



Eau Claire City-County
Health Department

2014 Annual Report



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Strategic Plan 2012-2016 Update

Mission

Keeping people in all Eau Claire City/County communities safe and healthy

Guiding Principles

The Health Department's work is guided by four overarching principles:

Prevention - Promotion of health and prevention of disease, injury and disability is critical in saving lives and money

Health Equity- Everyone should have equal opportunity to be healthy

Collaboration - People working together provide the best solutions

Quality – Efficiency and effectiveness is critical in programs and services

Goals

Goal 1: Continue to build a cohesive Health Department team

Rationale - The original 2012-2016 Strategic Plan identified the need to focus on employee satisfaction and internal communication and decision-making issues. Much work has been done to support successful management of change and the development of a strong team at the department. Continuing work to strengthen employee connections, communication and competence will support the health department moving forward with a continuously changing environment in public health.

Goal 2: Improve and prioritize Health Department services and operations

Rationale - The health department continues to need to more strategically prioritize resources and programming. Using an objective set of measures and standards to assess our current services is critical and will build an Agency Performance Management system. We will review needs to look at what is required by statute/ordinance and funding requirements, what is necessary to address community priorities and what supports accreditation requirements. Enhancing fiscal processes is also critical.

Goal 3: Increase Health Department visibility, accessibility and external communication

Rationale - Consistent with the vision of the ECCCHD, over the course of 3-5 years we want to develop/create a warm, welcoming and accessible environment for public and staff to improve staff productivity and increase ease of access for clients. To achieve this, we have to consider both a short and long term solution to space, location and accessibility issues. We also need to increase visibility and community connections through social marketing, outreach, media and other tools.

Goal 4: Continue to engage the community in collaborative public health action

Rationale: There is a need to continue to strengthen the agency's community leadership role to effectively mobilize community action with strong evidence that health in all policies will make a difference. Community partnerships will be critical in identifying as well as addressing complex health issues. Key partners including hospitals are poised to work collaboratively on a specific community health assessment (CHA) because of their new requirements. The ACA also provides new incentive to collaborate around key primary care issues.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Eau Claire City-County Board of Health and Health Department staff are pleased to share with you our 2014 Annual Report. It has been an exciting and rewarding year focusing on prevention. Prevention makes a difference to Eau Claire. A healthy community and healthy people support the success of business, tourism and schools while reducing crime, lost work-days and school failure. Whether you realize it or not, you benefit from the public health prevention work that happens here every single day.

This report provides you with a summary of the department's programs, personnel, finances and public health accomplishments for 2014. Nearly 100,000 Eau Claire county residents, as well as those that come here to learn, work, recreate, shop, eat, worship and play all benefit from public health services. Every day, our staff meets state laws to protect and promote health including inspecting environmental hazards and investigating communicable diseases. Staff also works to understand the health of people in our county and develop innovative programs/services to support changing needs, including high rates of binge drinking, pregnant women smoking during pregnancy, and two of our most prevalent communicable diseases - Lyme disease and Chlamydia. We pay attention to the data and work with partners to improve health related to these areas, as well as many others.

Improving issues like chronic disease, alcohol misuse, mental health, communicable disease and environmental hazards is complicated work. While it would be wonderful to have a "magic wand," we know that it will take time and partnerships to improve health. The health department is working with partners across the county and state to do this tough work. In any given day staff may interact with restaurant operators, physicians, tattoo artists, city planners, teachers, neighborhood association members, elected officials, students and many others.

The health department encountered both organizational challenges and opportunities in 2014. We had staff transition, in part due to retirements, increasing costs and flat tax revenue. Additional resources were found with grants in 2014 which will help meet some community needs. Recognizing the need to work collaboratively and strategically to address complex health issues, a number of significant community level efforts were undertaken.

Thank you to the staff, the community and to Eau Claire leaders who work every day to keep all Eau Claire communities safe and healthy. I encourage you to let me know how we can continue to improve the work we do at the health department. Please read both this and the 2014 Annual Report Summary and check our website out at www.ehealthdepartment.org or our Facebook page (Eau Claire City-County Health Department) to learn more about the services and programs your City-County Health Department provides. Also, go to the Eau Claire Healthy Communities website at www.ehealthycommunities.org for health data and information on community collaboration on health priorities. I encourage your comments or suggestions regarding our performance and ways that we can serve you better. Please contact me at 715-839-4718 or Elizabeth.Giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us.

Respectfully,



Elizabeth Giese, RN, MSPH
Director/Health Officer ECCCHD

BOARD OF HEALTH
As of December 31, 2014

Merey Price, RN, President – Joint City County Appointment
John Paddock, Vice President – County Appointment, Community Representative

Jennifer Eddy, MD – City Appointment
Jerry Wilkie – County Board Member
Donald Bodeau, MD – County Appointment

Blair Johnson, DDS, MS – County Appointment
Kathy Mitchell – City Council Member
Elizabeth Spencer, RD – City Appointment, Community Representative

PERSONNEL
As of December 31, 2014

Elizabeth Giese, Director/Health Officer RN, MSPH

Administration

Janice Vinopal, MBA, CMA, Budget Specialist
Tegan Ruland, Manager of Internal Operations
+Cindy Birtzer, Office Associate
Kris Bohlinger, Program Office Spec.
Gina Holt, Medical Office Associate
+Joan Klimek, Medical Office Associate
Alicia Nicolai, Office Associate
+Terri Pala, Office Associate

