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Monmouth County Health Department

Mission Statement

The Monmouth County Health Department empowers residents of Monmouth County to achieve optimum health through the provision of the ten essential public health services.

- Monitor health status to identify community health problems.
- Diagnose and investigate health problems and hazards in the community.
- Inform, educate and empower people about health issues.
- Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
- Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
- Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
- Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
- Assure a competent public health personal healthcare workforce.
- Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility and quality of personal and population based health services.
- Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

Diseases Reported in 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Babesiosis</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campylobacteriosis</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlamydia</td>
<td>468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ehrlichios/Anaplasmosis</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giardiasis</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gonorrhea</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haemophilus Influenza</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis A</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis C</td>
<td>316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza, Human Isolates</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza, Novel Influenza A</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legionellosis</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyme Disease</td>
<td>1,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pertussis</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salmonellosis</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shiga Toxin-Producing E.coli (STEC)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shigellosis</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streptococcus Pneumoniae</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streptococcus Pyogenes (GAS)</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syphilis</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varicella</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Monmouth County Health Department is one of seven health departments in Monmouth County. The following towns participated in the Monmouth County Board of Health System in 2011:

- Aberdeen
- Allentown
- Asbury Park
- Atlantic Highlands
- Avon-By-The-Sea
- Belmar
- Bradley Beach
- Eatontown
- Englishtown
- Farmingdale
- Hazlet
- Howell
- Keyport
- Lake Como
- Manasquan
- Matawan
- Millstone
- Neptune City
- Neptune Township
- Oceanport
- Roosevelt
- Union Beach

In early June, members participated in a Red Cross shelter simulation drill at Brookdale Community College. MRC members provided valuable assistance at the various shelters opened by the Red Cross during Hurricane Irene.

**Medication Distribution**

In 2005, the Department developed plans to distribute public health medication/vaccine to the 650,000 residents of Monmouth County during an emergency. Every municipality within the County has signed agreements with the Department to provide medication/vaccine to their residents at a local site within their respective jurisdictions. Planning efforts have been accomplished through the cooperation of the local Office's of Emergency Management (OEM) and the 5 other health departments in the County.

Through a contractual agreement with Monmouth University, a web-based computer program for pre-registration of all first responders and their household members. The program will provide accurate quantities of medication/vaccine needed to ensure that all Monmouth County's first responders and family members are protected. Presently, 53 municipalities participate in the pre-registration database. As of 2011, 311,502 first responders and their family members have pre-registered in the database. As part of the planning process, the Department worked with local Emergency Management Coordinators in identifying 4 regional warehouse sites where medical equipment and medications will be distributed to first responders and residents during a public health emergency.

**Infectious Disease Control and Surveillance**

Surveillance is the ongoing assessment of the health of a community through the timely collection, interpretation and use of health related data. Surveillance tools like Hippocrates, Epicenter and Biosense assist the Epidemiologist in data collection and detection of anomalies suggestive of public health threats such as disease outbreaks and bioterrorism.

Surveillance of influenza-like illness (ILI) is conducted on a weekly basis. Schools, hospitals, physicians and nursing homes participate in the influenza surveillance. Additionally, the Epidemiologist investigates reportable diseases in accordance with New Jersey Administrative Code Title 8, Chapters 57, 58, and institutes control measures during outbreaks. At least 4 Norovirus outbreaks were investigated, and timely public health measures were instituted in 2011. The following is a list of reportable diseases investigated by the Department. (Note: only those diseases with 5 or more total cases are included. Hepatitis B and C include acute, chronic and perinatal).
Emergency Preparedness

In August 2002, the Monmouth County Health Department was designated by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services as the Lead Agency for Public Health Preparedness in Monmouth County. As lead agency, the Department receives Emergency Preparedness grant funding from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services to build its capacity to respond to a variety of public health/emergencies such as a bioterrorism event or outbreak of a Novel Influenza Virus. Between September 2009 and April 2010, the Department provided H1N1 vaccinations to over 17,000 individuals in 60 clinics held within our member municipalities. Each clinic was staffed by our team of Public Health Nurses, Health Educators, environmental staff, and Medical Reserve Corp volunteers, in conjunction with local offices of emergency management and school personnel.

New Jersey Local Information Network Communications (LINCS)

LINCS is a statewide interactive electronic public health information system linking local, state and federal health agencies. Monmouth County Health Department is part of the 22 LINCS agencies in New Jersey, responsible for coordinating countywide access to public health information. Information exchanged through LINCS include health alerts, disease surveillance, investigation information, topics related to infectious disease, emerging pathogens, medical and food recalls. Recipients of LINCS messages include hospitals, business organizations, long-term care/assisted living facilities, pharmacists, physicians, school, local health departments and first responders. Presently, the LINCS Communication System reaches over 3,400 community partners.

Medical Reserve Corps

The Monmouth County Health Department Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a 353 person team consisting of 225 medical professionals and 128 community volunteers. MRC volunteers have diverse skills and are trained and prepared to assist our County Health Department with public health priorities and emergency response. The MRC's overall goal is to improve community resiliency and public health in Monmouth County. All members are asked to complete 5 core training courses, including an Orientation To Public Health, Incident Command Training, Psychological First Aid, Personal Emergency Preparedness, and an MRC Orientation. Other trainings include Teambuilding, Outbreak Investigation, and Radiological Preparedness Training. Regular activities include providing volunteers to assist with annual flu clinics, health screenings, emergency preparedness training, health fairs, recruiting at local healthcare practitioner schools, and distributing public health information on lead poisoning, immunizations, and high blood pressure.

