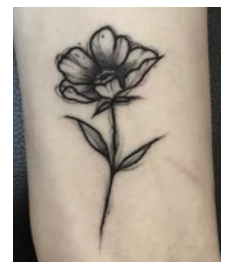
In addition to educating food facility operators during inspections and personalized consultations, GCHD offers a ServSafe food safety seminar, which was hosted on November 16 and 17, 2016, at our Chardon office. This class is designed to give restaurant staff and managers the tools to make their food facilities a safer place for their customers, and by March 1, 2017, restaurants are required to have an employee that is ServSafe certified. In order to provide the Servsafe training, each Food



Safety Division inspector must hold a bachelor's degree with 30 credit hours or more of math and science. Additionally, inspectors must obtain a minimum of 18 hours of accredited continuing education classes per year, and routinely work with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) for updates on rule changes and state or nationwide food product recalls. GCHD Food Safety Division staff also attend Northeast Ohio Food Roundtable meetings, where state and local health inspectors discuss public health issues that may affect Northeast Ohio.

Body Art

GCHD regulates body art establishments through the enforcement of OAC Section 3701-9 and ORC Section 3730.01. Body Art, as defined by ORC Section 3701-9-01(F), consists of "the practice of physical body adornment, including tattooing, permanent cosmetics and/or body piercing. This definition does not include practices that are considered medical procedures by the state medical board, performed with medical devices, that include but are not limited to biopsy or dermal punches and scalpels". The respective license is valid for one year, beginning January 1 and expiring December 31. Standard inspection frequency consists of one inspection per licensing year, unless a follow-up inspection is warranted, and plan reviews prior to licensing include requirements such as non-absorbable and easily cleaned walls, floors, tables, and equipment, approved disposal of infectious waste, accurate and current record keeping, aftercare procedures, proper sterilization, artist verification of bloodborne pathogen training, artist restrictions and training, the presence of underage consent documents for those under 18 years of age, and an approved infection control plan. In 2016, Geauga County licensed two body art facilities.



Solid Waste Program

GCHD, in cooperation with both the Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District (GTSWD) and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), works to enforce solid waste regulations throughout Geauga County. As such, GCHD regulates and inspects scrap tire generators, infectious waste generators, compost sites, and investigates solid waste nuisance complaints.

There are 14 drop-off recycling locations within Geauga County. Additionally, GTSWD operates the Household Hazardous Waste Recycling Facility at their office, which is located at 5738 Enterprise Boulevard in Warren, Ohio. The facility is open to all Geauga County residents on Wednesdays, beginning May 4, 2016, to October 26, 2016, from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Microwaves are now accepted, and televisions can be accepted for an additional fee.

In 2016, GTSWD held a one-day collection event, facilitating the disposal of appliances and household hazardous wastes, and offering document destruction services. During this one-day event, the following Geauga County collection totals were documented:

Documents destruction:	8,322 pounds	Appliances recycled:	7.72 tons
Household hazardous waste:	24.37 tons	Scrap tires:	75.85 tons

Women, Infants, & Children (WIC)

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, otherwise known as WIC, is a fundamental part of Ohio's public health system, and is intended to reach income eligible pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, as well as infants and children under the age of 5 who have a health or nutritional risk. The Geauga WIC clinics in both Chardon and Middlefield provide nutritious foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and supplemental infant formula to the aforementioned population, as well as health screenings, referral services to prenatal and pediatric health care, human service programs, and nutrition education and counseling, the latter of which is provided by GCHD licensed dietitians. In 2016, Geauga WIC had 372 new applicants, 1,126 re-applicants, and 1,473 nutrition education visits. The 2016 Geauga WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program supported local farmers by offering over 1,500 fruit and vegetable coupons, each of which were redeemable for \$5. As a result, more than \$4,000 was redeemed for Ohio grown fresh fruits and vegetables.

In 2016, Geauga County WIC had one of the highest breastfeeding initiation rates in Ohio; 71% of WIC mothers were breastfeeding their babies at birth, and 22 pregnant women attended monthly breastfeeding classes held in both Chardon and Middlefield. Moreover, a Bonding with Breastfeeding support group, which was open to all Geauga County residents, met bimonthly at the Middlefield library, and 79 attendees participated in special events supported by this group. Breastfeeding education and support was provided by a certified lactation consultant and trained health professionals, in conjunction with WIC's Peer Helper Program, which provides mother to mother support, and enlists upward of 604 contacts. Throughout the year, Geauga WIC loaned hospital grade breast pumps to six breastfeeding mothers to support their return to work or school, and provided breastfeeding reference books to area obstetricians.



