

Borough of Hightstown

Health Department

**2012
Annual Report**



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Prepared by:

Jill M. Swanson
Health Officer

2012 HIGHTSTOWN BOROUGH OFFICIALS

MAYOR & COUNCIL

Steven Kirson, Mayor
Lawrence D. Quattrone, President
Selena Bibens
Susan Bluth
Gail Doran
Robert Thibault, Board of Health Liaison
Lynne Woods

BOARD OF HEALTH

Ann Dandurand, President
Mary Ann Paglione, Vice President
Skye Gilmartin
Sarah Kluxen
John Laudenberg
Katherine Zaiser
Lisa Martucci, Alternate 1
Robin Conrad, Alternate 2

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Robert Hary, Health Officer (January 1 through June 30)
Jill Swanson, Health Officer (July 1 through December 31)
Sharon Lane, R.N., Community Health Nurse
Douglas Davidson, Environmental Health Manager
Sharon Black, Environmental Health Specialist
Cheryl Wnek, Environmental Health Specialist
Analisa Magnus, Environmental Health Specialist
Robert English, Environmental Health Specialist
Debra Sopronyi, Registrar of Vital Statistics
Susan Jackson, Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics

CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

Marcie Tyson, Health Educator

2012 Annual Report

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Overview of Public Health Services -----	1
Health Department Vision, Mission & Values -----	2
Board of Health Revenues -----	3
Retail Food Establishments -----	4,6
Compliance Inspections -----	4,5
Plan Reviews, Complaint Investigations -----	5
Conferences -----	6
Environmental Health -----	7
Environmental/Public Health Issues/Complaints-----	7
Public Recreational Bathing Places -----	7
Youth Camps -----	7
Public Health Activities -----	9
Rabies Control -----	9
Body Arts Establishment -----	9
Health Education -----	10,11
Seminars and Meetings -----	12,13
Emergency Preparations -----	14
Public Health Nursing -----	15
Communicable Diseases -----	15

MCH, Adult Health -----	16-19
Nursing Public Health Seminars & Meetings -----	18,19
Vital Statistics -----	20

Overview of Public Health Services in Hightstown Borough

Public Health Services are provided to Hightstown Borough through a municipal shared services agreement with West Windsor Township. The Department is governed by the Public Health Practice Standards of Performance for Local Boards of Health in New Jersey, N.J.A.C. 8:52 and provides services which are locally appropriate to the community. The Health Department is administered the Health Officer supported by the Public Health Nurse, Manager of Environmental Health Services and several Registered Environmental Health Specialists. Contractual employees include a Health Educator and the Clinic Physician. The Health Department provides full time coverage to the community and is available for emergency response 24 hours per day, 7 days a week.

The Department is located at 271Clarksville Road in West Windsor Township. The Health Officer and inspectors are available for onsite inspections, meetings, and conferences within the Borough on a routine basis. The Public Health Nurse maintains office hours three days a week at the Hightstown Housing Authority Administration Office at 131 Rogers Avenue, Hightstown and is available on the remaining two days via telephone or by appointment. Each member of the professional staff is licensed by the State of New Jersey and required to maintain annual continuing education credits in public health topics.

The Health Department is accountable directly to the Board of Health and Borough Administration. Hightstown's Board is an autonomous Board of Health composed from representatives of the community who serve as volunteers. Members are appointed by the Mayor with advice and consent of Council. The Board of Health makes policy decisions, appoints staff, reviews reports prepared by the professional staff and passes ordinances which are deemed necessary to protect the health of the community. Board of Health meetings are open public meetings and are scheduled periodically throughout the year at a local setting.

Health Department Vision, Mission and Values

Vision Statement

Our vision is to develop and maintain thriving communities whose residents are focused on promoting lifelong personal and family health.

Mission

To achieve our vision, the Department is committed to provide public health services intended to protect, promote, assess, and assure the health and safety of our communities through programs in health education, preventative health services, environmental and consumer health services, communicable disease control, public health preparedness and environmental regulation enforcement.

Values

We value an evidence-based approach in providing diversified and high quality programs based on public health needs and government mandates. We embrace the core values of:

Integrity We act in a fair, consistent and impartial manner. We approach all situations objectively, with respect for individuals without prejudice. We are accountable for our actions.

Efficiency We are committed to making sound and fiscally responsible use of the resources available to us.

Diversity We recognize the value and uniqueness of all persons.

Collaboration We seek to establish partnerships with colleagues, agencies and community groups to enhance our ability to positively impact the health of our communities.

Service We strive to be viewed as an asset to the community through the provision of high quality interventions.

Knowledge We prioritize the ongoing development of skills, awareness, and the pursuit of advanced knowledge in the members of our workforce and our residents.