In March, members of our MRC team joined with local CERT teams in Manalapan to conduct a search and rescue drill at night. A team of 20 MRC served the broader community by staffing a fluid station at the New Jersey Marathon in May.

Overview

The Monmouth County Board of Health, established in 1978, is composed of nine members who are appointed by the Board of Chosen Freeholders. The Freeholder Board's function is to establish policy, and govern the services provided by the Monmouth County Health Department. The Board's mission is to empower residents of Monmouth County to achieve optimum health through the provision of the 10 essential public health services.

Principal Objectives

- As a field office of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDHSS) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), enforce the provisions of the New Jersey State Sanitary Code and regulations set forth in N.J.S.A. 24:14a-1 et seq., 26:3-69:1, and 58:11-23, as well as, local codes and ordinances that protect public health.
- Deliver a modern and manageable array of public health services as required by N.J.A.C. 8:51, entitled "Public Health Practice Standards of Performing for Local Boards of Health in New Jersey".
- Provide leadership in building countywide core capacity to respond to bioterrorism and other public health threats.

Through the Department’s programs and services, residents benefit directly through the Department's population-based clinical services which provide primary and secondary disease prevention. Residents benefit indirectly through protection of food and drinking water supplies, and ensuring compliance with environmental health regulations, related to air, water, noise and nuisance control.

Principal Activities

- Administrative and organizational management services, including but not limited to planning, organization, public health staffing, coordination and response, budgeting and evaluation
- Enforcement of public health and environmental laws and regulations
- 24/7 surveillance, detection and epidemiologic response to potential bioterrorism incidents or outbreaks of infectious disease
- Communicable disease control
Past and Present Collaborative Efforts

An important function of the Department is collaboration with community-based organizations and institutions to identify health problems and assure access to health services. For example, beginning in 2005, the Department worked in conjunction with the six other health departments in the County in bringing together a group of individuals representing over 40 public and private healthcare providers, businesses, schools, social service and voluntary health organizations to participate in an initiative to assess community health, utilizing a strategic planning tool called Mobilizing for Action Through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP). This tool helps prioritize public health needs; identify resources to address them, and ultimately to develop a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services requires local health departments to update the CHIP every 5 years.

The plan, completed in 2007, identified 6 strategic issues:

1) Barriers to healthcare
2) Comprehensive healthcare despite the high cost of living in Monmouth County
3) Tobacco, drugs and alcohol use and abuse
4) Transportation barriers
5) Care for the older adult population
6) Cancer morbidity and mortality

Eye Health Services

Beginning in October of 2011, the Department partnered with the New Jersey Commission For The Blind & Visually Impaired, to provide eye screening for residents. Services include testing for visual acuity, glaucoma, cataracts and other eye diseases and conditions at our main office in Freehold and various other sites in the County.

Vouchers are given for purchasing eye glasses, and referrals are made for free surgery for those who qualify. Clinics began in October and are held the second Monday of each month. The response has been overwhelming, and plans are being made to increase the frequency of clinics in 2012.

The Commission provides an Ophthalmologist for the screenings, and the Department provides the clinic facility, advertises the service, take appointments, issue the vouchers for glasses, and obtains client information needed for treatment referrals.

Clinic statistics - October through December 2011

| Total Screened: | 55 |
| Findings:       |     |
| Normal Limits   | 32 |
| Abnormal Visual Acuity | 20 |
| Glaucoma Suspects | 03 |
| Cataracts       | 04 |
| Number with Diabetes | 09 |
| Prescriptions for Eye | 42 |
| Glasses         |     |

Insurance Information:

- None, or Charity Care | 31
- Medicaid | 03
- Medicare | 07
- Other Insurance | 14
In 2011, the following cancer services were provided:

Number of women age 15-34 screened for cervical cancer ....................... 50
Number of women age 35-64 screened for cervical cancer ....................... 55
Number referred for abnormal screening .............................................. 10
Number of women age 15-64 receiving breast cancer information ........... 219
Number of women receiving mammograms .......................................... 114
Number referred for abnormal mammography ...................................... 04

Childhood Obesity

Through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services Office of Nutrition and Fitness, the Department worked closely with the Farmingdale Schools System to bring together a "school health council" tasked with implementing environmental and policy initiatives to combat childhood obesity. The council, started in January, 2011, is composed of parents, the school principal, 2 physicians, teachers, a chef, a master gardener and County 4H representative. Some of the council’s accomplishments in 2011 include:

- A party celebration policy. Parties are now limited to once per month, and guidelines were developed to include more fruits and vegetables, limited portion sizes, and eliminate sugary drinks.
- "Walk To School Wednesdays" - a modified walking school bus program to encourage kids and parents to walk to school
- A monthly newsletter containing classes, events and ideas for kids and parents to exercise, walk, bike and get moving, is distributed each month to all families.
- Constructing and maintaining an edible garden, maintained by students, on school property.

The program has achieved national recognition. Our MRC Coordinator was invited as a guest speaker to the Public Health Preparedness Summit in Anaheim, California in February. Her presentation was entitled "MRC, Schools and Health Departments, Partnering to Develop School Health Councils". Looking ahead to 2012, the Department is seeking additional funding to promote the establishment of school health councils in other school districts.

Other examples include:

Formation of a partnership with Jersey Shore University Medical Center for the provision of comprehensive Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) diagnostic and treatment services to residents.

Working with school systems to provide school-based Hepatitis B immunization programs.

Collaboration with the Haitian Christian Social Cultural Association to establish a primary care clinic for the Asbury Park Haitian community.