Community Health Education

Francie Peardon, BS, Community Advocacy
Director/Supervisor
+Audrey Boerner, Project Manager
+Trish Chmelik, Program Assistant
Cortney Draxler, BS, CHES, Public Health Educator
+Kristin Hildebrand, BS, Coalition Facilitator
+Deb Tackmann, BS, MEPD, Youth Advocacy Advisor
+Gina Schemenauer, BS, CHES, Public Health Educator

Environmental Health

Shane Sanderson, MS, JD, REHS, Director of
Environmental Health & Laboratory
KT Gallagher, BS, REHS, Environmental Health
Supervisor
Elizabeth Bolte, BS
Kirsten Gierhart, BS, RS
Daniel Peterson, BS, RS
Valerie Reiter, BS, RS
Phil Schumacher, BS
Alyssa Streveler, BS
Tate Zurbuchen, BS, RS

Laboratory

Susan Arndt, AAS, MLT (ASCP), Microbiologist
Ted Johnson, BS, Chemist

Hmong Interpreters

+May Her, Bilingual Health Aide

Spanish Interpreters

+Alice Hampton, Bilingual Interpreter
+Maria Carmen Moran Castilla, Bilingual Interpreter

Health Benefits Specialist

+Gina Schemenauer, BS, CHES

Emergency Preparedness Specialist

+Diane Hunter, MS

Public Health Aide

+Bhenni Johnson

Public Health Nursing

Kitty Rahl, MS, RN, Director of Nursing
+Paulette Magur, BSN, RN, Public Health Nursing
Supervisor
+Denise Wirth, BSN, RN, Public Health Nursing
Supervisor
+Jill Bauer, BSN, RN
+Kay Bogumill, BSN, RNC
+Margaret Buchholz, BSN, RN
Allison Gosbin, BSN, RN
Janel Hebert, BSN, RN
Abby Hinz, BSN, RN
+Marilyn Jeffries, WHNP, BC, RN
+Rebecca Knutson, BSN, RN
Jacqueline Krumenauer, BSN, RN
Tammy Raeder, BSN, RN
+Patricia Reis, BSN, RN
Chelsalyn Smith, BSN, RN
Regina Troia, BSN, RN

Public Health Nutrition

ElizaBeth Draeger, RDN, CD, CBE, Public Health
Nutrition Supervisor
+Claudia Cater, MS, RD, CD, CLE
+Jenny Eckardt, WIC Clerk
+Gail Feltz, WIC Clerk
+Kristin Hildebrand, BS, Breastfeeding Peer Counselor
Ruth Kilness, RD, CD, CLC,
+Susan Krahn, MS, RD, CD, CLC
+Elizabeth Smith, WIC Clerk
+Ann Statz, MLT, ASCP, WIC Clerk
+Alexis Tuma, MS, RD, CD, CLE

+Part-Time

The image features a stylized abstract background. A thick yellow curve starts from the left side, dips slightly, and then rises sharply towards the top right corner. Below this curve, there is a light green area that also follows the curve's path. The bottom portion of the image is a solid teal color. The text "Emergency Preparedness" is centered in the teal area.

Emergency Preparedness

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

The Health Department collaborated with a broad range of county and state partners to assure that Eau Claire is prepared to respond to public health emergencies. In 2014, federal public health emergency preparedness dollars supported emergency planning and exercising. Accomplishments for 2014 included:

- Supported the continuation of a county-wide Public Health Emergency Planning and Response group to assure that partners are connected.
- Collaborated with emergency responders and health care partners on issues related to monitoring, isolating and transporting individuals with Ebola. Used an Incident Action Plan (IAP) to share updates with Public Health Emergency Partners on Ebola preparedness.
- Tested Eau Claire County's ability to communicate and alert public health emergency partners of a disaster using the Partner Communication and Alerting (PCA) Portal for mass emergency notifications.
- Exercised Eau Claire County's Mass Clinic Plans relative to multi-vaccine distribution for adolescents in seven schools within 30 days. Immunizations included: influenza, Tdap, meningococcal, and HPV. Local hospitals, emergency management, and public health representatives are working together to form a regional healthcare coalition to be able to respond to large scale events.
- 4 counties (Eau Claire, Pepin, Dunn and Buffalo) received federal grant to explore the potential/actual health impacts of climate change.
- Collaborated with the Healthy Communities Mental Health Action Team (MHAT) for national grant that will focus on suicide prevention in Eau Claire using Medical Reserve Corp volunteers.
- Completed a Flu Center Plan with community health care providers to divert patients with flu symptoms to a location other than the emergency room or Urgent Care during a large scale influenza outbreak.
- Supported Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers who assisted with vision screening in schools.



Public Health
Nursing & Nutrition

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

During 2014, public health nurses, dietitians and health benefits staff continued to fulfill responsibilities mandated by state statutes and administrative rules, while initiating innovative activities to address new and changing public health needs. Highlights are noted below.

To promote and protect the health of populations in our community, public health nurses accomplished the following:

- Provided 1,556 flu vaccinations at the Health Department and sites throughout the county.
- Administered 2,174 doses of vaccine to infants, children and adults at Immunization Program clinics in Eau Claire, Augusta, Fairchild and at the Chippewa Valley Free Clinic satellite site.
- Provided lead poisoning prevention and treatment education for 20 families of children with elevated blood lead tests.
- Provided 589 blood lead tests for Women, Infant and Children (WIC) participant children at risk.
- Conducted epidemiologic investigations on 716 communicable disease case reports.

