

# Canton City Health Department 2012 Annual Report



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## From the Health Commissioner



It's a pleasure to present our annual report for 2012. Reviewing our annual activities in summary provides a reminder that we have a talented and devoted group of individuals committed to preventing disease, promoting health and protecting our community. This publication will provide the high points in each of our divisions, and in addition, I'll share some of my thoughts.

The year 2012 started with funding challenges which forced our department to be creative. In particular, our Women, Infants and Children (WIC) team was taxed by reductions in staff. I'm extremely proud of this group of individuals and their commitment to the City of Canton. We were determined to continue with a high level of service without compromise to the individuals and families we serve, despite funding that was significantly reduced over the previous year.

Our Environmental Health Division has made great strides in increasing efficiencies, and 2013 will prove to be more exciting as we develop collaborative efforts with other departments in the city. Both Air Pollution Control and Vital Statistics have been infused with new staff that will be improving processes to make us a more modern organization. We continue to monitor our food providers to ensure the safety and health of our citizens and those visiting our city.

**Canton City Board of Health**  
**Board of Health President**  
Mayor William J. Healy II  
**President Pro-Tem**  
Stephen Hickman, D.V.M.

**Vice President**  
E.O. Schott  
**Members**

M. Fiorentino, M.D.  
Bernadine Snell  
Anju Mader, M.D.

So, I would like to thank the staff of Canton City Health Department for ensuring that Canton is a safe and healthy city. I encourage you to review this document and spend some time on our website, [www.cantonhealth.org](http://www.cantonhealth.org).

James M. Adams, RS, MPH  
Health Commissioner

### 2012 Finances

#### Income

Admin/Vital Statistics	\$497,459
Air Pollution Control	\$1,148,179
Environmental Health	\$250,048
Laboratory	\$26,370
Nursing	\$845,274
Office of Public Health Information	\$257,106
WIC	\$1,119,262
<b>Total*</b>	<b>\$4,143,698</b>

#### Expenditures

Admin/Vital Statistics	\$1,041,801
Air Pollution Control	\$933,298
Capital Projects	\$25,655
Environmental Health	\$835,904
Laboratory	\$270,862
Nursing	\$1,483,300
Office of Public Health Information	\$239,051
WIC	\$1,433,618
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,263,489</b>

\*Of the total expenses for 2012, the City of Canton provided approximately \$2,675,353 from its tax base

### Vital Statistics

#### Canton Residents

<b>Births</b>	<b>1,317</b>
<b>Deaths</b>	<b>647</b>
<b>Unmarried Parent</b>	<b>856</b>
<b>Teen Births (13-19)</b>	<b>162</b>

#### Totals

<b>Births</b>	<b>3,950</b>
<b>Deaths</b>	<b>1,822</b>
<b>Unmarried Parent</b>	<b>1,827</b>
<b>Teen Births (13-19)</b>	<b>349</b>

# Office of Public Health Information

The Office of Public Health Information (OPHI) is comprised of two sections: Epidemiology and Health Alert Network (HAN). The overriding mission of epidemiology and surveillance is to promote and protect public health through investigation, research and education. The mission of the Health Alert Network is to assure communications are maintained during a public health emergency. OPHI works with local health care providers to identify outbreaks, prevent injuries and educate the public. Patty McConnell was recently appointed as Public Health Information Officer, bringing new insights to help move the department forward utilizing multiple forms of communication and strategies, including social media. “Like” us on Facebook!

## Selected Reportable Diseases

Campylobacteriosis	27	Hepatitis C Acute	4	Pertussis	2
Chlamydia infection	692	Hepatitis C Chronic	67	Salmonellosis	6
Cryptosporidiosis	10	HIV-Newly Diagnosed	6	Shigellosis	2
E.coli-enterohemorrhagic	1	Influenza-associated hosp	44	Streptococcal-Group A-invasive	4
Giardiasis	7	Legionellosis-Legionnaires' Disease	6	Streptococcal-Group B-newborn Group B Strep	1
Gonococcal infection	379	Lyme Disease	1	Streptococcus pneumo (non-resistant or resistance unknown)	14
Haemophilus influenza	1	Meningitis - aseptic/viral	7	Streptococcus pneumo (antibiotic resistant/Intermediate)	7
Hepatitis A	1	Meningitis-bacterial	3	Varicella	7
Hepatitis B	14	Mycobacterium-not TB	6	West Nile Disease	1

