

Livingston County Department of Public Health

2002 Annual Report



*Serving the Community in Environmental Health Services,
Personal Health Services & Chronic Disease Prevention*

To the Residents of Livingston County:



On behalf of the staff of the Livingston County Department of Public Health, I would like to present the 2002 Annual Report. This summary is designed to provide department accomplishments in safeguarding and improving the public's health. Whether providing immunizations to children, conducting an epidemiological investigation to prevent further disease transmission or ensuring that an onsite water supply is properly constructed, our staff is committed to provide the best possible service to our clients. Our hope is that these services will ultimately improve the health and well being of the entire community.

However, the health of any community is a compilation of each individual's health status and the best way to improve the community's health status is making a commitment toward improving our own health status. Proper nutrition, adequate exercise and activity and the elimination of tobacco use should be the health goal for each individual. We all need to remember to eat nutritious food in proper quantities, to remain active and to take steps to stop smoking and help others not to begin.

We look forward to working with you in the future on community health programs and public health issues important to Livingston County residents. If you have any comments or questions please contact me at 517-546-9850 or at twestmeier@co.livingston.mi.us.

The Livingston County Department of Public Health appreciates your continuing support.

Respectfully,

Ted Westmeier, RS, MPH
Director/Health Officer



Livingston County Board of Health Members

T. Gerald Buckless – *Chair*

Linda Palazzolo – *Vice-Chair*

Carrie Bollmann

Katie Chrysler – *Commissioner Liaison*

Cheryl Krueger, R.N.C.

William Metz, D.D.S.

Donna Waldock

New in 2002

New Department Director: On September 30, 2002, Ted Westmeier became the Director/Health Officer of the Livingston County Department of Public Health. Ted returns as Health Officer after several years in other positions, including Director/Health Officer of Jackson County Health Department.

Emergency Preparedness: During the past year, we became the Livingston County Department of Public Health (LCDPH), partially in response to our increased activity in the emergency preparedness and response planning process. Don Hayduk is the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. Livingston County is in Region I with Ingham, Gratiot, Shiawassee, Eaton, Clinton, Jackson, Hillsdale and Lenawee Counties. All resources and personnel within these counties will be coordinated to provide regional cooperation for emergency response purposes.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection: Through the efforts of the Solid Waste Program, a pre-fabricated hazardous materials storage building arrived at the Livingston County West Complex in October, 2002. The building is used to store household hazardous waste and is part of a project made possible through the Clean Michigan Initiative, a grant from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. In 2002, Livingston County offered two Household Hazardous Waste collections in order to accommodate those residents who have extremely hazardous materials needing immediate disposal. LCDPH staff participated in training and assisted the Solid Waste Program in manning these events.

West Nile Virus and Mosquito Surveillance: In 2002, LCDPH actively participated in mosquito surveillance activities, which included setting up various mosquito traps throughout the county, tracking and mapping dead bird sitings, and data evaluation. LCDPH also provided education to the community on WNV and mosquito control techniques.

Animal Bite Registry: Charlotte Peterson, an epidemiology student from U of M, was a 2002 summer intern at LCDPH. She created an animal bite data base for LCDPH and Animal Control. Reports are now entered into the computer and data can be accessed by both departments. There were 279 reported animal bites in Livingston County in 2002.

Tidemark/Database Development: In Spring 2002, LCDPH implemented the Tidemark Permit Plan and Database. The Tidemark Plan is a database driven permit system which allows integration of information with various county departments, including the Building Department, Environmental Health and the Drain Commission.

Personal & Preventive Health Division

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

(see chart 1 below)

- **Communicable Disease** – 111 investigations for reportable diseases, 508 TB tests and 2,033 health education contacts were conducted by Public Health Nurses.
- **Immunizations** – 6,658 individuals were immunized with 9,130 doses of vaccine. 6,865 student immunization records were assessed by Health Department staff and 2,936 preschool records were assessed, which are now included in chart one.
- **STD Control** – 76 people received HIV/AIDS counseling and testing and 219 STD health education/referral contacts were made by PH Nurses.