Several events to celebrate Breastfeeding Awareness Month were organized by Geauga WIC, including the 6th Annual Geauga WIC Breastfeeding Walk, which was led by the Geauga County Sheriff's Department. Nine participants enjoyed a pizza party, and prizes were donated by local businesses.

Gauga WIC and University Hospitals Rainbow Injury Prevention Center collaborated to offer low-cost car seats, as well as car seat inspections, to participating Geauga County WIC families. In total, Geauga WIC provided 25 car seats and 6 community car seat inspections in 2016 through a certified car seat technician, and basic car seat education was provided on two occasions to new social service staff in Geauga County.



The Personal Health Services Division of the Geauga County General Health District is responsible for maintaining a healthy and prepared community through various programs. Our focus is on prevention, and many of our services are offered at different locations throughout the county, as well as limited home visits. The following is a summary of our programs, as well as those who are served through them.

Children's Services

Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps (BCMh): BCMh is an ODH program, with the goal of assuring that children with special health care needs receive comprehensive, coordinated care. Public health nurses are the local contact for families, and provide early identification, evaluation, and referral for qualifying children from birth to 21 years of age. Families receive culturally competent services from public health nurses, and these services include: child assessments, care plan development, health promotion, and advocacy. In 2016, GCHD public health nurses completed 38 home visits to children who qualified for this program.

Immunization Clinics for Children and Adolescents: GCHD public health nurses hold five to six monthly child and adolescent immunization clinics across three Geauga County locations. These are walk-in clinics that do not require an appointment, and for qualifying children through 18 years of age, immunizations are provided free of charge. This service is supported by funding from the Immunization Action Plan, and ODH supplies these vaccines through the federally funded Vaccines For Children program. Immunizations are also available for those with insurance. In 2016 alone, GCHD administered 4,000 immunizations to 1,313 children across 59 clinics, not including flu shots.



Lead Program: GCHD's Personal Health Services division, in conjunction with ODH, collaborate to provide blood lead level screenings and follow up services for Geauga County children. GCHD's public health nurses conduct case management activities, including contacting families of children with elevated lead levels, and provide educational/medical recommendations and guidance. Lead level screenings are provided to children at well child clinics, and in other high-risk situations. In 2016, 83 lead screenings were conducted in Geauga County, resulting in one confirmatory elevated blood lead level finding. As a result, a GCHD public health nurse provided education, a home evaluation, and referral resources for the family of this child.

Maternal/Newborn Home Visiting: GCHD public health nurses visit new mothers and their infants at the request of the family or physician. These home visits include an evaluation of the mother's recovery, assessment of the infant's early growth and development, a detailed education on a variety of preventive health issues (including safe sleep), and referrals to other community agencies when indicated. In 2016, GCHD public health nurses completed 36 maternal/newborn home visits to families in Geauga County, and this service was provided free of charge.

School Services: GCHD provides public health nurses to assist with health record management, vision screenings, and healthcare referrals for Geauga County schools with less than 100 students. In 2016, these nurses made 58 visits to parochial schools located in Geauga County, and provided service to 1,303 students. Additionally, GCHD public health nurses network with local school nurses, both public and private, regarding outbreak surveillance, vaccination for students, and information related to child health issues; public health nurses also meet with public school nurses twice a year to collaborate on related issues.

Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID) Home Visits: GCHD public health nurses offer information and referral services to bereaved Geauga County families, offering family members the opportunity to express feelings regarding the death of an infant in a safe and non-judgmental environment. No support visits were requested in 2016.

Vision Program: GCHD partners with Prevent Blindness Ohio in an effort to provide a Vision Service Plan (VSP) to Geauga County families without insurance, and those that do not qualify for federal aid. GCHD public health nurses identify families in need and arrange for VSP service, which provides an eye examination by a licensed optometrist, as well as glasses, at no charge to the family. This service was offered to 180 children in 2016.

