

Canton City

Health Department

2008 Annual Report



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

“Prevent, Promote, Protect.” Though only three words, these are great challenges for any public health worker.

Prevent: Whether our department is preventing disease through inspections, environmental controls, or health education, it’s a big job. Some public health practices have changed surprisingly little since we became a department in 1849. Yet, modern public health science and technology have allowed us to become more efficient in gathering data for health surveillance, become more timely in our laboratory analyses, and be more accurate in our record keeping.

Promote: According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, over 50% of life threatening conditions are caused by our own behavior: tobacco and alcohol use; diet; inactivity; hygiene. Health promotion includes more than education. Not all behaviors are of our own doing. The social determinates of health such as unequal access to health care, lack of equity in health outcomes, poverty, housing, and many others play a significant role in the overall health of our communities. Working with other organizations and agencies to determine and then implement strategies to reduce barriers for healthful living choices is an important role for our department.

Protect: Clean air, childhood immunizations, sexually transmitted infection tests and treatment, and many other duties are a continued effort to protect our residents from health threats. Should a health emergency erupt in our community, we are preparing to help protect our residents with all of our skill. It is a major responsibility to respond to epidemics or terrorist acts.



Canton Health Commissioner
James M. Adams, MPH



2008 Board of Health

(front) Frederick Whittier, MD; Stephen Hickman, DVM
(back) Marcantonio Fiorentino, MD; Ernest Schott; Mayor William Healey;
Bernadine Jenkins.

Public Health is a complex endeavor involving the collaborative efforts of trained professionals, community groups, concerned citizens, and you to make our community a healthy place for healthy people. We are working hard to improve our skills in community engagement, quality improvement, and collaboration.

It is with great pride that I present this 2009 annual report of our activities and programs. As you review the past years accomplishments and our plans for the future, I am sure that you will be amazed by the breadth and scope of our services. I invite you to contact me if you have questions or need more information. Please join me in thanking all of our staff for their role in prevention, promotion, and protection of our health.

2008 Income

APC.....	..\$641,444
EH.....	...294,953
Clinic grants.....	...595,780
WIC.....	..1,148,902
Laboratory.....	...22,720
Vital Stats.....	...483,101
State subsidy.....	...24,516
PHI grant.....	...360,570
Clinic services & contracts..79,830
Reimbursements.....91,286
Minority Health grant.....2,438
Safe Communities grant.....1,390
Other.....133
TOTAL	\$4,388,223

2008 Expenditures

Clinic.....	\$1,489,535
EH.....	1,022,867
Laboratory.....	257,613
APC.....	1,031,060
PHI grant.....	347,132
Administration & VS.....	1,114,357
WIC.....	1,099,728
Preventive Health.....	68,108
TOTAL.....	\$6,301,214

Approximately \$2,350,506 of the 2008 expenses were paid with City of Canton tax base funds.

Nursing Clinic Services

Clinic Services

Well Baby Immunizations	1,121
Tuberculosis.....	863
Foreign Travel.....	546
S.T.D.....	1,779
C.T.S.....	230
Lead blood tests.....	50

Nursing Visits

B.C.M.H.....	77
Communicable Disease.....	52
Disease Intervention Specialist	33
Public Health Referral.....	1
HomeBirths.....	2
Immunizations.....	47
Lead.....	9
Newborn Home Visits.....	116
STD follow-up.....	5
Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	0
Tuberculosis.....	8

Selected Reportable Diseases

Campylobacteriosis.....	11
Chlamydia.....	641
Cryptosporidiosis.....	6
Giardiasis.....	12
Gonorrhea.....	464
HIB.....	2
Hep B.....	15
Hep C.....	74
Meningitis, Aseptic.....	7
Salmonellosis.....	6
Shigellosis.....	92
Strep Pneu ISP.....	11
Varicella.....	7

Laboratory

Water

Private.....	1,07
Public.....	492
Commercial	115
Other.....	23

Food Services

Frozen desserts.....	851
Dairy finished products	32
Other.....	43

Clinical

Pregnancy.....	151
Blood lead level	58
STD.....	7,859
HIV screen	1,366

Other

Waste/process water	17
Pollen counts.....	147
Other exams.....	21

Vital Statistics

Births.....	3,939
Deaths.....	2,102
Birth Certificates Issued.....	16,136
Death Certificates Issued.....	10,040

