



HealthLine

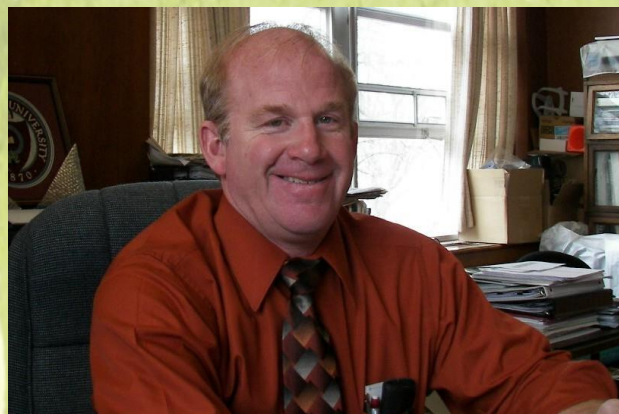
(A newsletter of the Darke County Health Department)

Health Commissioner's Corner with Dr. Terry Holman, DVM, RS:

LHD WORKING TOWARDS ACCREDITATION

Public Health Departments work to protect the health of people & communities across the county through efforts such as ensuring access to clean air & water, encouraging healthy behaviors, & working to provide a healthy start for mothers & babies. Despite public health's critical roles, there has previously not been a national accreditation program to ensure public health departments' quality of service. Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) was incorporated into existence in May of 2007. This organization, since its origination, has worked with several organizations that represent & support the wide variety of public health departments & structures across the nation. National public health accreditation consists of adoption of a set of standards, a process to measure performance against their standards, and recognition for those departments that meet the standards. The standards define the expectations for all public health departments that seek to be accredited. Accreditation aims to improve the quality of practice & performance within public health departments. Currently we have a team that is working towards Accreditation. The benefits of Public Health Accreditation are:

1. High Performance & Quality Improvement
2. Recognition, Validation, & Accountability
3. Improved Communication & Collaboration
4. Potential Increased Access to Resources



Attention Parents of 2014/2015

Kindergarteners!!

*You have so many things to do before your little one starts school! Get one of the most important crossed off your list. Beat the long lines and summer heat and get your child's kindergarten immunizations now. We welcome you to stop in to our Walk-In Clinic every **Tuesday** from 8-10:30am and 2-5pm, no appointment necessary.*

The Health Department proudly accepts many types of insurance, without the hassle of a co-pay. Please call with any questions, 937-548-4196 ext. 224

*The Health Department is now on Facebook & Twitter.
Please "Like us" to receive up to date messages.*

What is Help Me Grow?

Help Me Grow (HMG) consist of two programs, HMG Early Intervention and HMG Home Visiting, that are offered to prenatal women, children, and families.

HMG Early Intervention provides services in a family-centered fashion to infants and toddlers to age 3 with a disability, developmental delay, or a medical condition that will potentially result in a delay. A multidisciplinary team will evaluate and/or assess the child's developmental needs to determine what services are needed, if any. The Service Coordinator leads the team and they will work and assist the child with their developmental needs. Also they will work with the family to ensure they receive the rights and services that are afforded under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

HMG Home Visiting pairs parents with a friendly, trained, and experienced Home Visitor who comes to where the family lives to offer support and help them reach their goals. They offer parenting education, continuous screenings, referrals and coordination to community resources that will help them take care of themselves and their children.

For more information

Visit www.helpmegrow.ohio.gov

OR

Call the Health Department's HMG
Service coordinators:

Kari: (937) 548-4196 Ext 234

Nicole: (937) 548-4196 Ext 212

Introducing Our Nursing Staff



Kari Shuttleworth, RN, is a 2007 graduate of Sinclair Community College with an associate degree in nursing. Her primary responsibilities as a public health nurse include working as an immunization action plan nurse, working as a Help Me Grow service coordinator, and providing maternal/ infant home visits. She has been working with the Health Department since 2007.



Nicole Lefeld, RN, is a 2006 graduate of Rhoades State College with an Associate Degree in Nursing. Her primary responsibilities as a public health nurse include Help Me Grow Service Coordinator, providing maternal/ infant home visits, and working as an immunization nurse. She has been employed with the Health Department since 2008.

Visit our website www.darkecountyhealth.org

Open Burning

According to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency open burning is any time you light an outdoor fire without a chimney or stack. Toxic fumes are released by open burning which causes problems. People that have allergies may develop difficulty breathing due to the millions of spores that are sent in the air by burning leaves and plant materials. Also, it is more difficult to meet the health based air quality standards because of the pollutants released by open burning. Some health concerns related to these pollutants are: asthma, respiratory illnesses, nervous system damage, kidney and liver damage, and reproductive or developmental disorders. These pollutants or gases released can damage paint on buildings and corrode metal siding. Because of this, open fires are only allowed in Ohio if they meet a specific set of criteria established by the Ohio EPA. And, some types of open fires need permission from the Ohio EPA to burn; the following items may not be burned at anytime anywhere within the state of Ohio:

1. Garbage/ Waste Products created by handling, preparing, cooking, or consuming food
2. Dead animals unless they are approved by a governing agency for control of disease
3. Materials containing grease, rubber, and asphalt
4. Materials made from petroleum (tires, auto parts, plastics, and plastic coated wire)

Help the environment and use these alternative methods to open burning:

1. Reduce the amount of waste you generate
2. Reuse items in another way
3. Recycle
4. Compost your yard waste and food scrapes



Corrie Holthaus, RS, Solid Waste Program

Remember...Think Healthy. Burn Healthy. Be Healthy!

For more information about healthy burning, visit epa.ohio.gov/dapc/general/openburning.aspx

To report an open burning complaint, contact the Regional Air Pollution Control Agency (RAPCA)
800-458-2115

Upcoming Events in 2014

Tire Recycling Day- *September 25th*
Household Hazardous Waste Day- *October 25th*
Christmas Tree Collection- *Dec 26th- Jan 16, 2015*

Upcoming Events in 2015

Appliance Recycling Day- *March 28th*
Trash Bash- *April 18th & 19th*
Electronics Recycling Day- *May 21st*

***GO GREEN!! To receive this newsletter via email, please contact Liz Farver @
Elizabeth.Farver@odh.ohio.gov***

KNOW How to be Safe Around Animals

Know that animals carry germs that can make people sick.

Never eat, drink or put things into your mouth in animal areas.

Older adults, pregnant women, and young children should be extra careful around animals.

Wash your hands with soap and water right after visiting the animal area. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizers if soap and water are not available.

More information can be found at www.odh.ohio.gov and www.cdc.gov



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