Well Child Services: GCHD also provides well child clinics for qualifying families, which involves the screening of children's development, dental, lead, hemoglobin, and nutrition status, respectively. Additionally, health education is provided to family members, a licensed physician performs physical exams, and GCHD public health nurses administer immunizations. In 2016, 22 well child clinics provided service to 247 children.

Adult Services

Immunization/Blood Pressure Clinics for Adults: The GCHD Personal Health Services division holds clinics every Friday at the Health District office for adult immunizations and blood pressure screenings, administered by GCHD’s public health nurses. Blood pressure screenings are provided at no charge, and the cost of adult immunizations is based on the vaccine cost, and the addition of a modest administration fee. Seasonal flu vaccine clinics are held at different sites throughout the county. In 2016, the GCHD nursing division administered 212 adult immunizations, 382 flu shots, and performed 15 blood pressure evaluations.

Maternity Licensing Survey: The GCHD Personal Health Services division may send a representative to the annual maternity licensure survey of the local hospital and birthing center. This survey is conducted by ODH, and GCHD’s Board of Health reviews the survey results and provides feedback regarding the approval or denial of re-licensure for each of these facilities. GCHD’s Personal Health Services division is also responsible for investigating any complaints received regarding the maternity facilities. In 2016, the Middlefield Care Center birthing center and UH Geauga Medical Center completed their licensing surveys, and there were no maternity facility complaints to investigate.

Senior Services: GCHD sends a public health nurse to the Geauga Senior Center four times per month, in order to provide blood pressure screenings for both adult day care clients and the general senior population participating in senior center activities. The respective nurse also provides education and support, and is available to answer questions. These services are funded by the Title III/Community Block Grant, which is managed by the Department on Aging. In 2016, these services were provided to 1,247 seniors.

Tuberculosis Control: In accordance with Ohio law, GCHD promotes Tuberculosis (TB) control and containment by screening high-risk Geauga County populations, including immigration investigations, maintaining a register of positive reactors, and following through with suitable treatment for individuals. GCHD public health nurses perform routine TB testing at the Health District office, and during visits at several residential facilities. In 2016, GCHD public health nurses administered 109 TB tests with zero positive reactors. Three TB clinics were held by the medical director at GCHD, providing evaluation and treatment to high-risk Geauga County residents.

Communicable Disease Investigation

The Personal Health Services division provides surveillance of communicable diseases reported in Geauga County, in compliance with ODH Infectious Disease reporting requirements and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations. The GCHD disease surveillance specialist and public health nurses perform disease investigations on diseases that pose a public health threat, due to their communicability or virulence, while also collaborating with the GCHD Environmental Health division when a food borne illness outbreak is suspected. Personal Health Services also provide information and data collection efforts for any possible or confirmed vector-borne disease, in collaboration with Environmental Health. In 2016, GCHD investigated 428 reports of communicable disease, and 14% included vaccine preventable disease, 50% included sexually transmitted disease, 12% included food and waterborne disease, and 24% included non-vaccine preventable diseases and viruses, as compared to the 353 reports of communicable disease in 2015. Rabies case management is also managed by way of collaboration between Personal Health Services and Environmental Health, as Environmental Health tracks animal bites and collects specimens to send to the ODH Lab, while human rabies exposures are followed by Personal Health Services, in collaboration with Environmental Health. In 2016, GCHD processed 34 rabies specimens with no positive results.

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES SUMMARY 2016

Illness and Disease Reports	428
Tuberculosis Tests Administered	109
TB Positive Reactors	0
Newborn Home Visits	36
Well Child Clinics	22
Well Child Service Visits	247
Blood-lead Level Screenings	83
Parochial School Visits	58
Parochial Students Seen	1,303
Vision Service Plan Referrals	360
Vision Service Plan Home Visits	326
Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps Home Visits	38
Adult Immunizations Administered	212
Children’s Immunization Clinics	59
Children’s Immunizations	4,000
Children Immunized	1,313
Senior Clinic Visits	43
Seniors Blood Pressure Evaluations	1,247
Flu Shots (adult and children)	488

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

GCHD continues to be actively involved in Geauga County emergency preparedness planning, and currently coordinates it's respective plans with Northeast Ohio health departments, hospitals, emergency services, law enforcement agencies, fire departments, schools, the American Red Cross, and other related agencies. This planning prepares GCHD staff for responding to a wide range of emergencies, which may include natural disasters, severe weather conditions, environmental emergencies, chemical disasters, disease outbreaks, and mass casualty events.