Environmental Health Activities

High weed and grass complaints.....	899
Nuisance complaints.....	2,000
Smoking complaints.....	34
Food service inspections.....	453
Temporary event inspections..	102
School inspections.....	51
Pool/spa inspections.....	65
Frozen dessert samples for testing.	379
Tattoo parlor inspections.....	9
Solid waste facility inspections....	67
Composting facility inspections...	9
Infectious waste inspections.....	24
Mosquito prevention hours.....	794
Dog and cat bite investigations....	291

Air Pollution Control Activities

Facility inspection.....	30
Permits to install issued.....	23
Title 5 operating permits	2
Non-Title 5 operating permits issued.....	6
Open burning permits.....	18
Facility complaints.....	72
Open burning complaints.....	151
Violation notices.....	110
Ohio EPA referrals.....	2
Enforcement cases closed.....	1
Asbestos activities.....	48
Days with 8 hr. ozone average of 85ppb or greater.....	10
Industrial stack tests.....	8

2008 Highlights

Local Conversation on Minority Health Disparities

Canton City Health Department was awarded a grant to host community health leaders for discussion of the health disparities faced by the minority populations in Stark County. Sixty-five leaders heard a panel of physicians and State Health officials offer perspectives of minority health disparities. The afternoon sessions provided for small group

discussions led by trained facilitators. Comments and suggestions were recorded and gathered for a state report. The various state reports are then to be presented at the national level to create a National Plan to Reduce Minority Health Disparities.

The Canton Health Department partnered with the Stark County Minority Health Coalition. Now a member of the Coalition, the Department advocates to achieve health equity by connecting community resources with minority residents, raising awareness and working with organizations that prioritize the elimination of health disparities of all kinds.

2008 Influenza Clinic

A drive-thru flu shot? Yes, it can be done, and done successfully. 93 dedicated staff and volunteers gathered on November 1, 2008 to test a large scale flu clinic at the Stark County Fair Grounds.

Adults were offered flu shots, and 39 pneumonia vaccines were given to those 65 and older who had never had this vaccine before. Adult patients could receive these vaccines without having to leave their vehicles. The system worked, proving that careful planning could allow for a convenient method of vaccination for those who may not be able to attend a traditional walk-in clinic.



Clinic Staff prepares for a large crowd at the 2008 flu clinic.



A CCHD nurse provides a flu vaccination to a drive-thru patient.

Children and their families could receive flu shots at the walk-in clinic also located at the Fair Grounds. In total, 986 flu shots were given. Additionally, 18 Tdap vaccinations were provided to parents and caregivers of children 5 years and younger.

Many agencies, volunteers and donated goods from the community made this clinic possible: The Stark County Fair Board, the Medical Reserve Corps, Walsh University students, Canton City Police, Stark County Sheriff's Office, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Canton City Street Department, The Canton Civic Center, Aultman Hospital, Rent-a-Center, Walmart, Giant Eagle, MedImmune and Sanofi Pasteur, and the Stark County Restaurant Association. Also, friends and family of the Canton Health Department staff volunteered to assist with this effort.

Diligent planning, a dedicated staff, and generous community organizations all made this influenza prevention effort a great success!

Laboratory Division

While most of us look forward to the warmer months of spring, 35 million Americans will suffer from upper respiratory symptoms caused by airborne pollen.

The Laboratory daily monitors the amount of pollen in Stark County's atmosphere and posts the counts on the department's web site:
www.cantonhealth.org/pollen.

Doctors rely on the daily pollen count in order to best advise their patients. Media report on pollen counts as well.

The laboratory's bacteriologist, Jim Ames, can identify the pollen samples obtained from the



equipment placed on the department's roof. The readings are taken from a 24 hour period, averaged, and posted work days on the web site.

Trees, grass, and weeds contribute to the pollen allergy problem. In North America, weeds are the largest producer of allergenic pollen. Ragweed is the major culprit. One ragweed plant can generate a million grains of pollen a day.

In May of 2008, Stark County experienced the single largest pollen count in five years. The pollen count was 2,320 grains of pollen in a cubic meter of air.