Membership on the former Monmouth/Ocean AIDS Consortia, a diverse body of HIV/AIDS providers who collectively addressed the myriad of needs by HIV/AIDS patients.

Working in conjunction with the Monmouth County Correctional Institution to provide Tuberculosis diagnostic and treatment services for inmates and staff.

Working with Checkmate, Inc., in the planning and implementation of mobile HIV testing in high risk communities.

Through a grant from the Department of Human Services Office for Prevention of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, the Department partnered with the Urban League to provide lead poisoning prevention education in high risk communities.

Through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, the Department partnered with the Regional Perinatal Consortium of Monmouth and Ocean Counties Inc., to conduct lead poisoning prevention outreach and education to child care centers, healthcare providers and parents.

Worked with local Office’s of Emergency Management in designing models for the rapid distribution of prophylactic medications to first responders and their families after a confirmed release of a bioterrorism agent.

The Department has worked closely with Monmouth University’s Office of Science and Technology to increase the Department’s data management capabilities.

The Department is a member of the Monmouth County Cancer Coalition which is involved in the planning and coordination of cancer screening and education services countywide.
Through a contractual agreement with the Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey Inc. (VNA) the Department is a designated provider of cancer screening services through the New Jersey Cancer Early Detection and Education program (CEED), funded by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services.

Collaboration with Prevention First, Inc. to provide the Childhood Nutrition and Activity program to participating daycare centers and preschool programs.

Collaboration with Prevention First, Inc. to provide primary care physicians with tobacco cessation materials and resources to encourage patients to quit smoking.

Participation in United Way focus groups and their health impact subcommittee.

Membership on the Monmouth County Suicide Prevention Task Force.

Membership on the Black Infant Mortality task force facilitated by the Regional Perinatal Consortium of Monmouth and Ocean County, Inc.

Collaboration with the Central New Jersey Maternal and Child Health Consortium and the Regional Perinatal Consortium of Monmouth and Ocean County, Inc. to provide childhood lead poisoning prevention outreach and education to parents, homeowners, tenants, landlords, and physicians.

Provision of nursing and public health internship opportunities to students of Monmouth University and The University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, respectively.

Collaboration with school districts, municipal officials and county Offices of Emergency Management to provide approximately 17,000 H1N1 vaccinations to residents.

Collaboration with Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Division of Cultural Diversity to provide H1N1 vaccinations to vulnerable populations in Asbury Park.

Collaboration with the New Jersey Commission For The Blind and Visually Impaired to provide free eye help screening services.

**Organization Capacity**

The Department's programs and services are funded by local dollars as well as grants from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services for emergency preparedness, H1N1, case management of children with evaluated lead levels, immunization outreach, sexually transmitted disease diagnostic and treatment services, childhood lead poisoning prevention outreach and education and Medical Reserve Corp recruitment and training.

---

### Monmouth County Tuberculosis Control Program Clinic Visits 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Suspects</th>
<th>Contacts</th>
<th>Reactors</th>
<th>Others</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Clinic Visits</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>2,353</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Mantoux</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>982</td>
<td>2,158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tested and Read</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Chest X-Rays</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Different</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons Prescribed</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>682</td>
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<tr>
<td>Therapy as of the Month</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5,662</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Women’s Health Program**

Cervical cancer once was the leading cause of cancer death for women in the United States. However, during the past 4 decades, incidence and mortality (the number of deaths each year) from cervical cancer have declined significantly. Primarily because of the widespread use of the Papanicolaou (PAP) test to detect cervical abnormalities. According to the American Cancer Society, and estimated 12,170 cases of invasive cervical cancer are expected to be diagnosed in 2012. The PAP test is the most widely used cervical cancer screening method. It can detect cancer early, when treatment is most successful.

Monmouth County Health Department cancer detection services include free pap screening, breast exam, and colorectal cancer screening. Mammography clinics are held 8 times a year, and free mammography is available to uninsured women. Referrals are made for women in need of diagnostic evaluation.
## Diagnosis vs Number of Patients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnosis</th>
<th>Number of Patients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chlamydia</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gonorrhea</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herpes</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syphilis</td>
<td>01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warts, Genitals</td>
<td>06</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Tuberculosis Program

Tuberculosis is spread through the air from one person to another when someone who is ill with TB disease of the lungs or throat, coughs, speaks, laughs, sings, or sneezes. The people near the ill person breathe the TB germs into their lungs.

People with TB disease must take several different drugs for at least 6 months, even if they begin to feel well after only a few weeks of treatment. This is because there are many bacteria to be killed. Taking several drugs as prescribed will do a better job of killing all of the bacteria and preventing them from becoming resistant to the drugs. Tuberculosis can almost always be cured with medicine.

The Monmouth County Health Department TB Program provides complete case management which includes Mantoux testing, x-rays, physicals, medication management and monitoring of tuberculosis cases and contacts.

Tuberculosis testing services for employees of schools as well as Tuberculosis education and training in proper testing procedures is also provided.

Currently, the Department is composed of 54 employees. Professional staffing consists mainly of Registered Environmental Health Specialists and Registered Nurses who hold current licenses from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services and the Board of Nursing, respectively.

Professional service contracts are in place for laboratory services, physicians, nurse practitioners, phlebotomy, mammography, x-rays and interpretation services for the Hispanic population.

The Department is equipped with state-of-the-art computer systems, connectivity, security and data storage capacity. Systems are managed by a full-time Network Administrator. Additionally, a full-time Geographic Information System (GIS) Technician is available for data mapping.