To advance record keeping, data collection, outcome measurements, and community health education, nursing staff worked with electronic data systems as follows:

- Successfully implemented a new nursing web-based data, billing and documentation system.
- Continued facilitating an interdisciplinary department team developing health education messages for department video monitors and for social media including the website, Facebook and Twitter.

To address unmet needs for nutrition education and obesity prevention in the community, registered dietitians accomplished the following:

- Continued the Community Nutrition Program, providing 24 community education sessions, 15 articles for publication and 67 nutrition consults for non-WIC families.
- Provided 15 “Shopping Matters” educational tours for families of grocery stores and the Farmers’ Market in partnership with Gordy’s and UW-Extension.
- Awarded a \$4,000 Department of Transportation car seat safety grant award serving 65 families.
- Provided Breastfeeding Peer Counseling support to 222 pregnant and new moms.
- Provided community nutrition leadership, serving on the Hunger Prevention Coalition of Eau Claire County, Eau Claire County Child Death Review Team, Eau Claire Area School District (ECASD) and Western Dairyland Head Start Advisory Committees, the Northwestern Wisconsin Breastfeeding Network, Healthy Communities Chronic Disease Prevention Action Team, Wisconsin WIC ROSIE and eWIC test teams, UW-Stout Dietetic Internship Program Advisory Committee and UW Stout Graduate Program Advisory Committee.
- Provided nutrition education through publishing and distributing quarterly “Eat Well–Play Hard” parent newsletters to over 2,000 families (direct mail, website, health care provider visits) and professional news briefs to 400 health care providers.
- Provided 429 Risk Assessments for pregnant women for Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC) program eligibility screening.

To address unmet needs of special populations in the community, public health nurses collaborated with agency staff and community partners to achieve the following:

- Provided 210 fluoride varnish applications to rural pregnant women and family members to prevent decay-causing bacteria transmission to newborns.
- Provided adolescent health clinics in the county’s 7 middle schools providing 269 immunizations, 423 flu shots and 8 scoliosis screens.

- Taught mental wellness classes at Wellness Days for Hmong elders and developed a Hmong mental health glossary for use by providers.
- Provided newborn blood test screening, hearing screening, and heart screening via blood oxygen sensor for newborns delivered at home and not otherwise screened, such as Amish.
- Enrolled 48 clients in the First Breath Program, offering resources and support to help women remain tobacco-free during pregnancy.
- Provided HIV Partner Services for 21 cases in the 14-county service area of Western/ Northern Wisconsin.
- The health benefits specialist provided benefits counseling to 110 families in need of health care coverage and case management to assist 23 families to establish a medical home.
- Provided 376 Prenatal Care Coordination visits to 156 at-risk women to promote healthy pregnancy and birth outcomes.
- Provided enrollment and case management services for 69 women with low income to receive breast and cervical cancer screening through the Wisconsin Well Woman Program.

To accomplish community-wide initiatives, nursing division staff partnered with many community members on collaborative initiatives, including the following:

- Provided leadership for the Healthy Communities BRAIN Team to educate about child brain development and successfully offer the 11th annual conference on drug impacts attended by 87 area professionals and community members.
- Served on the County Child Death Review Team, reviewing 17 child deaths and providing drowning prevention education and life jacket loaner boards.
- Provided Fluoride Mouthrinse programs for 945 students in two school districts.
- Launched an oral health project to encourage a dental home for children by age one year.
- Facilitated a collaborative *Flu Center Planning Team* to finalize plans for increasing health care provider surge capacity during large scale influenza outbreaks.

In the coming year, public health nurses, dieticians and health benefit specialist staff will continue to work together with department staff and the community, developing effective strategies and collaborative initiatives to address health needs of populations in our community.

Kitty Rahl, M.S., R.N.
Director of Nursing

ADULT HEALTH PROGRAM

Adult Health Maintenance

Adult Health Maintenance Clinics are held in the rural areas of the county where health care is not easily accessible. The public health nurse provides teaching and counseling about illness, diet and medication as well as positive health practices and preventive care. Specific tests include blood pressure and pulse, blood sugar readings and weight.

**ADULT HEALTH MAINTENANCE CLINIC CLIENTS, VISITS AND REFERRALS BY CLINIC SITE
January through December 2014**

Clinic Site	# Served	# of Visits	# of Referrals
Augusta	32	100	0
Fairchild	8	53	0
TOTAL	40	153	0

Wisconsin Well Woman Program (WWWP)

The Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, Division of Public Health administers the WWWP. The Eau Claire City-County Health Department is the contracted local coordinating agency for Eau Claire County.

WWWP pays for certain screenings, diagnostic tests and patient education services related to some of the most common health concerns of women. Eligibility standards are that women must be age 45-64 years, have no or limited health insurance benefits and meet income guidelines (at or below 250% of federal poverty level). Women ages 35-44 years with breast symptoms may also qualify for breast screenings. The public health nurse coordinator provides public education, distributes outreach materials to medical providers and to women, works with providers to meet program guidelines and provides educational materials to women enrolled in the program. Case management services included helping women access providers, educating on services offered, monitoring normal/abnormal screening results and referring to community resources. In 2014, a total of 64 women received screening.