FAMILY SERVICES (see chart 2 below)

- **Healthy Kids** (formerly MICH-Care) – provided early access to medical care for 8 women and children.
- **Women, Infants and Children** (WIC) – 1,248 clients were enrolled and received nutrition education services. 2,935 services were provided.
- **Children's Special Health Care Services** (CSHCS) – 301 families are currently enrolled.

- **Maternal/Infant Support Services** (MSS/ISS) – 57 high risk families were served. 189 professional home and office visits were made.
- **Hearing & Vision Screening** – 11,082 students were screened for hearing deficit and 12,791 students were screened for visual acuity.
- **Reproductive Health** – 862 women were provided 2,496 reproductive health services including birth control supplies.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROMOTION

- **Mid-Michigan Regional Fitness Council** – a regional fitness council that better utilizes available community resources in the area of physical activity. Meetings are held monthly in Lansing.
- **5-A-Day** – an ongoing effort to promote eating five or more fruits and vegetables a day. Project Fresh, a collaboration between local farmers and the Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Program, distributed coupons for fresh produce to 263 WIC clients.

Environmental Health Division

FOOD PROTECTION

- 441 licensed food establishment sites: includes all fixed, mobile, transitory and vending sites (see chart 3, below)
- 124 temporary food services licenses
- 26 plan reviews of new/remodeled food establishments
- 73 total students enrolled in manager and employee food certification class
- 7 food service compliance hearings
- 77 foodborne illness complaints received
- 3 full scale foodborne illness investigations conducted
- 583 food service inspections conducted

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 23 mobile home park inspections with 3,824 sites
- 7 seasonal campground inspections with 1,460 sites
- 10 children's campground inspections
- 67 FIA licensed adult/child foster care and child care facility inspections
- 34 public pools and 10 spa inspections
- 25 public and semi-public beachfront inspections
- 21 State approved plans for SARA Title III EHS facilities
- Virus monitoring and vector control
- Childhood lead poisoning outreach efforts, including environmental assessments
- Indoor/outdoor air quality complaint investigations

CHART 1:
Communicable Disease Services

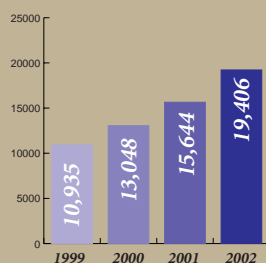


CHART 2:
Family Health Services
(Except Hearing & Vision)

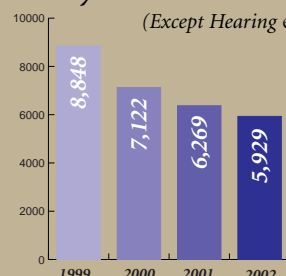
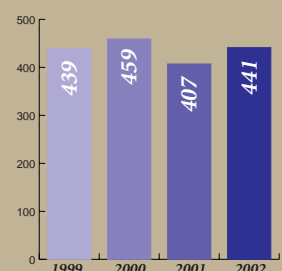
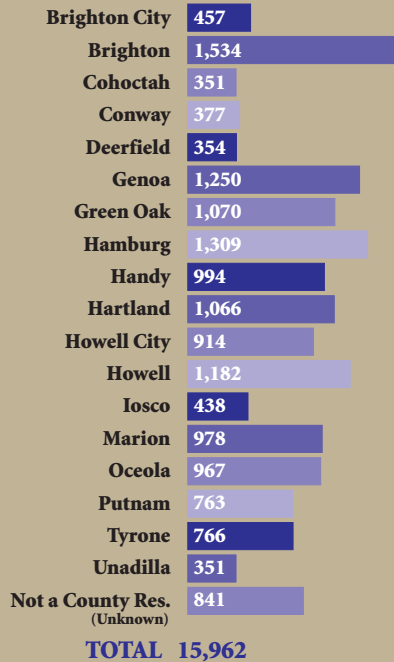


