

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

This is the division of the health department that employs the Registered Sanitarians, commonly referred to as health inspectors. The primary role of a Registered Sanitarian (R.S.) is to reduce the risk of and/or prevent illness and injury (such as food borne or water borne illnesses) to the public through the enforcement of state and local regulations while providing education on environmental health. A Registered Sanitarian must have a four-year college degree with an emphasis in the sciences, spend two years in training under the supervision of an R.S., and must pass a 250 question state exam. Upon obtaining R.S. certification, all sanitarians must receive at least 18 Continuing Education Units (CEU's) annually to maintain their certification.

The Sanitarians work in a diverse set of programs. Some of these programs are self-supporting through their various fees. The fees collected in a program can only be utilized for the costs associated in that program (we can not offset costs accrued in one program from funds in another program). However, many of the programs for the Registered Sanitarians are unfunded mandates for the health department. The Environmental Health Division supplied a total of 5,077.91 hours in all their programs. The following list is not a complete list of all the programs, but is a summary of the major programs the Environmental Health division addresses and the percentage of RS time spent in that program.

Food Protection Program (1,325.66 hrs – 26% RS time) – All entities that serve food for a charge are licensed and inspected by this office. Operations are inspected for cleanliness, temperature control, food handling, and personal hygiene. If a new facility is opening, or if an existing facility is remodeling, they must submit plans to our office to review prior to any work being performed. They must also have plumbing, electrical, structural and fire inspections. This program is financially supported by the fees collected from food service operation licenses, retail food establishment licenses, mobile food licenses, temporary food licenses, and vending food licenses.

Household Sewage Treatment System Program (873.77 hrs – 17% RS time) – All new installations, replacements and alterations must be permitted and inspected through this office. All septic system installers & haulers (pumpers) that operate in Crawford County must register with our office annually. This program also includes time spent on septic system maintenance, education, and nuisance septic systems. This program is financially supported through the new, replacement, and alteration permit fees as well as septic installer/hauler registration fees.

Water Supply Program (483.18 hrs – 9.5% RS time) – All new and altered water systems are permitted through this office. Water samples are taken on new/altered systems and when requested by the homeowner. Proper construction protects the well owner and protects the safety of the aquifer. New regulations for foster/adoption homes require proof of safe water in their homes and must have the health department take the water sample every year. This program is financially supported by the new well permits, existing well alterations, and water sample fees.

Solid Waste Program (399.83 hrs – 7.9% RS time) – There is one active licensed solid waste facility that is licensed and inspected routinely by this office. In addition to the landfill, the solid waste program includes annual inspections of the large generators of infectious waste and the compost facilities. The department also deals with solid waste complaints such as garbage on private properties that attract rodents and other improper disposal of solid waste. The landfill opened a C&DD (construction & demolition debris) site in 2007 that is inspected by our office as well. The solid waste haulers that pick up garbage in Crawford County are also registered with our office and have each of the trucks inspected annually by our staff. This program is financially supported by receiving a small amount of funds from the annual landfill license fee, the solid waste hauler registration fees, and an annual amount of funds from the Crawford County Solid Waste District. The C&DD program is funded by our office receiving 0.42¢ per ton of C&DD received at the C&DD Landfill site.

Manufactured Home Park Program (207.43 hrs – 4.1% RS time) – All parks with three or more manufactured homes are licensed and inspected by this office per ODH requirements. Some aspects of the inspection include: the lots, lot spacing, parking areas, recreational areas, lighting, and numbering of the lots. Until an existing park conducts any remodeling, they are somewhat “grandfathered” into this program when dealing with lot spacing and parking issues. This program is financially supported through the MHP license fees.

Campground/RV Park Program (166.76 hrs – 3.3% RS time) – Any tract of land used for parking five or more recreational vehicles (in exchange for something of value) must be licensed and inspected by our office. This program also includes temporary park-camps (not to exceed 7 consecutive days or a total of twenty-one days per calendar year). The inspection of a campground includes the lots, lot spacing, roadways, recreational areas, public restrooms, and water & wastewater disposal hookups. This program is financially supported by the license fees.

Swimming Pool Program (158.16 hrs – 3.1% RS time) –All public pools/spas are licensed and inspected by this office. The majority of the pools in the county are only open during the summer months. The inspections in this program include the verification of the equipment in the pump room, chemistry of the pool/spa, safety issues in the pool area, and ensuring all lifeguards on staff have proper certifications. The program is financially supported by the license fees.