WWWP SCREENING ACTIVITY: 2014

Total Enrolled	81
Total Screened Aged 35-64 yrs.	64
Total Cervical Cancer Screenings aged 35-64 yrs.	21
Total Breast Cancer Screenings aged 35-64 yrs.	63
Total Mammograms	61
Total Mammograms aged 50-64 yrs.	47
Percentage of Mammograms aged 50-64 yrs. (goal 75%)	77%

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROGRAM

School Illness-Related Absenteeism Surveillance

School absenteeism surveillance is conducted each year from October to the end of May to monitor for upper respiratory influenza-like and gastrointestinal illnesses. Schools report half and full day illnesses on Tuesday each week. The schools surveyed in 2013-14 were Sherman, Roosevelt, Meadowview, Sam Davey, Northwoods and Lakeshore Elementary Schools; South, DeLong and Northstar Middle Schools; Memorial, Regis and North High Schools. Altoona, Augusta and Fall Creek reported absentees for all grades.

**AVERAGE MONTHLY ABSENTEE RATES FOR STUDENTS
October 2013 through May 2014**

Enrollment	OCT	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR	APR	MAY	TOTAL
Elementary 3513	1.98	1.67	3.01	3.10	2.46	2.19	2.02	1.55	2.57
Middle 2983	2.66	2.29	3.06	2.84	3.07	2.44	2.36	2.03	2.59
High 4135	2.66	2.40	2.60	3.30	2.59	2.63	2.42	2.25	2.60

This information, combined with data collected from Urgent Care and hospital Emergency Departments, is useful to monitor for outbreaks of infectious disease requiring testing and precautions to prevent further transmission in the community.

HIV Testing & Counseling Services

Nurses offer HIV testing and counseling as a service of the Reproductive Health Clinic.

HIV Testing Services: 2014

Type of Service	Number Served
Pre/Post-test Counseling	85
Total # of HIV Tests Provided	85

HIV Partner Services

Trained public health nurses provide HIV Partner Services for residents of 14 Western/Northern Wisconsin with HIV infection. In 2014, there were 21 Partner Services cases assigned. Of those 21 cases, 14 of them were located and accepted services and 12 partners were identified.

Communicable Disease Epidemiology

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE Case Reports

	2014 TOTAL	2013 TOTAL
Arboviral Disease	2	4
Babesiosis	4	3
Blastomycosis	0	1
Campylobacter	18	8
Chlamydia	383	358
Cryptosporidium	1	19
Cryptosporidium	12	19
E. Coli shiga-toxin producing species	4	8
Ehrlichiosis- AnaplasmosisPhagocytophilum/Chaffeensis/Ewingis/Undetermined	19/0/0/3	31/2/0/2
Giadriasis	12	4
Gonorrhea	38	29
Haemophilus Influenzae	3	1
Hepatitis A	0	2
Hepatitis B – acute/chronic/unknown	0/6/0	0/12/0
Hepatitis C – acute/chronic	2/51	2/49
Influenza, Seasonal (Hospitalized Cases)	60	62
Legionellosis	2	0
Listeria	1	0
Lyme Disease	30	84
Measles	0	0
Meningococcal Disease	0	2
Mumps	0	0
Mycobacterial Disease (Non TB)	25	35
Parapertussis	3	0
Pertussis (Whooping Cough) - confirmed/probable/suspect*	16/0/4	13/1/2
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	1	0
Salmonellosis	10	14
Shigellosis	1	0
Streptococcus Invasive Disease - Group A/Group B	4/12	2/10
Streptococcus Pneumoniae (pneumococcus) Invasive Disease	6	13
Syphilis	8	4
Toxic Shock Syndrome	0	1
Tuberculosis	0	1
Typhoid Fever	0	1
Varicella (Chickenpox)	9	11
Yersiniosis	1	0
Vibriosis, Non Cholera	0	1

*As recorded in WI Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS).

Immunization Program

NUMBER IMMUNIZED AT HEALTH DEPARTMENT CLINICS BY LOCATION January through December 2014

	Eau Claire (Wed)	Eau Claire (Thurs)	Eau Claire (Mon)	Health Dept. Employee Clinics	Health Dept Offsite Flu Clinics	Augusta	Special Clinics	STI Clinics HepA/ HepB	Adult Hep B (by contract)	Chippewa Valley Free Clinic	Total
Total	76	125	102 & 141	59	190	113	597	7	18	128	1,556

DOSES OF VACCINE ADMINISTERED IN CLINICS: 2014

Vaccine	Total Doses
DTaP = Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular, Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	36
DTaP/Polio/HB = Combined Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis, Polio, Hepatitis B	35
DTaP/Hib/Polio=Combined Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis, Haemophilus, Influenza type B, Polio	59
DTap/Polio = Combined Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis, Polio	12
HA = Hepatitis A	21
HB = Hepatitis B	25
Hep A/Hep B = Hepatitis A /and Hepatitis B	27
Hib = Haemophilus influenza type B	45
HPV = Human papillomavirus	163
Influenza Vaccine	982
IPV = Poliomyelitis (Inactivated Polio Vaccine)	28
MCV ₄ = Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine	98
MMR = Measles, Mumps, Rubella (German Measles)	91
PCV ₁₃ = Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine	86
Rota Teq = Rotavirus Vaccine	23
Td = Tetanus, Diphtheria (adult)	16
Tdap = Combined Tetanus, Diphtheria and Acellular Pertussis	340
Varicella = Chicken Pox	58
Pneumovax= Pneumonia	29
Total	2174

The number of doses exceeds the number of attendees because some receive more than one dose.

