



Tuscarawas County Health Department

2018 Quarterly Report to
the District Advisory
Council

Volume 2; Issue 2

www.tchdnow.org

Changes to the Point of Sale Program for Real Estate Transfers: Home Sewage Treatment Systems and/or Private Water Systems

After programmatic evaluation, the Tuscarawas County Health Department (TCHD) has implemented some changes to our requirements in point of sales evaluations to expedite service delivery. We here at TCHD know that this service is a necessity and we are always seeking methods to better serve our residents and businesses. We have heard the complaints. We have visited with many of you who have been affected by the unfortunate backlog. And, you are our number one priority. Your satisfaction is important to us so we have devised a work-around that will decrease potential delays in point of sale evaluations. The TCHD will continue to offer point of sale evaluations and is now asking for qualified, private inspectors to join the effort!

- All HSTS private inspectors must be either a registered service provider or registered installer.
- All PWS inspectors must be licensed private water systems contractors.
- TCHD forms must be utilized and all reports must be reviewed for completeness by a member of the TCHD Environmental Health Division.

Thus you no longer have to have a sanitarian from TCHD conduct your evaluations. You now have more options which will lead to faster turnaround times.

This change went into effect on June 21, 2018. For more information please call (330) 343-5550.

Rabies vaccination clinics held

The Tuscarawas County Health Department, in partnership with the Tuscarawas County Humane Society held two low cost rabies vaccination clinics in June at the Tuscarawas County Fairgrounds and McCuskey Park in Dennison. The rabies vaccines offered were either 1 or 3 year vaccines based on evidence of prior vaccines. 2 local veterinarians donated their time to vaccinate the animals. A total of 36 dogs and 13 cats were vaccinated. The Tuscarawas County Health Department reminds citizens the importance of having your dogs and cats vaccinated and encourages you to contact your vet to ensure pets are up to date on all vaccines.

**Communicable Disease Cases Reported to the Tuscarawas County Health
Department***
2018 Quarter 2: April 1- June 30

	Quarter 2 Cases	YTD Cases
Chlamydia	40	85
Gonorrhea	4	15
Campylobacteriosis	6	7
Chronic Hepatitis C	4	7
Acute Hepatitis B	0	1
Varicella	0	2
Strep Pneumonia	2	3
Hospitalized Influenza	6	83
Streptococcal (A)	2	3
Pertussis	0	1
Salmonella	3	4
Haemophilus Influenza	0	1
TB	0	1
Lyme Disease	2	2
Giardiasis	1	1
Shigellosis	1	1
Listeriosis	0	1
Yersiniosis	1	1

** Numbers are subject to change based on case confirmations

DID YOU KNOW???

The WIC Program will be issuing WIC Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program coupons to our eligible participants again this summer. This is a dual purpose program which benefits both WIC participants and farmers. In the program, WIC participants are given four \$5 coupons with which to purchase authorized fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs from authorized farmers at the Tuscarawas Valley Farmers Market. WIC eligible pregnant women, breastfeeding and non-breastfeeding women, children, and infants older than six months of age are able to take advantage of this opportunity to get locally grown produce during the summer months. During fiscal year 2017, Ohio received \$447,916 in federal funding, which allowed 25,665 participants to receive farmers' market benefits. In all, 296 farmers, 23 markets and 134 farm stands were authorized in 61 counties. In Tuscarawas County, WIC will be distributing coupons to 334 participants July 11, 18, and 25 from 3:00pm to 6:00pm. Participants can then spend these coupons throughout the summer at the Tuscarawas Valley Farmers Market. The market is open Wednesdays 3:00pm-7:00pm at the fairgrounds through October.

Donations Sought to Continue Weekend Food Program for Tuscarawas County Youth



If you are interested in donating to this program please send checks to the Tuscarawas County Health Department, 897 East Iron Avenue Dover, Ohio 44622 Attention: Blessings in a Backpack program. All donations are tax deductible.

22.2% of children in Tuscarawas County or 4,760 children live in food insecurity (Akron Canton Food Bank, 2018). Food insecurity refers to the USDAs' measure of lack of regular access to nutritional food for active and healthy lives.

In 2016, the Tuscarawas County Health Department was granted funding from the Ohio Department of Health to implement a program called Blessings in a Backpack. Blessings in a Backpack mobilizes communities, individuals, and resources to provide food on the weekends for elementary school children across America who might otherwise go hungry. In 2017, TCHD was able to provide take home food packages to approximately 150 grade school students from two different school districts. The students are selected by school personnel for participation in the program.

In 2018 that number was increased to 200 students, and still there existed a need. To date, nearly 13,000 bags or 91,000 items of food have been sent home with Tuscarawas County children. In addition to the weekend food packages TCHD teamed up with Adventure

Harley Davidson and UnitedWay to provide food for extended holiday breaks.

Just recently, TCHD was notified that the Ohio Department of Health would no longer be providing funding to continue this program. Without program continuation more than 200 students in Tuscarawas County will again be hungry on the weekends. Thus, TCHD is asking for monetary donations from companies and individuals to sustain and continue the program. The hope is to secure funding that will allow for a program expansion to help curb the 4,760 children who are food insecure in our community, and possible extend the program's current reach.

The Health Department asked children who participate in the program why the program was important to them and received answers such as "it give me food to eat on the weekend" and its important..."so my brother can eat".

TCHD pledges to provide the personnel time associated with continuation of the program but monetary donations are being sought to purchase food items. "It costs us approximately \$0.40 per child to feed them for an entire weekend", said Katie Seward, Health Commissioner.

Mosquito Spraying Update

In an April 2001 report, the CDC stated, “Adulticiding, the application of chemicals to kill adult mosquitoes by ground or aerial applications (aka spraying), is usually the least effective mosquito control technique” and also “the most effective and economical way to control mosquitoes is by larval source reduction.”

Thus, TCHD has been actively larviciding for several weeks throughout the County. We also continue to provide education to residents on ways to reduce mosquito breeding grounds.

TCHD will spray but only after a pool of mosquitoes test positive for West Nile Virus as we do not want to expose the community to chemicals unnecessarily.

If you see large bodies of stagnant (unmoving) water, which act as mosquito breeding grounds or areas with high mosquito populations that you would like us to set traps for surveillance please contact us at (330) 343-5550.



TCHD CONTINUES PATH TOWARDS NATIONAL ACCREDITATION

The Tuscarawas County Health Department has successfully uploaded over 300 supporting documents to the Accreditation database. A site team has been assigned and we are awaiting dates for the site visit commencement. The site visit is the final step on the path towards Accreditation. The goal of accreditation is to improve the quality and performance of all health departments in the country – state, local, territorial and tribal. For public health departments, accreditation means demonstrated accountability to our communities. All state and local health departments in Ohio are required to become accredited by 2020.