CHART 3:
Fixed Food Establishments



Public Health Works for the Community

Services by Township



Hearing & Vision Screening by School District

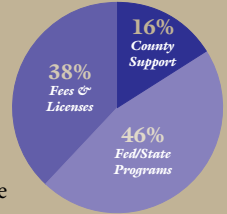


Brighton	.6,781
Fowlerville	.2,806
Hartland	.4,491
Howell	.7,196
Pinckney	.2,599

TOTAL: 23,873

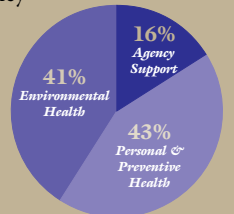
Revenues by Source – 2002

Locally, funds are generated from inspections and permit fees, health service fees, and Livingston county general fund revenues. The agency also receives revenues from state and federally funded programs, local public health operating funds, and a portion of the state cigarette tax funds.



Expenses by Division – 2002

Salaries, fixed overhead costs, and material supplies to support agency services constitute the vast majority of expenses for the Livingston County Department of Public Health.



WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 1,128 on-site wastewater disposal permits (see chart 4, below)
- 1,278 soil evaluations to determine site suitability (see chart 5, below)
- 15 subdivision and site condominium plan reviews totaling 368 homesites
- Licensing of 12 seepage haulers and 14 disposal sites
- On-site sewage disposal operation and maintenance inspection program
- 144 Administrative/Board of Health hearings

SURFACE & GROUNDWATER QUALITY

- 1,468 private water supply permits issued (see chart 6, below)
- 433 Type II non-community water supplies
- 21 new Type II permits issued
- 93 Type II sanitary surveys conducted
- 221 wells sampled as part of contaminated site groundwater monitoring program
- Watershed management activities
- Community wellhead protection programs
- GIS mapping of county groundwater resources and contamination sites
- Stream and lake monitoring
- Pollution complaint investigations

CHART 4:
Wastewater Disposal Permits

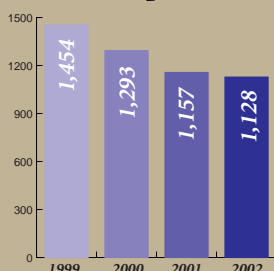


CHART 5:
Soil Evaluations

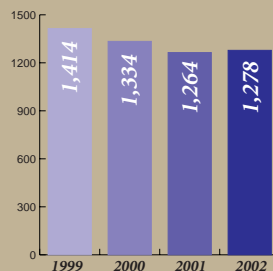
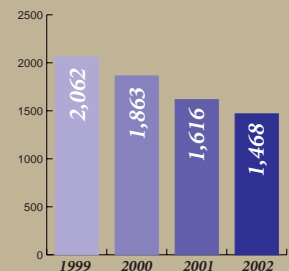


CHART 6:
Water Well Permits Issued



Emergency Management Planning Works for You

Our awareness of emergency management and preparedness has certainly increased since the days before 9/11. We have begun to recognize homeland security, yellow and orange alert levels, Health Alert Network, ready.gov and smallpox pre-event vaccinations as part of the media vernacular that we are exposed to on a day to day basis. The common thread running through all of this terminology is emergency management planning, which is the process that attempts to coordinate all facets of the responding community prior to an actual destructive event occurring. It is through the emergency management planning process that a local community can take actions that will minimize the effects of a destructive event and allow the community to recover and return to normal activity. One can look at emergency management as an umbrella shielding a community from the effects of an emergency or disaster situation. There are four phases of emergency management planning that are interrelated and build upon each other. No phase can stand alone if effective emergency response is the goal of the community. The four phases are mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

Mitigation is the hazard prevention component of emergency management. It includes sustained activities and measures aimed at eliminating or reducing the long term risk of property damage and loss of life from hazards and their effects. Reducing risk before a disaster strikes is at the heart of mitigation efforts. Examples include stringent building codes in earthquake prone areas, relocation of homes and businesses out of a river's flood plain, and tree trimming along power lines. Current local mitigation efforts include the voluntary purchase of select individual properties within the Portage River flood plain in Putnam Township.