As a part of the County government system, the Health Department has access to wide array of county-based resources, such as the county print shop, the personnel department, information technology, the finance and purchasing departments, buildings and grounds and legal counsel.

Our UST unit provides compliance assistance for regulated underground storage tank systems to several county agencies. In addition, the Hazmat/UST staff provides logistics support for the Health Department's Strategic National Stockpile Personal Protective Equipment distribution program.

Continuing education and training are essential parts of our mission to provide a comprehensive emergency preparedness system throughout Monmouth County. The Health Department's Hazmat unit maintains some of the most highly trained Hazmat/CBRNE response personnel in the State of New Jersey. In 2011, we continue to expand our emergency response capability and competence by taking advantage of numerous federal, state and local training opportunities.
2011 Environmental Health Program

In 1978, the New Jersey Legislature passed the County Environmental Health Act (CEHA), which directed the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to begin partially funding Environmental Health Programs in county and regional health departments. The Monmouth County Health Department (MCHD) is the only local health authority of the six remaining health departments in Monmouth County whose programs are certified by NJDEP to perform investigation, enforcement, and regulation of air pollution, solid waste disposal, recycling enforcement, emergency and terrorism response, hazardous waste storage and disposal, underground storage tanks, surface and ground water pollution, and noise. In addition to directly providing these services, the MCHD coordinates these services through interlocal agreements with one regional health department and 4 local fire/hazmat units and 1 military hazmat team.

On pages 85-87 of the "Strategic Plan, Monmouth County, May 2009", Monmouth County residents give top ratings for the success of various services provided by MC government, including the Health Dept., regarding environmental cleanliness (75%) and the condition of beaches and coastal areas (73%) in MC. The Health Dept. tops the list of services that residents think are the highest priority for continued county support: protecting the environment and water quality (84%), and preparing emergency personnel for a disaster or other crisis (74%); and more than 2-in-3 residents think it is very important for the County to provide a facility for hazardous waste disposal (70%), and to provide health services, such as immunizations, screenings and restaurant inspections (69%). Four out of the top five categories of what residents think are the most important services to continue paying for are also provided by the Health Dept.: protecting the environment and water quality (96%), preparing emergency personnel for a disaster or other crisis (95%), providing a facility for the disposal of hazardous household waste (93%), and health services, such as immunizations, screenings, and restaurant inspections (92%).

MCHD's Environmental Health Program is to commit our efforts where the most good can be achieved within the constraints of the budget and the scale of our post-9/11 duties. Various environmental health reports, including an expanded version of the information in this report can be found on the Health Department section of the county website @ www.visitmonmouth.com.

Child Health Clinic

The Department provides physical examinations, immunizations and anticipatory guidance one day per week for children who do not have health insurance, at the Monmouth County Department of Social Services clinic. The clinic is staffed with a nurse, health aide and a physician. A total of 160 children attended in 2011.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

In 1998, the Monmouth County Health Department was approached by the Chief of Infectious Disease at Jersey Shore University Medical Center (JSUMC) regarding the high volume of sexually transmitted diseases (STD) being treated in the hospital's emergency department.

A collaboration was formed between JSUMC and the Monmouth County Health Department to establish an STD Clinic on the campus of JSUMC to provide appropriate treatment, follow-up, and risk reduction education for Monmouth County residents.

Clinics are held at the Medical Center’s Family Health Center in Neptune on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m., and Thursdays from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Clinic services include physical examination, diagnostic services by a physician or physician’s assistant, and treatment as needed. Our Field Representative/Disease Control provides comprehensive follow-up, including STD education, risk factor counseling and partner notification.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient Age</th>
<th>Patient Visits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11-18</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19-29</td>
<td>1,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-59</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60+</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,134</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.visitmonmouth.com
With parental permission, the child/children are entered into a statewide immunization registry, which encourages timely and age appropriate immunizations. In addition, parents are given assistance in applying for New Jersey Kidcare or Medicaid.

**Infant and Preschool Immunizations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Immunized</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unduplicated Children</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Immunizations</td>
<td>318</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Age Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Immunized</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unduplicated Children</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Immunizations</td>
<td>645</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Adolescent and Adult Immunizations**

Adolescent and adult immunizations are offered at 3 clinic sites. The immunizations include influenza, pneumonia, tetanus, measles, mumps rubella, meningitis, Hepatitis A, Gardasil, Zoster and tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis, (Tdap). Hepatitis B immunizations are offered to municipal employees who are at risk of exposure to blood borne pathogens, and required to have the vaccine as part of their blood borne pathogen program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis A</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tdap</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meningitis</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoster</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Immunizations</td>
<td>397</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Seasonal Influenza Clinics**

In 2011, the Department's team of Public Health Nurses provided 1,200 seasonal influenza vaccinations at senior centers in various municipalities.

**Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste Management Programs**

The Monmouth County Health Department Solid Waste Enforcement Team (SWET) consists of 6 specialized employees and completed its twenty-fourth year of operation in 2011. The SWET is charged with the responsibility of enforcing all New Jersey Administrative Codes and other regulations related to solid waste and recycling. One of the important enforcement cases of 2011 was related to an old landfill disruption in Ocean Township. The landfill contained construction debris and asbestos containing waste. This prompted the SWET to work with NJDEP and NJDOH managers and inspectors. A remediation plan was put into place to monitor the air, water, ground, and surrounding residences while the landfill was rendered safe. Daily inspections of the site ensued to ensure public safety and to ensure the contractor was operating according to the remediation plan issued by the NJDEP. SWET also provided daily situational reports regarding the amount and storage of waste coming into all solid waste facilities in the county. The SWET insured compliance with regulations and rules at the Monmouth County Reclamation Center (MCRC). In Monmouth County there exists 191 solid waste and recycling facilities that required the SWET to perform 201 inspections to maintain regulatory compliance. During waste flow inspections at transfer stations, 450 violations were documented by conducting 1169 transporter inspections.