2012 REVENUES BOARD OF HEALTH

The following constitutes revenue amounts for 2011 and 2012 for Health Department permits and fees:

	2012 Revenue	2011 Revenue
Total Permits (Retail Food Establishment Licenses, Pools, Temporary Food Licenses, etc...)	\$7,890	\$10,125

*Revenues do not include Vital Statistics fees.

RETAIL FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS

The retail food program monitors food safety and sanitation at local restaurants, schools, markets and churches to ensure food safety and prevent incidence of foodborne illnesses. Routine inspections are conducted annually at all Retail Food Establishments for compliance with Chapter 24 of the New Jersey State Sanitary Code. Follow-up inspections are performed if critical violations are found the initial inspection. Establishment serving vulnerable populations or engaging in higher risk food preparation are inspected twice a year. Inspectors also investigate consumer complaints related to food establishments. The Health Department also conducts site visits in response to product recalls, power outages, emergency events, and to provide educational materials to operators.

Designs for new establishments and plans for renovations to existing businesses are reviewed to ensure compliance with rules and regulations. Inspections are conducted prior to opening and shortly after to audit the operational food safety practices. Design reviews involve close coordination with the Borough Construction Official.

The Department also regulates and advises Temporary Retail Food Establishments and special events organizers to ensure food safety principles are observed and enforced at fairs, community events and fund raisers. Site inspections are conducted based on potential risks associated with the event.

39 LICENSED ESTABLISHMENTS (includes Mobile)
79 COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS
3 NEW ESTABLISHMENTS

Note: () throughout this Report, the number in brackets totals the number of visits to the noted site.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS

Andiamo Pizza (formerly Brother's Pizza) (4)
Anthony's Chicken & Grill (3)
Better Beginnings (2)
Bienestar Total (2)
Walter C. Black School (2)
Convenience Food Mart (2)

Digna's Deli (7)
El Buen Gusto (2)
El Paraiso (formerly El Rincon del Sabor) (2)
Famiglia Pizza (2)
Fernando's Grille (2)
Fiesta Brava (3)
First Baptist Church (1)
Gateway Head Start Program (1)
Grace Norton Rogers School (2)
Guatempan Bakery (2)
Hedy's Liquor Store (1)
Hightstown Apollo Masonic Lodge (1)
Hightstown Bagels (3)
Hightstown Diner (1)
Hightstown Engine Co. #1 (1)
Hightstown High School (2)
Hightstown Liquor (1)
Holly House (1)
Holy Wong (1)
International Roasting Post (2)
Jhan's Grocery & Deli (3)
Krauszer's Food Store (2)
Mannino's (2)
Marivel's Florist & Gifts (1)
Mercer Street Charcoal Grill & Deli (2)
Peddie School (3)
Shop For Less (3)
St. Anthony of Padua Church (1)
St. James A.M.E. Church (1)
Tavern on the Lake (4)
Two Flags Restaurant (2)

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATIONS

Digna's Deli (2)
Holy Wong (2)
Tavern on the Lake (2)
International Foods - Wholesale Establishment (3)

PLAN REVIEWS

Andiamo's (Renovation- Post Fire)
Digna's Deli (Minor Renovation)
El Paraiso (Change of Ownership)
International Roasting Post (2)

PRE-OPERATIONAL INSPECTIONS

Andiamo's Pizza
El Paraiso
International Roasting Post
Isabella's Ice Cream – Mobile
Mister Softee – Mobile(2)

TEMPORARY FOOD REVIEWS/INSPECTIONS

Empire Auction Antique Show (3)
Hightstown BBQ Contest – Consultation (3)
Hightstown Farmer's Market
Hometown Harvest Fair
Elks Chili Cook-off –Consultation (2)

CONFERENCES/MEETINGS

El Paraiso
Empire Auction
Euphemia Custom Framing for potential Tea Room
International Roasting Post
Jhan's Grocery & Deli (2)
Shop For Less
Tavern on the Lake

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

ENVIRONMENTAL/PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES

Inspections and investigations are performed involving a variety of issues in response to complaints, referrals and requests from Borough Officials. Local, state and federal regulation and guidelines are utilized to address these concerns. Staff relies upon an evidence-based approach in addressing substantiated public health problems in the community.

COMPLAINTS

Bed Bugs (10)
Housing (12)
Lead Paint Consultation (1)
Noise (1)
Nuisance (8) Solid Waste (2)
Odors (4)
Potable Water (1)
Rabies Control (4)
Sewage (2)
Stagnant Water (11)
Other (4)

PUBLIC RECREATIONAL BATHING PLACES

Inspections are conducted of all Public Recreational Bathing Places on an annual basis for compliance with Chapter IX of the New Jersey State Sanitary Code. Seasonal facilities are inspected prior to opening for the season and again during the operational season. Year-round facilities are inspected while operational. Additionally, laboratory water analysis results are reviewed on a weekly basis. New facilities and renovations to existing facilities are required to submit plans for review and approval.