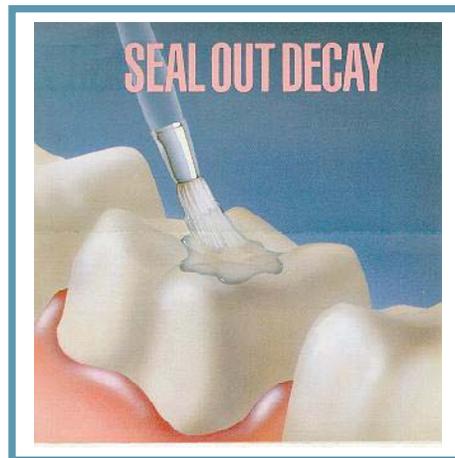
Pollen counts are a powerful tool in the day-to-day management of allergies. This tool is just one part of the air quality surveillance that is provided by the laboratory and Air Pollution Control Division of the Canton Health Department.

Dental Sealant Program

Healthy People 2010 calls for half of the country's children to have dental sealants applied by 2010, but currently less than 25% of schoolchildren have achieved this goal. However, that achievement figure is higher in the city of Canton thanks to a free school-based dental sealant program administered by the Canton Health Department.

Dental sealants are proven to be successful deterrents to tooth decay. Sealants are thin plastic coating applied to the chewing surfaces of the back teeth, providing a barrier to cavity-causing bacteria that invade the tooth's surface pits and fissures. Considering the future costs of cavities, dental sealants are a very cost effective way to protect teeth.

In 2008 the Canton Health Department Dental Sealant Program administered the sealant programs in Canton, Alliance, and Carrollton public schools. In Canton City, 1,300 2nd and 6th grade students were screened, and 2,700 teeth were sealed. A dentist first examined the children's teeth and determined which teeth the dental hygienist should seal. A dental



assistant completed the team. In the following school year, children will be re-screened to check the sealants and determine if additional teeth need to be treated due to new teeth emerging, or sealants requiring repair. The dentist also provides education about avoiding soft drinks and praises children who keep their teeth clean. A new tooth brush is provided along with brochures for the parents.

The Dental Sealant Program is in large part funded by the Ohio Department of Health Bureau of Oral Health. Some reimbursement is obtained when parents' belong to Medicaid or a qualifying HMO. To qualify for the Dental Sealant Program, a public school must have 40% of its students in the Free/Reduced Price Meals Program. All Canton Public Elementary Schools qualify.

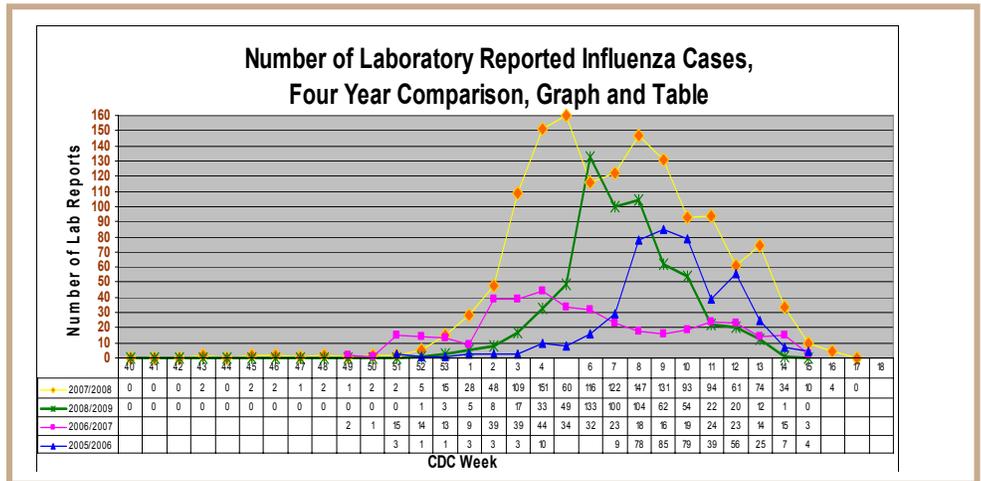
CDC data shows a marked decrease in childhood cavities in districts that provide dental sealants. More importantly, this program provides low-income children a positive, early introduction to dental care. A kind dentist, painless procedure and positive experience may encourage future dental care.

Epidemiology

With funding from the Public Health Infrastructure Grant, the Canton City Health Department has benefited from the expertise provided by Christina Henning, staff epidemiologist.

Among her many duties is creating a monthly report that profiles statistical information regarding seasonal disease case numbers, outbreak data, or the progress of disease management in the community. This information is obtained from local physicians, hospitals, state and federal health organizations, local pharmacists, and other sources such as schools or laboratories.

Among other things, an epidemiology report allows health organizations to determine if intervention strategies are successful in controlling disease. It also provides vital information regarding the demographics of disease such as age distribution,



gender, geographic location of cases, etc.