Chippewa Valley Free Clinic Satellite Adult Immunization Clinic

To increase adult immunization rates, the nursing staff supervises operation of a satellite adult immunization program at the Chippewa Valley Free Clinic. In 2014, the clinic administered 156 vaccinations to 128 adult clinic patients who would not otherwise have had access to immunization.

Influenza Immunization

The 2013-14 trivalent vaccine strains administered were A/California7/2009 (H1N1)-like, A/Victoria/361/2011 (H3N2)-like, B/Massachusetts/2/2012-like. Quadrivalent vaccines included the additional virus B/Brisbane/60/2008-like. In the 2014-15 season, no trivalent vaccines were administered. The 2014-15 quadrivalent vaccine virus strains administered were A/California7/2009 (H1N1)-like, A/Texas/50/2012 (H3N2)-like, B/Massachusetts/2/2012-like, and B/Brisbane/60/2008-like. A table of the “2014 Influenza Immunization Clinics” follows:

Clinic Location	Total Immunizations
Altoona - St Mary's	43
LE Phillips Senior Ctr.	61
Chippewa Valley Free Clinic	54
Augusta Senior Ctr.	30
Fairchild	11
Fall Creek	44
Adolescent School Clinics	518
Health Department Immunization Clinics	161
Health Dept Employee Clinics	59
Homebound	1
TOTAL ADMINISTERED	982
TOTAL BILLED TO MEDICARE	152

The Health Department again also facilitated the work of local health care providers on the “Get the Shot” committee, coordinating influenza immunization efforts in the community.

Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Screening and Treatment Services

STI SCREENING SUMMARY: 2014

	Male	Female	2014 Total	2013 Total	2012 Totals
Gonorrhea					
# Screened	52	42	94	99	79
# Positive	6	2	8	4	2
Chlamydia					
# Screened	124	234	358	451	416
# Positive	31	20	51	70	55

Of those screened for Gonorrhea, 9% were positive while 14% of those screened for Chlamydia were positive.

The number of patients that screened positive for Chlamydia (51) is a 21% decrease this year, compared with 70 positives in 2013 although similar to 2012 (55).

FOLLOW-UP SERVICES FOR CONTACTS OF REPORTED STI CASES: 2014

	Gonorrhea	Chlamydia
Total Cases Investigated	38	383
Total Contacts Served	43	456

Public health nurses followed up on 383 Chlamydia cases in 2014 compared with 358 in 2013. This is a 7% increase. Syphilis follow-up continues to be provided by the WI Division of Public Health STI Program.

NUMBER OF EAU CLAIRE CO. STI CASES BY TYPE, AGE AND GENDER: 2014

Age	Gonorrhea		Chlamydia	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
10-14 years	0	0	0	1
15-19 years	0	4	10	58
20-24 years	10	8	63	127
25-29 years	6	4	31	38
30-34 years	0	1	10	23
35 and older	2	3	8	14
Total	18	20	122	383

Tuberculin Skin Testing

Public Health nurses provide Mantoux tuberculin skin tests to individuals and community groups such as school district employees, childcare providers, foster parents, newly arrived refugees, students entering health-related educational programs and persons who are close contacts of a patient with active tuberculosis. A fee of \$21 is charged to all persons tested except Health Department employees and those for whom testing is required for purposes of communicable disease control. In 2014 nurses administered 468 TB skin tests.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH PROGRAM

Birth to Three Program

In 2014, public health nurses provided team consultation until mid-year, when the Department of Human Services discontinued the contract due to reduced program funds. Birth to Three program staff members continue to refer children and families in need of public health nursing services.

Health Benefits Counseling

Health benefits counseling including information, enrollment, referral and follow-up, was provided to 110 families to access needed health care services and 23 at-risk families were assisted in establishing a medical home. With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), additional efforts were dedicated for access to care outreach; providing awareness and education to internal staff and the broad community about health care changes with BadgerCare Plus and the federal Health Insurance Marketplace; and participating in a local ACA coalition.

Oral Health Program

In 2014, the Health Department's contracted Dental Hygienist established independent provider status to continue oral health services for Eau Claire County at-risk children. The hygienist's contract with the Health Department was therefore not renewed.

Public health nurses continued to provide "Shining Smiles" Fluoride Varnish services for pregnant women and families. 2014 services include the following:

- 75 pregnant women received oral examinations.
- 62 children received oral examinations.
- 75 pregnant women received one fluoride varnish application.
- 62 children received one fluoride varnish application.
- 27 pregnant women received two fluoride varnish applications.
- 17 children received two fluoride varnish applications.
- 19 pregnant women received three fluoride varnish applications.
- 10 children received three fluoride varnish applications.

Prenatal Care Coordination

The Health Department continues as a Medicaid-certified provider of this program for pregnant women at high risk for adverse pregnancy outcomes and their newborns during the first two months of life. Dieticians and nurses provided 429 risk assessments to determine program eligibility. Nurses made 376 prenatal care coordination visits to 156 women in 2014.