## Air Pollution Control

The Air Pollution Control Division (APCD) experienced several organizational changes in 2012. Long time Engineer, Bud Keim, retired in March, and two other Engineers resigned in February and October. This made way for Greg Clark, Engineer, to resume his engineering responsibilities. Two Technicians were hired for the Monitoring and Inspections section: Linda Morckel and Jaclyn Hupp. Linda is responsible for ambient air monitoring, quality assurance, and is the primary investigator for open burning, odor, and dust complaints. Linda has streamlined the complaint program by shortening response time and adding consistency to response letters. Jaclyn is responsible for ambient air monitoring, quality control, and is the primary asbestos investigator/coordinator. Jaclyn has streamlined the asbestos program by shortening review time, identifying non-complying projects, and adding consistency to response letters. The improvements to the complaint and asbestos programs help APCD serve the Stark County community better by protecting the air the public breathes by ensuring compliance with existing air quality standards. Both Linda and Jaclyn have brought fresh ideas to the APCD and more improvements are planned in the future.



Jaclyn Hupp

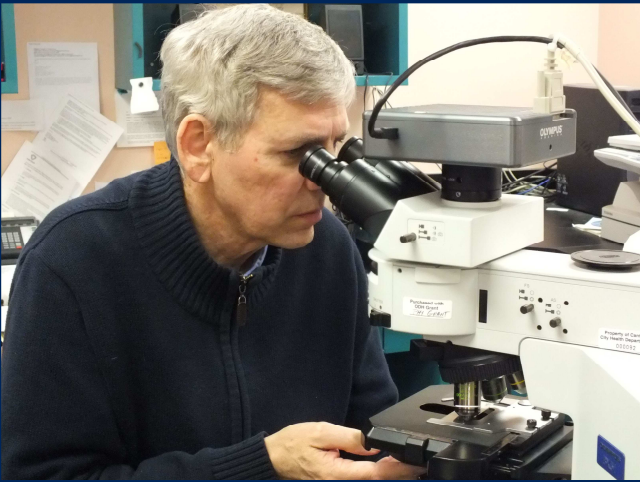
### Air Pollution Control Activities

Complaints Investigated	220
Asbestos Inspections	33
Permits Issued Final	72
Facility Inspections	62
Performance Tests Observed	17
Anti-tampering Inspections	5
Open Burning Permissions	21
Enforcement Actions	81

The remaining Engineer vacancies in the Permitting and Compliance section are planned to be filled with new staff in 2013, to bring more fresh minds to APCD.

In the Summer of 2012, APCD had our first internship program in several years. Two engineering college students, Curtis Weiner and Kelli Mohr, were hired to assist APCD in complaint investigations, performance test observations, gas station outreach, dry cleaner outreach, and file organization. The program was a successful educational experience and will be repeated.

# Laboratory



Jim Ames

2012 represented a continuation of the Laboratory's standard mode of operation, with one major difference: an on-site survey by Ohio Department of Health personnel to determine compliance with Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act regulations and ascertain whether the lab was meeting all applicable federal performance standards. *No* deviations were noted, and the lab was granted a Certificate of Compliance for Highly Complex clinical analyses. This is quite an achievement, and represents quite a bit of diligence and dedication on the part of the laboratory staff.

As far as numbers go:

6,147 clinical specimens were received, which necessitated 8,887 individual tests. We received 1,846 water samples, which required 1,863 individual examinations. 441 food samples

were presented, requiring 878 tests. In addition, we conducted 144 other miscellaneous exams (pollen counts, environmental complaints, nuisance investigations) to round out an active year.

One of our goals for 2012 was to offer chemical testing for water samples and provide 'one-stop shopping' for our clients. To that end the laboratory entered into an agreement with **Ream & Haager Analytical** laboratories of New Philadelphia to serve as a drop-off and pick-up point for samples requiring chemical analysis. This program has proved very popular; clients can submit samples for bacteria, nitrate, nitrite, lead, and methane analysis at one location and make only one payment. We will be open to further cooperative arrangements along this line to expand the services we offer to the public.