The “Epi” also performs field epidemiology. This entails tracing contacts of persons who have a communicable disease to determine, through investigation, timely and appropriate interventions. This rapid response allows for more effective treatment and fewer exposures.

Should an outbreak of a less typical disease occur, the “Epi” becomes the point person in the on-going investigation. She coordinates information from state and federal authorities regarding case definitions, laboratory protocols, and medical treatment recommendations. Timely reporting of information to state and federal authorities is also a responsibility.

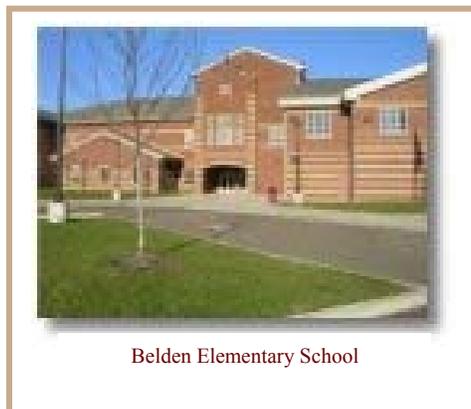
Epidemiology services are also provided to Alliance and Massillon City Health Departments.

Jarod’s Law

Beginning with the 2008 school year, public health departments were required to abide by Ohio’s Administrative Code 3701-54, better known as “Jarod’s Law.”

This legislation is aimed at creating a healthier and safer environment in Ohio’s schools through expanded inspections.

The Canton City Health Department Environmental Division annually inspects 46 public and private K-12 schools.



Belden Elementary School

Each inspection will average 8 hours of a Registered Sanitarian’s time. A school inspection can include 22

different areas, including the science laboratories, athletic facilities, stairwells, basements, and playgrounds. Cafeterias and restrooms have always been inspected.

Three Registered Sanitarians have received three days of training in Columbus to qualify them to inspect schools.

The health and safety of Canton’s children remain a priority of the Health Department.



High Weeds and Grass Program

The Environmental Health Division assisted the city with the high weed and grass program in order to control rodents and insects, as well as to reduce the cost to the city in maintaining these properties. Responsibility of maintaining these properties was more effectively placed on the owners. Additionally, the program's goal was to reduce the number of injuries suffered by city employees who had previously removed the grass and weeds. By reinforcing ownership of vacant lots and abandoned homes to the property owners, the effort also improved neighborhood

livability. From May until December of 2008, there were over 899 investigation activities and 899 Board of Health orders sent to property owners warning them to maintain their properties or face stiff penalties.

Solid and Infectious Waste Inspections

The Solid and Infectious Waste program has been part of the CCHD since 1993 when Will Holden began inspecting scrap tire generators, solid waste transfer facilities, the hospitals and doctor's offices. Over time the inspectors and rules have changed and two new transfer facilities have been opened. The thing that has not changed over time is the commitment to the Canton environment that this program demonstrates.

Each year CCHD is surveyed by two entities: The OEPA and the Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne Solid Waste District. As an OEPA approved health department, any violations noted at a registered or licensed facility may be acted upon by this department on behalf of the OEPA.

As part of an agreement with the STW Solid Waste District, inspectors here make more than 300 inspections of the facilities, which far exceed the number of inspections required under state law.

During 2008, inspections were performed weekly at each of two solid waste transfer facilities in the city. Inspectors focus on making sure that the facilities are keeping paperwork, have plans in place in the event of an emergency that closes the facility, even briefly, and ensure that the operators are operating in full compliance with state law. Doing so helps to keep hazardous materials out of our landfills.

Each quarter, inspections are made at the two autoclaves operated in the city to treat infectious waste. Infectious wastes include things like needles, blood, infectious cultures and surgical wastes. Proper operation of these autoclaves ensures that the treated infectious waste, when taken to the landfill for final disposal, is unable to make people ill. Likewise, 22 large generators, who generate more than 50 pounds of infectious waste monthly, are inspected twice yearly to ensure that the infectious wastes are treated prior to disposal in the landfills. In addition, CCHD inspectors provide guidance to 130 small generators of infectious waste, those who generate under 50 pounds, and inspect those every three years.

The city has two compost facilities in operation that are inspected monthly to ensure that they are being operated in compliance with state law and do not become a neighborhood nuisance. The inspections performed at these facilities focus on eliminating harmful materials from the compost process, ensuring the safety and health of the neighborhoods and making sure that these areas are not becoming open dumps sites.