Program evaluation demonstrates that nursing interventions produced positive outcomes. For example, after participating in the program, 74% of clients demonstrated knowledge of safe sleep practices. The proportion that received or arranged for contraception services prior to delivery was 61%. The proportion that reported quitting or decreasing smoking during pregnancy was 44% and 63% breastfed their babies.

**PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING ACTIVITY SUMMARY
JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2014**

Public health nurses are a valuable resource for health information and guidance for the community. During 2014, nurses made over 2,500 visits to Eau Claire County individuals and families.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING VISITS BY PROGRAM		ADMISSIONS AND READMISSIONS BY REFERRAL SOURCE	
<u>Program</u>	<u>Visits</u>	<u>Referral Source</u>	<u>Number</u>
Adult Health	35	Private Physician	17
Communicable Disease	32	Mayo Clinic Health System	44
Lead Poisoning Prevention	83	Sacred Heart Hospital	85
Maternal & Child Health	1,882	Out of County Hospitals	19
School Health	1	WIC Program	87
Prenatal Care Coordination	376	Family/Friend/Self	34
Other	<u>114</u>	State Agencies	5
TOTAL	2,523	Social Service Agencies	3
		Nursing Homes	0
		Other	6
		Unknown	<u>1,355</u>
		TOTAL	1,655

Nurses provided case management services in follow-up to 2,422 visits during 2014. This involves planning, organizing, coordinating and monitoring the services and resources needed to respond to a client's health needs.

Nurses also provided educational presentations to community groups concerning Communicable Disease, Adult Health, Maternal Child Health and other public health topics.

Outcomes of public health nursing Family Visiting Services include the following, as measured by the scores on the Omaha System Rating Scale and averaged for all families:

FAMILY VISITING PROGRAM OUTCOMES: 2014

AFTER RECEIVING FAMILY VISITING SERVICES FOR –	2014 OUTCOMES
Caretaking and Parenting Skills:	
Parents demonstrated improved - Knowledge	6% increase
Behavior	2% increase
Status	3% increase
Pregnancy-related Care:	
Women demonstrated improved - Knowledge	6% increase
Behavior	2% increase
Status	3% increase
Child Growth and Development:	
Parents demonstrated improved - Knowledge	0.2% increase
Behavior	0.3% increase
Status	2% increase

On a daily basis, public health nurses respond to multiple health information requests from the public. Available data about telephone consultations provided in 2014 are summarized below:

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING TELEPHONE CONSULTATIONS: 2014

Health Information Topic	# of Telephone Consultations
Adult Health	47
Communicable Disease	545
Maternal and Child Health	88
Information and Referral	156
Child Care	7
TOTAL	843

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING PROJECTS

Child Death Review Team

A Nursing Supervisor participates in the countywide Child Death Review Team. With the goal of preventing future deaths, Eau Claire County team members from health, human services, law enforcement and higher education organizations met quarterly to (a) review deaths of persons under age 24 years, (b) uncover risk factors and circumstances influencing the death and (c) assure targeted prevention activities. In 2014, the team reviewed 17 children’s deaths in Eau Claire County. The Water Safety Task Force has continued working on education and prevention efforts related to drowning in Eau Claire County. Two additional life jacket loaner boards were added to area beaches and Water Watcher cards were distributed to beach patrons.

Breastfeeding Promotion

Nurses and dietitians are working with the Chippewa Valley Breastfeeding Network, the Wisconsin Breastfeeding Coalition, Western Dairyland Child Care Partnership Resource and Referral and UWEC student nurses to promote breastfeeding-friendly child care centers throughout Eau Claire County. Strategies include providing educational materials, onsite training, and assisting with environmental and policy revisions. Staff also served as key planners and emcee to provide a successful Regional breastfeeding support workshop.

Flu Shot Collaboration

The Health Department again facilitated the work of local health care providers on the “Get the Shot” committee, coordinating influenza immunization efforts in the community and redistributing vaccine to providers in need. The partnership agreement was updated and signed, partners contributed funds and developed and carried out a collaborative flu vaccination promotional campaign.

“Wisconsin Healthiest Family Initiative”

The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Program planning team continued its work on this five-year Division of Public Health grant-funded initiative with the overriding goal “to assure that all families in Wisconsin have access to a coordinated, integrated and sustainable system of services and supports focused on health promotion and prevention.”

- Nurses, WIC staff and the health benefit specialist continued activities to strengthen department Maternal and Child Health core competencies, including seeking needed training and developing a tracking tool for use by all staff in the department.
- Nurses established a *Safe Sleep Task Force for Eau Claire County*, whose members successfully applied for two grants to support safe sleep education for families at-risk.

- Additionally, staff continued participation on the United Way Education Advisory Council to complete planning and launch the *Successful Children's Network* initiative, with the aim of improving early childhood health and education support systems in the community.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Public health nursing collaborated with department staff, a UWEC doctoral student and members of the Eau Claire County Public Health Emergency Preparedness Committee to facilitate a collaborative *Flu Center Planning Team*. The team finalized a community “Flu Center Plan for Eau Claire County” to increase health care provider surge capacity during large scale influenza outbreaks. The plan was reviewed by legal counsel and distributed to community health care provider organizations for adoption as a framework for collaboration in the event of an influenza outbreak emergency.