In 2015, GCHD was involved in both the regional and local Ebola Viral Disease (EVD) and Other Special Pathogens (OSP) planning, respectively. This planning was a collaboration between local health departments, hospitals, law enforcement agencies, fire, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and the Emergency Management Agency (EMA).

Preparation for any emergency, regardless of whether it is a power outage, snowstorm, disease pandemic, or terrorist attack, requires planning. GCHD urges Geauga County community members to construct a household disaster plan and gather essential supplies to keep in your home, such that you will know what to do, where to go, and how to communicate in the event of an emergency.



Vital Records and Statistics

GCHD's Office of Vital Statistics records all birth and death occurrences in Geauga County. In 2016, a total of 1,235 births were recorded, 1,020 of which were born at University Hospital Geauga Medical Center, 191 at Middlefield Care Center, and 24 at the respective pregnant mother's home. The aforementioned figures represent an increase of 149 births, as compared to 2015, and a 46% increase in home births.

Concurrently, 919 deaths were recorded in Geauga County in 2016, constituting a stark increase from the 60 recorded deaths in 2015. This total was comprised of: 1 death without a funeral home, 61 coroner cases (13 were drug related), 13 suicides, and 8 Child Fatality Review cases. Child Fatality Review is a statewide program that reviews the death of any resident child under the age of 18. In 2016, Geauga County experienced two accidental child deaths, and the remaining six deaths were attributed to prematurity and congenital causes.

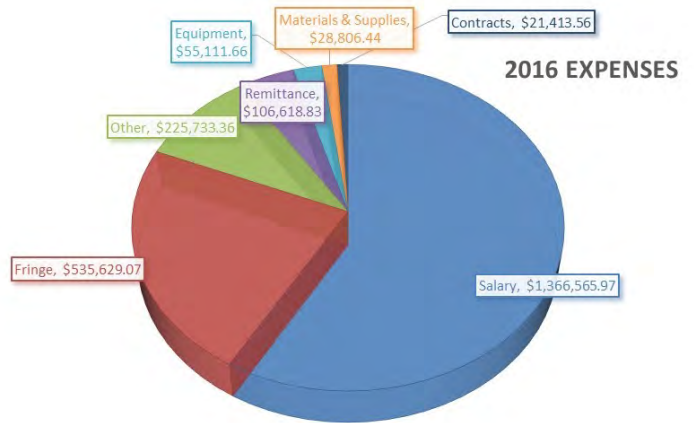
2016 LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH	
The Geauga County Health District Medical Director reviewed the 919 deaths, and compiled the following leading causes of death in Geauga County:	
Congestive Heart Failure/Coronary Artery Disease	255
Dementia	138
Pneumonia	76
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.....	39
Lung Cancer	37

Certified copies of birth and death records are available at the GCHD office ,or by mail and Vitalchek on-line services. Each certified document is \$23.00, and is payable with cash, check, or money order. Credit cards can be used for on-line orders or telephone orders only. Vitalchek adds a \$7.00 processing fee to each order.

2016 Financial Report

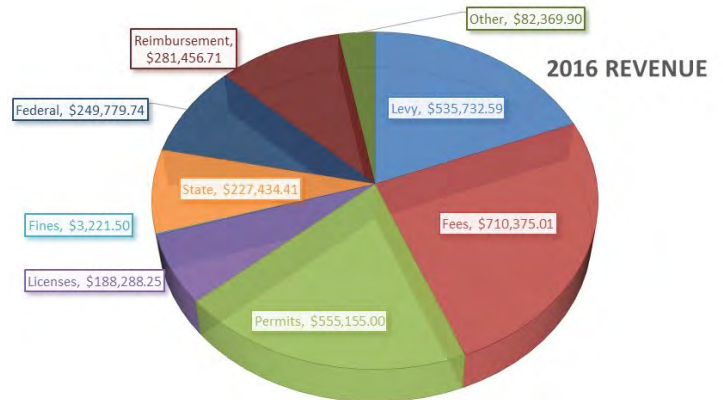
Expenses

Description	Amount
Salary	\$ 1,366,565.97
Fringe	\$ 535,629.07
Other	\$ 225,733.36
Remittance	\$ 106,618.83
Equipment	\$ 55,111.66
Materials & Supplies	\$ 28,806.44
Contracts	\$ 21,413.56
Total Revenue	\$ 2,339,878.89