Compliance Inspections

Hightstown High School (2)
The Enchantment at Hightstown (2)
Peddie School (2)
Wyckoff's Mill (3)

YOUTH CAMPS

Youth camps are inspected prior to operation for compliance with state regulations which address sanitation and safety standards. Inspectors meet with Camp Directors to review records, plans and certifications. The physical components of the camps such as kitchens and swimming pools are inspected for compliance local and state regulations.

Inspections

Peddie School Camp (various summer camps)
Rise Youth Camp (3)
Tri-State LaCrosse Youth Camp

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIVITIES

RABIES CONTROL

The Department hosts and promotes free rabies vaccination clinics for dogs and cats 4 times per year which are open to Borough residents. The December clinic is held locally in Hightstown Borough, while the remaining three are offered in our nearby communities. Rabies education efforts are ongoing throughout the year. The Department also conducts exposure investigation and educational activities. Consultations regarding animal issues are provided to Borough Officials, volunteers, animal control and the residents.

Rabies Clinic: December 5, 2012

Vaccinations: 12 cats 45 dogs

Rabies Control Investigations (6)

BODY ARTS ESTABLISHMENT

The Borough has one Body Art Establishment which offers tattooing and body piercing services. This facility is inspected for compliance with health and safety standards established by the State Sanitary Code.

K&B Tattoo (1)

HEALTH EDUCATION

Health education services are provided through a professional contract with a licensed Health Educator. A variety of programs, news releases and displays are offered throughout the year on pertinent health topics. Additional materials are generated upon receipt of requests from the schools, work places, community groups and the news media. Periodically, a newsletter is published and distributed to the community. The Borough website is provided with a "Health Library" as a health resource. Public Health topics addressed in 2012 are listed below:

Family Health Newsletter

Heat Advisory

Norovirus Advisory

September is Emergency Preparedness Month (laminated posters and news release)

Summer Wellness Packets (Hand-outs on sun and food safety, dehydration, Lyme disease, tick ID card, DEET and tick removal, mosquito control and community resource card)

Summer Newsletter

Bed Bugs Tips for Renters and Landlords (Hand-outs)

Flu Facts (Hand-Out, Electronic)

Emergency Preparedness Month (Laminated Poster, News Release)

"Healthy New Year" (News Release)

"10 Tips for a Health New Year"

Heart Health Awareness book marks

Winter Wellness Newsletter

Parent Packets for the Child Health Conference ("veggie" baby spoon, medicine dosing spoon, literature on nutrition and poison prevention)

Preschool Wellness Packets- Dr. Seuss "Oh the Things You Can Do That Are Good for You" (child's book, parents hands-outs and child activity sheets, CD resource for teachers)

Health Department Brochures updated

Community Water Fluoridation Notices

Pool Chemical Safety Advisory

Emergency Preparedness – Storm Related Educational Resources

Flu Prevention and Vaccination Awareness Resources

SEMINARS/MEETINGS

The professional staff consisting of the Health Officer, Registered Environmental Health Specialists, Health Educator and the Public Health Nurse attend regular meetings of professional organizations and committees as representative of our communities. In addition, the staff attends continuing education programs to remain current with emerging public health topics.

Seminars/Trainings

Body Art Establishment Training: Key Steps to Conducting a Thorough Inspection

Vaccine Preventable Diseases: NJ School Immunization Requirements

Outbreak Investigation I

Beyond Chapter 24: Bridging the Gap Between Inspections and Foodborne Illnesses

Lead Inspection Risk Assessors Course

Community Noise Enforcement Certification

Emergency Risk Communications

New Jersey Environmental Health Association Conference

Problems of Bed Bugs for Health Departments

Current Topics in Poison Control

Body Art Establishment Training: Key Steps to Conducting Through Inspections

Public Health Spokesperson Training for Local Health Officials

Persuasion Training with a Focus on Obesity Prevention

Public Health Preparedness Today: Climate Change and Public Health

Got Cats? Reducing Feral Cat Populations While Saving Money

Meetings

Mercer County REHS/CEHA Meeting

Mercer County Health Officer's Association Monthly Meetings

Greater Mercer Public Health Partnership Meetings
Food Establishment Standardization Meeting
New Jersey Association of City and County Health Officials

Administrative Highlights

Community Water Fluoridation
Public Water Supply Notifications
Mercer County Community Health Assessment
Mercer County Community Health Improvement Plan
Hightstown Housing Authority Clinic Space Renovation

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLANNING AND RESPONSE

The Health Department develops and updates preparedness plans for potential public health emergencies on an ongoing basis. Coordination of our efforts across a broad range of partners is stressed during planning and implementation. Plans are integrated into County, State and Federal plans to facilitate a strategic public health response.