## Laboratory Exams

Blood Leads	0
Dairy	0
Food Service	878
Pollen counts	144
Pregnancies	83
STI related	8,785
Urine analysis	19
Waste/process water	19
Water	1,844

# Nursing

In the Nursing Division, our TB, Travel, Well-Baby and STD clinics keep our staff very busy with high levels of attendance. We continue to offer outreach and education for HIV prevention, working in conjunction with a number of other agencies.

In 2012, the department added a new program in addition to our standard clinics. Our department received funding from Austin-Bailey Foundation (a private, not-for-profit organization) to help support a cardiovascular clinic. Funding was used to purchase equipment to conduct lipid screening and provide education on nutrition, exercise, smoking cessation, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease. We opened the clinic on June 4, 2012. Despite an early media release, our clinic numbers were not as high as we had hoped. To address this, we have reached out to 600-plus social service agencies, churches, not-for-profits and other organizations that target a similar population. As of the end of 2012, our clinic saw six individuals, three female, three male, all in the age range of 51 – 66 years old. All were white, non-Hispanic residents of Stark County. We believe this low attendance is common in many start-up clinics, and we continue to work to generate interest in this very valuable service. Our goal for this program involves an approach of encouraging disease prevention and maintaining good health.

## Nursing Outreach

Communicable Disease	58
Disease Intervention Specialist	75
Other Outreach Services	210

## Clinic Services

STI Clinic	1,800
International Travel	419
Tuberculosis Testing	350
Well-Baby Immunizations	1,481
Other Clinic Services	167



# Environmental Health

The Division of Environmental Health strives to be proactive in addressing the community's needs for the prevention of disease and injury. Environmental Health is divided into three main sections: Consumer Services, Special Services and Community Services.

Our Consumer Services section is responsible for the inspection of food establishments, specific to the preparation and serving of food in restaurants and other licensed facilities. Consumer Services personnel are also charged with the inspection and licensing of vending machines, temporary event food service inspections, and public swimming pools. The Special Services section works with the more complex aspects of environmental health. This section licenses and inspects waste transfer stations, composting facilities, small and large infectious waste generators, and tattoo parlors.

This section is also responsible for the enforcement of the indoor air policies such as the workplace smoke-free act.

For 2012, we started an aggressive new program aimed at cleaning up neighborhoods and enforcing our board of health orders regarding public health nuisances. The amount of data we accumulated has allowed us to understand why our neighborhoods are on the decline.

In late 2011, we experienced a lack of manpower to abate certain public nuisances. We collaborated with other city departments and found that sharing personnel and equipment proved to be fiscally advantageous to all concerned. Our aggressive project to clean up our neighborhoods increased workloads for all, but the result was great. We removed 106 tons of waste from 279 properties, representing a significant increase in wastes removed over the previous period. In addition, we recycled over 40 tons of the waste collected through our e-waste program. We are very proud of the example we've set in our community by recycling.



Canton City Board of Health President, Dr. Stephen Hickman, administers rabies vaccine at one of our rabies clinics.

In all, the Community Services section abated nuisances at 279 properties, responded to 3,000 complaints, logged over 8,000 activities concerning nuisance issues and ended the year without a single property with board action taken waiting to be cleaned.

## EH Activities

Animal Bites	499
Food Protection Activities	2,004
Nuisance Complaint Investigations	8,001
Pool and Spa Inspections	83
School Inspections	184
Solid/Infectious Waste Activities	113
Tattoo/Body Piercing Inspections	90

## WIC

The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program is a federally-funded health program that focuses on providing nutrition education and breastfeeding support to eligible participants. Additional program services include supplemental food vouchers and health care or social service agency referrals.

WIC is a proven effective health care program that improves prenatal care and reduces the incidence of low birth weight infants. The program strives to educate consumers on healthy food choices and continues to combat the childhood obesity epidemic. These benefits truly solidify WIC as a vital piece of Public Health. The Canton City WIC staff consistently sees the need for local service continuing to grow.

2012 proved to be the beginning of challenging fiscal times for the WIC program throughout the State of Ohio and the Nation. We faced the first round of WIC grant budget cuts, resulting in reduced staffing levels. Our staff has committed themselves to working together, and in 2012, the average monthly caseload in our division reached an all-time high of 2,905 participants. We commend our staff for pulling together when state support is declining and the need for WIC services in our community is on the rise. We believe that WIC, and its component of education, is vital for the future health of our community.