Tattoo/Body Piercing (58.92 hrs – 1.2% RS time) - We have two facilities within our jurisdiction that have been in business for over one year and are inspected quarterly by our office. In 2008 the City of Bucyrus passed a resolution prohibiting any mobile or temporary tattoo/body piercing facilities to conduct business within Bucyrus City limits. This program is financially supported by the license fees.

Resident Campgrounds (21.25 hrs – 0.4% RS time) – There are two licensed resident camps in the county. These facilities are typically run by religious groups or boy scout/girl scout affiliated entities. They have residential type cabins or structures that have to be inspected for cleanliness. This program is financially supported by the license fees.

School Inspection Program (291.18 hrs – 5.7% RS time) – This is a comprehensive inspection that includes all classrooms, playgrounds, specialty rooms, bleachers, HVAC systems, roofs and requires extensive plans and policies to be created and maintained by each school. The newest requirements for School Inspections were adopted by ODH in 2007. This is an unfunded, mandated program.

Nuisance Program (98.23 hrs – 2% RS time) – Written complaints are filed with this office and investigated in a timely manner. Reportable conditions include but are not limited to: failing septic, garbage, rodents, or other conditions that affect the health of the general public. This program works well when addressed in conjunction with the affected municipality or township. This is an unfunded, mandated program.

Rabies Control Program (67.45 hrs – 1.3% RS time) – All animal bites (dogs, cats, bats, raccoons, etc.) must be reported to this office. Animals are quarantined if they are pets or they are humanely put down so that they can be tested for the rabies virus. This office works with the County Dog Warden to address all dog bites and to maintain a listing of all vicious dogs in the county. This is an unfunded, mandated program.

Smoke-Free Workplace (56.16 hrs – 1.1% staff time) - This is a new program that began in 2007. Our office is responsible for the administration, investigations, and enforcement of the violations assigned to our jurisdiction on the ODH managed database. This is a mandated program. This program does not receive a great deal of funding. Recently ODH began a reimbursement program of \$70 per investigation as well as our office receiving 90% of any fine monies collected.

Radon (23 hrs – 0.5% RS time) – This office works in conjunction with a consortium of surrounding counties to offer free radon test kits to residential homes and businesses in Crawford County. 2004 was the first active year for this testing and has shown a wide variety of test results for various areas of the county. The EPA recommends steps be taken to remove radon from the home if levels are higher than 4 pCi/L. Radon gas is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. This is an unfunded program. Our time spent in this program is considered in-kind match for this grant.

West Nile Virus (13.92 hrs – 0.3% RS time) - Free testing is available to test dead blue jays and crows during the WNV season (spring & summer months). This is an unfunded, mandated program.

Ticks (3.42 hrs – 0.07% RS time) -- Free services through ODH are available to identify ticks and to test for Lyme Disease. Our office ships the tick to the ODH lab and forwards the results to the client. This is an unfunded, mandated program.

2008 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STATISTICS

Total Animal Bites/Exposures	61
<i>Reported by species</i>	
<i>Dog</i>	48
<i>Cat</i>	10
<i>Bat</i>	2 (<i>one bat tested positive for rabies, patient received treatment</i>)
<i>Rat</i>	1
Campground Licenses	5
Campground Inspections	10
Composting Inspections	5
Food Licenses	127
Food Inspections	260 (<i>59 are CCP inspections</i>)
Mobile Food Licenses	23
Mobile Food Inspections	105
Temporary Food Licenses	30
Temporary Food Inspections	30
Vending Food Licenses	51
Vending Food Inspections	40
Infectious Waste Inspections	3
Jail Inspections	1
Manufactured Home Park Licenses	14
Manufactured Home Park Inspections	33
Nuisance Complaints Received	43
Sale of Property Evaluations	18
School Inspections	17
Septic Permits Issued	26
Septic Inspections	45
Site Evaluations	8
Sewage Installers Licensed	18
Septic Pumpers Licensed	14
Solid Waste Haulers Licensed	16 companies (<i>51 trucks</i>)
Solid Waste Landfill Licensed	1
Solid Waste Landfill Inspections	11
Swimming Pools Licensed	13
Swimming Pool Inspections	49
Water Well Permits Issued	42
Water Well Inspections	32
Water Samples Collected	104
Water Haulers Licensed	3