1,034 Recycling Compliance Inspections at businesses and institutions throughout the County resulted in the documentation of 331 violations. Recycling violations were referred to the municipality of origin for local enforcement action. If no action was taken, the SWET followed up with re-inspections and issued summons as necessary. Another SWET service provided in-county and out-of-county waste transporter interviews by appointment throughout 2011 to determine A-901 exempt hauler status. By doing this, waste haulers had a convenient way to comply with documentation regulations, and the SWET could educate them to deter other future violations.

The SWET responded to 71 citizen complaints and 21 NJDEP referrals regarding solid waste and asbestos waste, prompting the issue of 49 notices of violation and 23 municipal court summons. Asphalt milling storage surveys were conducted to determine regulatory compliance for the NJDEP. The SWET also serves on the hazardous materials response team, performs key duties in the emergency logistical operations for distribution.
of medication and supplies to citizens in Monmouth County, and oversees the management of household hazardous wastes.

Instituted in 1996, the Monmouth County Household Hazardous Waste Facility (HHWF) continues to provide free service to residents, not for profit organizations, and government agencies. This service is provided by the Board of Chosen Freeholders. The Monmouth County Health Department operates the HHWF with 5 specialized SWET employees who also serve as hazardous materials responders. The MCRC and the Planning Board are collaborative partners as well. The concept originated as a means to provide for the removal of harmful materials from the environment, in a safe and economical way. 7,674 customers were served this year. 1,310 customers participated in three single day remote collections held in Hazlet and in Upper Freehold. Hurricane Irene caused the addition of a third remote collection this year. In total, over 13,180,000 pounds of hazardous material has been kept from being disposed of in the MCRC. HHW management efforts curb the release of greenhouse gases, and other air and water pollutants.

As one of the 3 HHW facilities in New Jersey, management used innovative techniques to reduce or avoid costs, while maintaining high quality hazardous materials management. Our exclusive method of managing unwanted propane cylinders saved taxpayers at least $18,000 by using the gas as fuel for office heat, and selling the scrap metals. In another initiative, over 145,000 pounds of usable latex paint was transferred to the MCRC for use in Posi-Shell, which was used as daily landfill cover and provided a disposal savings of $11,000. The HHWF continued to partner with participating municipalities who collected 19,813 pounds of latex paint locally, helping to reduce transportation related costs and pollution while increasing convenience and efficiency. The facility generated $11,712 of revenue by selling used motor oil and lead acid batteries. Management initiatives were used in packaging changes, waste disposal contract changes, and material handling changes, resulting in disposal cost savings. Partly because of these initiatives, our average disposal costs remain at a year 2001 level, while processing about 230,000 pounds more wastes in 2011.

Healthy Traveler Program

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) makes recommendations for vaccination for individuals traveling internationally, based on the destination of travel and diseases endemic to that area.

Since 1998, the Monmouth County Health Department has provided an International Traveler Program in accordance with CDC guidelines, with tailored education as well as vaccinations for the traveler.

Since the program’s inception, over 1,200 travelers have been provided with preventive education and vaccination prior to travel. In 2011, the clinic served 103 residents and provided 387 doses of vaccine.

Hypertension Screening Program

The Monmouth County Health Department provides hypertension screening at health fairs and various community events. The program includes blood pressure screening with risk factor counseling, diet education, smoking cessation, exercise, diabetes, and overall physical health.

Immunization Services

Vaccines are among the most successful and cost effective public health tools available for preventing disease and death. They help protect individuals and entire communities by preventing and reducing the spread of infectious diseases. Infants are particularly vulnerable to infectious diseases, which is why it is critical to protect them through immunization. Each day nearly 12,000 babies are born in the United States who will need to be immunized against 14 vaccine-preventable diseases before age 2. The Department receives grant funding from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services to ensure that children receive age appropriate immunizations in a timely manner. The project, in collaboration with various health and social services agencies, endeavors to capture and enroll in an immunization tracking system, minority children ages 0-36 months, who are medically indigent. Nearly 600 children were enrolled in the program in 2011.

Childhood immunizations are provided free of charge to children from birth to 18 years of age who are uninsured. Clinics are offered at the Monmouth County Board of Social Services (MCBSS) building on Kozloski Road in Freehold, and MCBSS in Ocean Township. The sites are “walk-in” clinics, making immunizations more accessible for working parents and school-age children.
Services are provided across the Central Region of New Jersey, specifically, in the counties of Hunterdon, Somerset, Middlesex, Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean. The Department collaborates with a consultant, Bam Associates, Central Jersey Maternal and Child Health Consortium, and the Regional Perinatal Consortium of Monmouth and Ocean Counties to achieve grant objectives.

In 2011, the Lead Education Outreach Program has achieved the following:

- Education/Outreach Events .................. 167
- Loan Applications ............................. 12
- Wipe Out Lead Kits Distribution ............. 345

Lead Poisoning Case Management

Lead poisoning is entirely preventable. The key to keeping our children healthy is to stop them from coming into contact with lead; treat children who have been poisoned, and educate parents and child caregivers about the dangers of lead.

The Monmouth County Health Department Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program provides medical and case management to children reported by healthcare providers with elevated lead levels.