First Breath Program

The public health nursing staff received state recognition for strong participation in the state’s First Breath Program. Staff enrolled 48 clients in the program, offering resources and support to help women remain tobacco-free during pregnancy.

Newborn Heart, Hearing and Blood Screening

A public health nurse continued newborn hearing screening and heart screening via blood oxygen sensor for newborns delivered at home and not otherwise screened, such as rural Amish. The instruments and training are provided by the Newborn Hearing Screening and the Wisconsin SHINE (Screening Hearts in NEwborns) projects of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. The public health nurse also collected 66 blood specimens for newborn screening throughout the year. 100% of the specimens were received by the State Lab of Hygiene within the target four days after collection. These services meet an otherwise unmet need for families that lack other access to recommended newborn screening.

Hmong Mental Wellness Project

Public health nurses provided Hmong Mental Wellness Days for Hmong elders and published an English-Hmong Mental Health Glossary for healthcare providers and interpreters, in partnership with the Healthy Communities Mental Health Action Team, Hmong Mutual Assistance Association and the Boys and Girls Club through receiving a Security Health Plan grant award.

Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP)

Utilizing public health strategies and partnerships, staff expanded the existing CDSMP to serve working-age and rural populations in Eau Claire County through a collaborative grant application in partnership with the Healthy Communities Chronic Disease Action Team, the Aging and Disability Resource Center, Mayo Clinic Health System and the YMCA. The project was one of 12 in the nation selected for CDC funding by the National Association of City and County Health Officers.

BRAIN Team

The Brain Research Awareness and Integration Network (BRAIN) Team offered its 11th annual BRAIN Conference. A public health nursing supervisor provided conference planning leadership and served as host. The conference entitled “Drugs: Understanding the Impact on Individuals, Families and our Community” was attended by 87 area professionals and community members and was very well received. Proceeds were donated to the Family Resource Center for Eau Claire County and the BRAIN Team for continued parenting education. The Team also provided an interactive learning event, *Brain Night with “Dr. Brain,”* at the Children’s Museum for Eau Claire.

Healthy Communities Action Teams

Designated public health nurses served on Healthy Communities Action Teams providing planning input, technical support and public health tools to assure successful strategic planning, implementation and outcome evaluation for the following teams:

- Oral Health Action Team worked on an educational initiative to encourage parents to establish a dental home for children by the age of one year.
- Family Violence Prevention Action Team continued work on legislative issues and human trafficking in the community.
- Mental Health Action Team made a mental health story video to raise community awareness, educated Hmong elders on mental wellness and developed a Hmong mental health glossary to enhance communication by providers.
- High-Risk Alcohol Use Action Team developed a position statement on alcohol use and was awarded a grant for 2015 to address the meaning of “drink responsibly.”
- Chronic Disease Prevention Action Team focused efforts on workplace wellness, began planning health awareness, collaboration, environmental and policy change strategies, and partnered with the health department for a collaborative project to expand the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program to Eau Claire County’s working and rural populations.

PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITION PROGRAM

To continue to address the many unmet needs and opportunities for community nutrition education in Eau Claire City-County, the Community Nutrition Program is staffed by Registered Dietitians 16 hours per week. The demand for services once again exceeded the time available. Activities included the following:

- Provided 67 nutrition consultations for families receiving public health nursing services.
- Provided community nutrition education through the news media via fifteen articles written for print media and one television interview.
- Provided telephone consultation and 24 nutrition presentations to citizen groups and community organizations seeking nutrition guidance.
- Continued participation in local and state nutrition initiatives:
 - 1) Served on Hunger Prevention Coalition of Eau Claire;
 - 2) Served on Eau Claire Area School District Head Start Health Advisory and Policy Committees;
 - 3) Served on Western Dairyland Head Start Advisory Committee;
 - 4) Served on Northwestern Wisconsin Breastfeeding Network;
 - 5) Served on Healthy Communities Chronic Disease Prevention Action Team;
 - 6) Served on Eau Claire County Child Death Review Team;
 - 7) Served as UW-Stout Dietetic Intern Preceptor and Field Experience/Practicum Supervisor;
 - 8) Served on UW-Stout Dietetic Internship Program Advisory Committee and UW-Stout Graduate Program Advisory Committee;
 - 9) Served on Wisconsin WIC ROSIE Test Team and eWIC Test Team;
 - 10) Served on Wisconsin WIC ROSIE eWIC Test Team; and
 - 11) Served on Healthy Health Department Worksite Wellness Team.
- Wrote a \$4,000 Department of Transportation renewal grant proposal, which was funded to continue the Kids Ride Safe Project for a sixth year.
- Wrote two mini-grants (\$250 each) for Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics’ Kids Eat Right campaign presentations that were not funded.
- Wrote a \$10,000 NACCHO Reducing Disparities in Breastfeeding Through Peer and Professional Support proposal that was not funded.

- Wrote a letter of intent to the USDA’s Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to request funds to implement the Fit Families Behavior Change Program in the Eau Claire City-County Health Department WIC clinic which was not asked to move on to the next selection round.