POD Site and Staff Call Down Drills

First Responders and Family Members Emergency Prophylaxis
Documentation Updates listing

Potable Water Issues/ Public Notifications

Mercer County Health Officers Post Hurricane Sandy Lessons Learned

Emergency Preparedness Table Top Exercise: Food Outbreak
Scenario, Mercer County

Retail Food Emergency Assessments – Hurricane Sandy

Shelter/Comfort Station – Consultation, Support – Hurricane Sandy

2012-2013 Seasonal Influenza- First Responders Outreach

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING ACTIVITIES

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Reportable Diseases

Communicable diseases are reported to the local health department by physicians, laboratories, hospitals, schools and institutions in accordance with the parameters set forth in the New Jersey Administrative Code, Title 8, Chapter 57. The health department conducts a case investigation; institutes follow-up activities and reports those which meet the "case definition" as described by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. The State of New Jersey has implemented a web-based system for reporting which facilitates information sharing between entities. This service provided by the Public Health Nurse helps to prevent the spread of disease by ensuring that residents are followed and counseled re: testing, treatment and medical supervision.

Cases of reportable diseases (11)

Investigations (11)

Immunization Monitoring

The Child Health Clinic is a joint program sponsored by Hightstown Borough, East Windsor and West Windsor Townships. Children without health insurance receive immunizations, physicals, and developmental screenings and lead testing. This clinic is specifically tailored to address the needs of infants and preschool children. The clinic is staffed by contractual medical professionals and the municipal public health nurses. The services include a full physical examination of each child, age appropriate immunizations, periodic hemoglobin, lead screenings, vision, hearing and TB Tests for tuberculosis. At each clinic parents are counseled regarding growth, development, nutrition and safety.

The Public Health Nurse conducts annual immunization audits of all educational institutions and childcare facilities in the Borough for compliance with mandated immunization requirements. During the audit process the Public Health Nurse provides assistance and guidance to ensure compliance to the State Immunization Requirements. The compliance rate continues to be 98-100%. The nurse continues to work closely with facility directors to ensure consistent implementation of these policies.

Site Visits Conducted

School aged children, unduplicated (19)
Total immunizations (45)
Schools audited (2)
Preschools audited (6)

MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH

Child Health and W.I.C.

Children served in CHC (171)
Children immunized (149)
Total immunizations (323)
Lead screenings (12)

Improved Pregnancy Outcome

The Health Department receives referrals from various sources within the medical community for women in need of prenatal and postpartum services and referrals. In addition, the community nurse conducts home visits at the request of residents for new moms and newborns living in the Borough.

Women receiving prenatal & postpartum visits (6)

Women referred for prenatal, W.I.C., & family planning services (6)

ADULT HEALTH

Community nursing provides periodic health screenings for adults at public events such as health fairs and Senior Center programs. The Public Health Nurse provides monthly blood pressure screening to seniors who attend the Senior Center Programs. At the annual R.I.S.E. Health Fair the Public Health Nurse provides health information and screenings as well as referrals to a variety of health services available in the community. Home visits are conducted for homebound residents upon physician referral. Social service visits are conducted on an as-needed basis and are a result both of referrals within the community and the medical system. Annual influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations are offered at the Senior Center.

Older Adults

Public health nursing visits (33)
Doses of influenza vaccine (720)
Doses of pneumococcal vaccine (30)

Cardiovascular Disease Screenings

Screened for hypertension (202)

Nursing Public Health Seminars and Meetings

Participated in Mercer County Public Health Monthly Meetings and Education Seminars

NJ Public Health Nurse Administrators-Quarterly Meetings

NJ State Nurse Association Meetings

NJ State Health Department Infectious Disease Summit

Epi-Ready Conference-CDC Presentation of Food Borne Illness Response Strategies

Greater Mercer Public Health Partnership-Healthy Futures

NJ State Vaccine for Children Conference

NJ Association of Public Health Nurse Supervisors

Hightstown Safety Meeting

Persuasion Training with a Focus on Obesity Prevention Sponsored by NJ Dept. of Health and Shaping New Jersey

Collaboration with Borough of Hightstown O.E.M. on Storm Preparation and Response

Vital Statistics

The Registrar of Vital Statistics maintains records of all the marriages, domestic partnerships, civil unions, births and deaths, which occur in Hightstown Borough. The Registrar and Deputy Registrar issue permits for burials, marriage licenses and certified copies of vital records. Historically, the Board of Health has appointed the Borough Clerk to serve as Registrar.

Certified Copies (510)
Marriage Licenses (40)