They are placed into complete case management that oversees the medical components of the child’s care as well as ensuring that sources of lead exposure are removed from the environment. Our Public Health Nurses and Registered Environmental Health Specialist, who are licensed lead inspector/risk assessors work as a team to address the medical and environmental aspects of each case of elevated blood lead levels.

The Department has many years of experience in lead poisoning prevention and provides consultation, training and consumer product testing for health departments statewide. Over 200 items were tested for lead content with our specialized equipment in 2011. The Department also offers free lead screening to children from 6 months to 6 years of age who do not have medical insurance. In 2011, (379) children without insurance were screened for lead poisoning. A total of (12) new cases of elevated lead levels were opened for case management in 2011.

The charts and graphs below show information gathered as a result of the proper management of all materials submitted to the HHWF in 2011.
Hazardous Materials Response/UST Programs

The Monmouth County Health Department’s Hazardous Materials Response Unit continues to provide outstanding hazardous materials and environmental response services to the citizens of Monmouth County. It is the responsibility of the hazardous materials unit to develop and maintain standardized hazardous materials (Hazmat) and CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive) emergency response capability, capacity, and competence.

We maintain a core of highly trained and equipped personnel that will respond to hazmat and CBRNE emergencies and conduct investigations in coordination with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), and the New Jersey State Police (NJSP) Special Operations Section.

The MCHD hazmat team is available to respond to any hazmat/CBRNE incident in Monmouth County on a 24 hour per day/7 day per week/365 day per year basis. Each hazmat team member is equipped with a specialized emergency response vehicle containing all the detection, personal protection, and response equipment needed to handle most routine incidents in the field. The hazmat unit also maintains two heavy emergency response trucks capable of supporting extended operations for larger incidents. In addition, we maintain equipment capable of supporting command, logistics, decontamination, and mobile power needs at any incident.

We handle a wide range of incident complaints each year from private citizens, business interests, industrial facilities, and government agencies. Incidents vary in nature from small residential spills of household chemicals and heating oil to large-scale industrial spills, chemical reactions, fires, illegal dumping and over the road accidents involving cargo spills or releases of motor vehicle fluids. A total of 137 complaints were investigated during the 2011 calendar year.

MCHD Hazmat Unit Responses 2005-2011

The downward trend of hazmat complaints over the past several years appears to be leveling off and we expect to see an increase in activity in the coming years due to the closure of Fort Monmouth and the disbanding of the Fort’s full-time paid hazmat team. It is imperative that the MCHD hazmat team maintains its current emergency response capabilities and level of

The most common source of poisoning is lead-based paint in homes build prior to 1978. However, other items may contain lead as well. Our staff continues to educate families about cultural-specific sources of lead and toy recalls for products manufactured abroad that contained toxic levels of lead.

The Monmouth County Health Department Lead Poisoning Prevention Program is funded through grant dollars from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, to develop and maintain lead poisoning prevention coalitions in Monmouth, Ocean, Middlesex, Mercer, Somerset and Hunterdon counties.

The main purposes of the coalitions are to develop and sponsor ongoing educational programs that result in the heightened awareness of the dangers of lead in young children, and to increase the number of 2 year old children that have at least one blood lead test.

Lead Coalition Activities - 2011

Coalition meetings - 60
Health Fairs - 6,230 participants
Presentations to hospitals, clinics and community-based organizations - 1,740 participants
Presentations to Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program - 2,550 participants
Presentations to childcare centers, schools including teachers, parents, nurses and children - 1,880 participants
Professional staff in-service - 460 employees

The Department also received funding from the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) to increase the awareness of key lead-based paint issues such as:

- The dangers of lead-based paint
- The need for blood-lead screening
- The housing conditions that contribute to the deterioration of lead-based paint making it hazardous
- How residents can live safely with lead-based paint
- What programs are available to assist New Jersey residents
- How to submit applications for financial assistance for lead-based paint abatement through the DEA’s Lead Hazard Control Assistance Fund
- Use of wipeout lead kits for detection of lead dust in the home

MCHD Hazmat Unit Responses 2005-2011
Hurricane Irene

Our initial work centered on the opening of several large community shelters to accommodate residents evacuated from bayside and shore municipalities. Members of the nursing and Registered Environmental Health Specialist staff spent the majority of the hurricane weekend working the shelters and delivering medical supplies and equipment when needed.

However, our hardest work came in the aftermath of the storm. Thankfully, the worse-case storm scenario did not occur, but the flooding and power outages which followed the storm presented significant challenges to staff. Many tons of food had to be destroyed by facility operators due to spoilage. Our inspectors worked 10 to 12 hour days inspecting food destruction and storm clean-up in retail food facilities throughout our member towns. Over 400 facilities were visited, inspected and evaluated in the week following the storm to ensure food handling practices were being utilized. Sadly for some, this process extended 2 weeks post Irene due to power issues.

Additionally, Registered Environmental Health Specialist staff also responded to mold and water damage complaints from residents who were victims of flooding. Information packets were created to assist homeowners in the clean-up and restoration process.

Site visits were conducted in the hardest hit areas. Registered Environmental Health Specialist staff assisted the nurses when vaccination clinics were offered to residents involved the flood water clean-up.

Clinical and Preventive Health Services

Childhood Immunization Audits

Inspectors routinely verify compliance with childhood immunization requirements by auditing student records at daycare and school facilities. Individual records are reviewed for timely completion of required vaccines and identification of those who do not have vaccination protection due to exemption.

In the event of an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease, unvaccinated children must be identified and excluded, to stem the spread of the disease. In 2011, 150 immunization audits were conducted, resulting in 2 summonses being issued for non-compliance.

Child Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

Childhood lead poisoning can cause learning disabilities, behavioral problems, and at very high levels seizures, coma and even death. Lead poisoning can affect nearly every system in the body. Lead poisoning often occurs with no obvious symptoms, and frequently goes unrecognized.

The hazmat unit continues to be involved in domestic preparedness planning for the county. The hazmat unit’s Program Coordinator maintains a seat on the county’s Grant Working Group and LEPC, and regularly participates in other planning meetings with county OEM and the county Fire Marshall. Coordination with the county OEM and Fire Marshall has resulted in an integrated network of primary and secondary departments for mutual aid including hazmat/CBRN response and mass decontamination.

Our hazmat unit participated in a DEP pilot Pesticide Control Program (PCP) in 2011. The Pesticide Control Program is primarily responsible for ensuring compliance with federal and state laws and regulations regarding the use, sale, transport, disposal, manufacture, and storage of pesticides in the state of New Jersey. It also promotes pollution prevention and pesticide use reduction through training and outreach activities involving Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Under the program, our staff performed 10 compliance inspections of area landscapers and 10 compliance assistance inspections of area schools.
Local retail compliance was verified through inspection of affected facilities with checks made for the presence of recalled products on shelves or in use. In November, 2011, facilities were inspected for an oyster recall and broiled chicken liver recall.

In 2011, Registered Environmental Health Specialist staff conducted intensive investigations into 3 separate norovirus outbreaks associated directly with retail food establishments. All 3 outbreaks occurred at celebratory events: a retirement lunch, a communion party, and a wedding.

Working in conjunction with our County Epidemiologist, interviews of food handlers and review of food handling practices were conducted at the facilities. After the interviews, some staff members submitted specimens for testing by the New Jersey Public Health Laboratory to confirm the presence of norovirus. In 2 of the 3 facilities, specimen results were found to be positive for norovirus in food handlers who reported no physical symptoms of illness. All ill food handlers and those who tested positive were excluded from work until they were no longer contagious, following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. Operators and staff at each of the affected facilities were reminded of the importance of screening for signs of illness, encouraging workers to stay home when ill, and the absolute importance of not having direct bare-hand contact with ready-to-eat foods.

Our staff also interviewed the guests who became ill, and advised those involved in food handling and patient care on what precautions were necessary at their places of employment.

Public Health Nuisance Complaints

The Health Department staff responds to a wide variety of citizen complaints and public health emergencies 24 hours a day/seven days a week. Complaints range from poison ivy and mosquito breeding to sewage and chemical spills. In 2011, staff investigated 422 complaints resulting in 680 inspections and 15 municipal court summonses.

In response to the tremendous increase in bedbug complaints, our Registered Environmental Health Specialist staff developed educational presentations which were provided to various community living groups and organizations. In 2011, 11 sessions were presented with more than 400 people in attendance.

Tanning Facilities

In 2011, our Registered Environmental Health Specialist staff began inspecting tanning facilities following the passage of a new statewide regulation. Ten (10) facilities were inspected, and 1 complaint was investigated.
Septic and Well Inspections

 Plans for new septic systems and wells are reviewed by our staff to ensure compliance with construction standards. Inspections are made throughout the installation process. A total of 1,141 well and septic inspections were conducted in 2011. The total reflects the installation of 101 new septic systems, 73 new wells and certification of existing systems required for reality transfer in some municipalities. The staff also witnessed 202 soil tests in member municipalities.

The Health Department reviews site plans and variance requests on behalf of local planning and zoning boards for comments regarding Health Department regulations and issues. The department conducted 65 plan reviews in 2011.

Smoke Free Air Act Initiative

Since January 2006, smoking has been prohibited in most New Jersey indoor public places. Restaurants, bars, retail stores, and most other businesses with public access must be maintained smoke free. Citizen complaints regarding smoking indoors are investigated with violations issued for non-compliance. A total of 2 complaints were investigated in 2011.

Body Art Procedures

Businesses which perform tattooing, permanent cosmetic procedures and ear/body piercing are regulated by Chapter 8 of the Sanitary Code, to ensure that adequate sterilization, sanitation, and safety standards are maintained. Artists and operators performing these procedures must document adequate credentials and apprenticeship. Our yearly inspections are conducted in addition to investigation of any complaints received. In 2011, the Department inspected 12 body art facilities, and reviewed 4 plans. The Department also inspected a 3-day art festival with 80 artists and more than 10,000 visitors.

Food Surveillance and Sanitation

Retail food establishments must operate in accordance with Chapter 24 of the New Jersey Sanitary Code, and are inspected at least once during each year. In January 2007, The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDHSS) adopted new, more stringent regulations based on the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) food code which places increased emphasis on critical areas of food-borne disease control such as hand-washing and maintaining foods at proper temperatures. During the year, 2,487 retail food inspections were conducted resulting in 9 summonses being issued for the violations. Our inspectors also investigated 283 complaints involving sanitation and/or food-borne illness.

Registered Environmental Health Specialist staff responded to several requests from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services to investigate food recall compliance.

Staff received an Award for Environmental Excellence in the Cooperative Coastal Monitoring Program at the annual NJDEP awards ceremony.

Sewage Pumpout Boat: Royal Flush pumped out 44,600 gallons of sewage from 1,259 boats in its 11th year of operation. A $5,000 grant for operations and maintenance was submitted to the Marine Trades Association for reimbursement under the federally funded Clean Vessel Act (CVA).

Ambient Surface Water Quality: The ambient surface water quality monitoring program was streamlined in 2010 to reflect budgetary constraints, add sites in hydraulic unit codes which had not been assessed, and to avoid overlapping NJDEP sampling efforts. Thirty five sites were sampled quarterly for a variety of parameters, depending on their salinity and classification. Results are sent to NJDEP for inclusion on the USEPA Integrated List of Water Quality Limited Segments and may be found at http://co.monmouth.nj.us/ambients.asp. Forty five bacteria samples were taken for NJDEP in summer during a five week period for E. coli analysis.

Watershed Management Initiatives: Staff participates with the Monmouth County Planning Board, other county agencies and stakeholders with input on municipal and regional stormwater management plans to maximize the use of water resources. The final Municipal Stormwater Management Plan was reviewed; approval was recommended to the Planning Board for final decision. Staff also participated in the Wreck Pond Brook Regional Stormwater Management Plan committee and Technical Advisory Committee.

Complaints: A total of 19 environmental and drinking water complaints were received. The majority of complaints involved sewage spills into water bodies or storm drains. Few algae blooms were noted due to the frequency of rain events. Three Notices of Penalty Assessment and Offers of Settlement were issued to companies causing illegal discharges of substances that entered stormwater systems. The substances included grease, sewage and paint chips.

Environmental Laboratory: The laboratory, outsourced in 2009, maintains certification of field sampling equipment and instrument calibration, as well as database management and outsourced sample tracking. This is critical to continuing our surface and groundwater programs. Water and air inspections are also performed by the laboratory staff member.

Website: Along with a complete format change, several new webpages were created. The most notable was the creation of a subsection of the Emergency Preparedness page. Three links were created for information pertaining to Fukushima Radiological Updates, Improvised Nuclear Device (IND), and Dirty Bombs. Updates to the to the Environmental Documents, Calendar of Events, and Restaurant Inspection pages were conducted through the year.
Geographic Information Systems (GIS): Over 65 GIS mapping projects were generated for MCHD programs. The major focus centered on data creation and updates. The ambient sampling, CCMP program and dry cleaners were among datasets that were updated. Several new datasets, including Red Cross shelter locations as well as 5 years of Lyme Disease cases were generated this year. GIS was instrumental in an MCHD pilot study involving planning for response to a radiological event.

Air and Noise Site Visits: In total, 251 site visits were made during 2011 compared to 250 in 2010.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Visits</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Citizen Complaints</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEP Referrals</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Source</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaint Reinvestigations</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minor Source Inspections: This year, 159 minor source inspections were conducted compared to 164 in 2010.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minor Source</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B sources</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry Cleaners</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Idling</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Idling complaints are no longer referred to the County.

Noise Control Program: Sixteen noise complaints were investigated in 2011. The redevelopment of Asbury Park continues to create music related noise problems. Residences within close proximity of venues providing music are being impacted by the noise.

Looking ahead: The first major wind turbine in Monmouth is being erected in the Bayshore area this year. The Air Program anticipates being called upon to enforce the NJDEP noise regulation as it relates to this new construction and its impact on the ability for citizens in the vicinity to enjoy their life and property.

In 2012, the Air Program will, again, take on the rigorous task of inspecting another 120 B sources at the request of the DEP. We will also inspect 30 dry cleaners. In 2012 we will continue to fulfill routine DEP requirements in addition to serving the residents of Monmouth County, particularly as they are affected by issues under the jurisdiction of the Air and Noise Program.

Public Health Protection

Our staff of Registered Environmental Health Specialists (REHS) enforce public health and environmental laws and regulations, which include, but are not limited to the protection of food, bathing place sanitation, public health nuisances and hazard, preventable injuries and exposure-related diseases in both the workplace and community settings.

Public Recreational Bathing and Youth Camps

Public recreational bathing sites are inspected at least 2 times during the operating season to ensure compliance with the New Jersey Sanitary Code. Public recreational bathing sites include indoor and outdoor public pools and spas as well as rivers, bays and ocean bathing beaches. Splash parks and playgrounds with water features are also monitored. Youth camp inspections ensure that camp structures and facilities meet local codes, appropriate staff credentialing, general camp management and safety, as well as other requirements, based on the camp activities. Public recreational bathing inspections also include assessment of the chemical and physical quality of the site, maintenance of pool and safety equipment, and appropriate certification of pool staff and operators.

In 2011, the Health Department staff inspected 122 swimming pools, spas, splash parks and bathing beaches, and our staff responded to 21 complaints regarding public recreational bathing sites. The staff also inspected 26 youth camps.

Rabies Control

The Health Department provides its member municipalities with several program geared toward the prevention and control of rabies. Rabies is an invariably fatal disease transmitted through virus laden saliva of a rabid animal introduced by a bite of a scratch. It is habitually present in New Jersey’s wildlife population, particularly in raccoon.

The Health Department oversees free vaccination programs for cats and dogs. In 2011, the Department vaccinated 2,483 dogs and cats at various clinics in the municipalities of the Department. The Department also approves the delivery of specimens for animals suspected of being infected with rabies virus, to the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDHSS) for testing.

Another aspect of rabies control involves investigating animal bite exposures of our residents. Whenever a human bite exposure occurs, the animal is placed under a 10 day observation (quarantine) period. The animal is reexamined at the end of the 10 day period to ensure it is not showing signs of illness. The Health Department conducted 257 animal bite investigations.

Licensed pet care facilities and pet shops are inspected for compliance with general sanitation and basic welfare standards in accordance with kennel and pet shop regulations set forth by the New Jersey State Sanitary Code. The Health Department also investigates complaints received from the general public. Our staff inspected 29 facilities and responded to 30 animal complaints in 2011.