Revenue

Description	Amount
Fees	\$ 710,375.01
Permits	\$ 555,155.00
Levy	\$ 535,732.59
Reimbursement	\$ 281,456.71
Federal	\$ 249,779.74
State	\$ 227,434.41
Licenses	\$ 188,288.25
Other	\$ 82,369.90
Fines	\$ 3,221.50
Total Revenue	\$ 2,833,813.11



Accreditation Update

- The Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio facilitated the distribution of the Community Health Assessment to the community.
- GCHD is moving forward with the develop of stronger health promotion and education programs. A health educator was hired, and is currently focusing on the Maternal and Child Health Grant, provided by the Ohio Department of Health.
- Partnership for a Health Geauga is showing progress with selected priority topic areas, which include: mental health, transportation, drug use prevention, and maternal and child health.
- Quality improvement teams have been created, and two projects have been completed: (1) internal scanning for Environmental Health, and (2) communication updates from communicable disease to the public health nurses.

Geauga County Health District

District Advisory Council

GCHD's District Advisory Council is composed of Township Trustee chairpersons, and Village and City Mayors, in order to oversee the appointment of the Board of Health members, and to review the reports and financial status of the Geauga County Health District.

Gerald Mitchell, President

Erwin Leffel, Secretary

Board of Health

Each Board of Health member is appointed annually for a five year term, and serve as public health service and program advocates. The Board of Health is a quasi-judicial, policy development body tasked with determining, establishing, and monitoring public health policy. Additionally, the Board of Health is responsible for adopting the annual budget, and ensuring adequate funding for the Health District.



Timothy Goergen, President
Hambden Township
Term Expires 2018



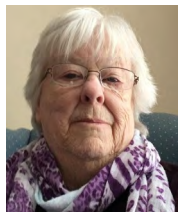
Christina Livers, Pro-Tem
Russell Township
Term Expires 2019



Jonathan Wynbrandt, M.D.
Chester Township
Term Expires 2020



David Gragg
Newbury Township
Term Expires 2022



Catherine Whitright
Munson Township
Term Expires 2021



J. Bradley Moritz, M.D.
Medical Director



Personal Health Services (440) 279-1950

- Adult Immunization Clinics
- BCMH Home Visits
- Children & Adolescent Immunization Clinics
- Communicable Disease Surveillance
- Illness & Disease Reporting
- Influenza Clinics
- Health Promotion & Education
- Maternal & Newborn Home Visits
- School Health Services & Coordination
- Senior Clinics & Health Education
- TB Testing & Surveillance
- Walk-in Pregnancy Testing
- Well Child Clinics
- Women, Infants, & Children (WIC)



Environmental Health Division (440) 279-1900

- Animal Bite Investigation
- County & State Camp Inspections
- Nuisance Complaint Investigations
- Plumbing Permits & Inspections
- Potable Water Hauler Permits & Inspections
- Private Water Well Permits & Inspections
- Rabies Prevention & Surveillance
- Retail Food Establishment Inspections
- Restaurant / Food Service Inspections
- Temporary & Mobile Food Service Inspections
- School Environmental Inspections
- Semi-Public Sewage Certificates & Inspections
- Septage Land Application Site Inspections
- Septic Tank Cleaner Permits & Inspections
- Sewage Treatment Permits & Inspections
- For Sale of Property Inspections
- Solid & Infectious Waste Inspections
- Swimming Pool Inspections
- Tattoo & Body Piercing Permits & Inspections
- Vending Machine Inspections



Vital Statistics (440) 279-1902

- Birth Certificates
- Death Certificates
- Burial Permits

Administration

- Registrar
- Fiscal Coordinator
- Computer Systems Support
- Community Health Assessment
- Accreditation Preparation
- Bio-terrorism Planning
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness