

## **A message from your Health Officer from the Monmouth County Health Department...**

*The Monmouth County Health Department is a full-service health department providing residents with health education, clinical and preventive health services, environmental and consumer health programs, communicable disease control and public health preparedness.*

### **April 5 – 11 2010 is National Public Health Week!**

For more than a decade, communities around the country have celebrated National Public Health Week (NPHW) each April to help protect and improve our nation's health.

Public Health is all around us. From the water you drink, to the playgrounds where your children play, did you know that there are people behind the scenes who are constantly working to make us healthy? National Public Health Week, April 5<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, recognizes the public health programs that create a stronger and healthier community.

### **What services does the Monmouth County Health Department provide?**

Our staff of nearly 70 individuals is a dynamic, multi-disciplinary group, with expertise in areas ranging from Hazardous Materials response, Public health nursing, Environmental Health, Epidemiology and the myriad of public health topics that affect the health of Monmouth County residents. This team of committed individuals is highly-regarded by local health partners as well as state agencies such as the Department of Community Affairs, Department of Environmental Protection Agency, New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, and the Office of the Attorney General. In addition to receiving grant funds from each agency, our staff is often invited to participate on state level task forces and speak at statewide conferences.

In 2009, the Monmouth County Health Department staff inspected nearly 1,900 food establishments to prevent food-borne illness in our community. The Monmouth County Health Department Public Health Nurses provided nearly 20,000 vaccinations to the community, including H1N1 influenza and childhood immunizations.

The Monmouth County Health Department continues to provide leadership for County Environmental Health Services and Emergency Preparedness, including county-wide planning and staff training. In 2010, the staff at the Monmouth County Health Department will serve the needs of our community while maintaining the ability to address issues that threaten the public's health.

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The mission of the Monmouth County Health Department is to protect the health and welfare of the residents within the Board of Health system. Towns covered by the services of the Monmouth County Board Health System are: Aberdeen, Allentown, Asbury Park, Atlantic Highlands, Avon, Belmar, Bradley Beach, Englishtown, Farmingdale, Hazlet, Howell, Lake Como, Manasquan, Marlboro, Matawan, Millstone, Neptune Twp, Neptune City, Oceanport, Ocean Grove, Roosevelt and Union Beach. Page 1

I invite each of you to visit our website at [www.visitmonmouth.com](http://www.visitmonmouth.com) or call 732-431-7456.

Be Well,

Michael A. Meddis, MPH

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