Preparedness activities include developing emergency response plans, conducting hazard analysis, increasing training levels and exercising the prepared plans. This portion of the management umbrella centers on "how to respond" to an emergency situation. The focus of these efforts is the coordination of local resources, both material and personnel, to respond to an emergency in an efficient and timely manner. A major component of the process is determining the vulnerable portions of the

community. Hazard analysis is a multifaceted process:

- identify the potential hazards that could befall the community
- determine the relative risk of each hazard occurring
- assess the vulnerability or potential impact from each identified hazard.

Training responders and conducting exercises to determine the efficacy of the developed plans are critical components of the preparedness process. Exercises are routinely conducted in Livingston County to test various components of the Emergency Operations Plan.

Response by local first responders in an emergency situation will determine, to a large degree, how fast the community will be able to return to normal conditions afterward. A coordinated, well-managed response all depends upon the preparedness activities that occur, on an ongoing basis, prior to an event. There are five basic stages of response: 1. Warnings and instructions to people, 2. Immediate public safety which includes protective actions to reduce or remove immediate threats to people, 3. Property safety, designed to secure and protect infrastructure and the environment, 4. Public welfare, which consists of shelter, food, and clothing for victims of the event, and 5. Restoration of essential services such as utilities and government.

Recovery is the final phase of the emergency management umbrella. Efforts are put in place to restore and rebuild a community's social, physiological and economic life. It is both a physical reconstruction and a social rebuilding of the affected community. It often can take years to recover economically and socially from a major disaster. Recovery, therefore, must be part of each phase of emergency management to ensure the long-term viability of every community.

From the first responder fireman to the Red Cross volunteer serving hot coffee to the individual putting together a home emergency survival kit, every person can participate in the emergency management process to keep our community safer. Though there are many state and federal resources that can help, ultimately, all emergencies and disasters are local in nature. Be prepared and be aware.

Community Partnerships

Livingston County Department of Public Health (LCDPH) continued its affiliation with the University Of Michigan School Of Nursing. Two classes of senior nursing students did their Community Health rotations at the Health Department during 2002. The students had the opportunity to work with staff to gain experience in the public health sector and to create various educational projects for the agency. The students developed and taught classes in schools, assisted in flu clinics, and participated in community assessment surveys.



In March 2002, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), and local health departments teamed up to conduct free testing for arsenic, notify residents of the level of arsenic in their well, discuss public health concerns, provide educational materials about arsenic contamination, and suggest ways to reduce arsenic levels. Free arsenic test kits were made available to Livingston County residents at LCDPH.

During National Radon Action Week in October 2002, LCDPH joined with the MDEQ, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in a major campaign to educate Americans about the dangers of radon exposure and to encourage them to take action to identify and fix radon problems. LCDPH gave out free radon test kits to Livingston County residents during National Radon Action Week.

In February 2002, the Livingston County Environmental Awareness Handbook was completed and made available to the public in order to provide the community with an increased sense of environmental awareness and provide education to the public on areas and sources of environmental concern in the county.

The Thermometer Safe Program, through MDCH, was implemented in the county during Pollution Prevention Week September 16 - 22, 2002. The Livingston County Solid Waste Program of the Office of the Drain Commissioner and Public Health Departments worked together to provide county residents with kits to dispose of their mercury thermometers. The mercury was then recycled by the Department of Agriculture. Seventy-two thermometers, four thermostats and four other devices, containing mercury, were collected.



LCDPH worked collaboratively with local community organizations and agencies to help educate the residents, area schools and businesses on various environmental health topics, such as septic system maintenance, groundwater protection, and watershed management activities. LCDPH staff provide power point presentation and were guest speakers at various workshops throughout 2002.

LCDPH staff hosted a training and certification program for 88 Public Water Supply Operators in order for operator to comply with new EPA rule.