Rabies Prevention Program

Canton can never become complacent about the threat of rabies. All dogs and cats over the age of 3 months must be vaccinated against this fatal disease. In June, 2008, volunteers from the Canton City and Stark County Health Departments, the Stark County Dog Warden's Department, and 3 veterinarians vaccinated 309 pets for the low cost of \$5.00.

247 dog bites and 44 cat bites required a response from the Canton Health Sanitarians in 2008 when the victims reported for medical treatment. Sanitarians insured that the animals did not have rabies and that they were properly vaccinated. Residents also reported bites from a variety of wild animals. Information about the rabies program is available from the Environmental Health Division.



Veterinarian Dean LeBeau volunteers at the 2008 Rabies Clinic

WIC

Women, Infants, and Children

The Canton City WIC Program continued to increase its caseload during 2008. The average caseload per month during 2008 was 2206 participants. The caseload breakdown included:
Women, 21%; Infants, 43%;
Children, 36%; Breastfed Infants, 3.5%.

WIC participants must be evaluated and determined to be at nutritional risk by a physician, nutritionist, or nurse. These risks, determined by Federal guidelines, may include anemia, history of pregnancy complications, under or overweight, and/or inappropriate nutritional practices.

Since a major goal of the WIC Program is to improve the nutritional status of infants, WIC mothers are encouraged to breastfeed their infants. WIC

WIC nutritionists encourage breastfeeding with support, information, and counseling. Qualified working or school-attending mothers may receive breast pumps. In addition, breastfeeding mothers are

closely monitored to insure their own nutritional levels are adequate during this important time. A Certified Lactation Consultant oversees the WIC



breastfeeding program.

The WIC program in Stark County has 38 vendors including grocery stores and one drug store chain under contract to redeem WIC food vouchers. An average of 77,554 WIC vouchers per quarter were redeemed which generated an average of \$1,423,314 per quarter into our county in 2008. WIC participants were taught to shop wisely by selecting store brands of milk, cheese, and eggs and to use coupons and store-issued discount cards.

WIC provides not only nutritional supplements, but is also an educational program. 602 participants attended group nutritional classes. Relevant topics such as eating whole grains, fruits, and vegetables and stretching food dollars were helpful to the young families. Other classes included infant and toddler nutrition and preventing lead poisoning. Classes were conducted in Spanish for Latino participants.

A continued increase in WIC participation is expected in 2009 due to economic conditions in the community.

Canton City Health Department
420 Market Avenue, North
Canton, Ohio 44702

Return Service Requested

Visit us on the Web at
www.cantonhealth.org

For information on services,
send an e-mail to:
info@cantonhealth.org

2008 Board of Health and Personnel

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CANTON CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

330-489-3231

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Eng S. Chong, M.D., PT Medical Director
Michael Gregorek, M.D., PT Clinic Physician

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330-489-3385

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Kristine Pertginides, BA PH clerk, pt

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330-489-3327

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330-489-3231

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Carol Burger, C.M.A., Lab Technician
Heather MacDonald, M.L.T., Lab Technician

NURSING DIVISION

330-489-3322

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Janet Copeland, R.N., PT Staff Nurse
Lynn Fernandez, R.N., Staff Nurse III
Dana Hale, R.N., Staff Nurse III
Donna James, R.N., Staff Nurse
Frank Catrone, R.N., Staff Nurse
Molly Malloy, R.N., Staff Nurse
Marsha Miller, R.N., PT Staff Nurse
Desiree Boldi, R.N. Staff Nurse
Pamela Johnson-Gibbs, HIV Outreach Coordinator
L. Joy Dougan, Staff Nurse
Tammy Stolicney, Staff Nurse
Linda Brooks, Public Health Clerk
Connie Standard, Public Health Clerk

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330-489-3327

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Christina Henning, R.S., B.S., Epidemiologist
Kelli Trenger, M.B.A., HAN Coordinator

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330-489-3231

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Controller
Cindy Wilson, Deputy Registrar
Debbie Mazzocca, Public Health Clerk
Diana McCallum, Public Health Clerk
Patty McConnell, B.S., SIT, Public Health Clerk

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330-489-3326

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& WIC Supervisor
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Laura Roach, R.D., B.S., W.I.C. Dietitian
Sue Parr, L.P.N., W.I.C. Clinic Assistant
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Lashelle Clifford, PH clerk
Jennifer Roberts, WIC Clinic Asst.