Nutrition Intervention for Children Enrolled in Head Start

Through an agreement with the Eau Claire Area School District, health department registered dietitians completed nutrition assessments of 120 children enrolled in the district’s Head Start Program for low income, preschool-aged children. Staff assessed height, weight and blood hemoglobin and conducted blood lead tests when needed. Dietitians met with each child’s parent/guardian and teacher and set mutually agreed upon nutrition goals that teachers and parents will work toward during the year. Dietitians also assessed snack menus for nutritional adequacy and made recommendations where needed. The Health Department bills dietitian and clerical time at an hourly rate. This nutrition intervention promotes healthy nutrition for growth and development among these children at high-risk.

Eat Well – Play Hard Newsletter and Professional News Brief

Quarterly community newsletters and professional news briefs were written by Health Department registered dietitians and were distributed in the WIC clinic, Head Start programs, child care centers and medical clinics to 500 families and 100 health care providers in Eau Claire County. The community newsletter was also published on the Health Department website. Topics pertaining to good nutrition and increased physical activity were written for parents. Professional news briefs were distributed to area physicians, nurses and dietitians working with families with children. These news briefs contained current scientific study information from peer-reviewed journals focusing on nutrition and physical activity as they relate to children and families.

Community Nutrition-Parent Education Projects

The WIC program, in partnership with the Eau Claire Area School District Head Start and EC4T Early Learning Programs, offers two family night cooking events that promote nutrition and literacy with young children each academic year. In 2014, one session entitled “DW the Picky Eater” focused on cooking healthy recipes with children, promoting family meals and educating parents on ways to help children learn about trying new foods. The programs are a time to “get into reading as we read, cook and eat together.”

The City-County Health Department’s Public Health Nutrition program partners with the Family Resource Center for Eau Claire County to offer quarterly nutrition-focused parent education classes. During these classes, parents are offered practical nutrition tips and recipes for feeding their family healthy foods. In 2014, classes were held on the topics of healthy snacks, eating healthy on a budget and healthy holiday cooking.

UW-Stout Dietetic Internship Program

Public Health Nutrition staff continued to collaborate with the University of Wisconsin-Stout Dietetic Internship program by providing a public health nutrition practice area for students enrolled in the graduate dietetics program and dietetic internship. Three masters prepared students interned at the Department in 2014.

The dietetic interns work closely with the public health nutritionists and the public health nutrition support staff to provide nutrition services to the community. Faculty from UW-Stout do not accompany these interns to the Health Department so the public health nutritionists are responsible for teaching and supervising their work within the department and serving as their public health rotation preceptor.

The dietetic interns have a 4-week internship rotation. They begin the rotation with observational experience of the WIC program with a public health nutritionist. This is designed to provide an opportunity to increase their understanding of the WIC program and the role public health nutritionists have within the WIC program. In the second week of their rotation, the dietetic interns begin co-counseling with the public health nutritionist and

then advance to counseling independently. Additionally, during the internship rotation, dietetic interns work closely with the public health nutritionists developing nutrition classes for the community and nutrition education displays.

Dietetic interns also gain observational experience with public health nurses and environmental health staff. Interns work with the media as well as attend meetings relevant to public health nutrition. This partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Stout Dietetic Internship program has allowed the public health nutritionists to share their nutrition expertise while giving the Health Department the opportunity to work on additional projects with student involvement.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH PROGRAM

In 2014, a total of 753 women and 138 men received contraceptive services at the Reproductive Health Clinic. Additionally, clinic staff conducted the following activities:

- Continued colposcopy services for women from Eau Claire and surrounding counties in Western Wisconsin without health insurance who have an abnormal pap test result indicating the need for this follow-up.
- Retained a Community Health Liaison through Wisconsin Health Corp in August to assist with marketing and outreach of the clinic services.
- Initiated a UWEC outreach campaign in September by placing posters displaying clinic services in all 11 dorms.
- Received grant funds to increase chlamydia testing for females, ages 15-24 years. The project included special outreach visits to teach about risks, testing and prevention at places where young women spend time.
 - Monthly educational sessions were initiated at the Eau Claire County Juvenile Detention Center educating juveniles on STI's, birth control and our services using an interactive curriculum that was developed with the assistance of a retired health education teacher.
 - Nurses offered educational handouts with condoms attached at Water St. bars during UW-Eau Claire Homecoming. The supply of 200 chlamydia cards ran out in less than one hour!
 - On Halloween, bartenders helped by giving away freebie bags filled with condoms, glow sticks, candy and chlamydia education cards. Bartenders and owners are very supportive of the bar outreach activities. Nurses are now invited to display posters advertising Health Department Reproductive Health Services.

SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM

Nurses continued to provide public health services for students and staff in 35 public, private and parochial schools in Eau Claire County. Public health responsibilities include the following:

- Consultation, health counseling and referral for students in need of department services, including public health nursing home visiting and clinic services, Prenatal Care Coordination and WIC.
- Consultation about communicable disease and policy for excluding ill children.
- Surveillance of student and staff illness absentee rates and follow-up of rates outside normal threshold.
- Consultation regarding student immunizations and compliance with Wisconsin Student Immunization Law.
- Organize health screening activities, train volunteers and school staff to conduct hearing, vision and scoliosis screening programs; and provide follow-up on significant findings.

- Organize fluoride mouth rinse programs in participating schools.
- Conduct population health initiatives in partnership with school nurses and staff to promote positive health impacts for school-aged children in Eau Claire County.
- Conducted Adolescent Health Clinics in the 7 middle schools in Eau Claire County providing influenza, adolescent immunizations and scoliosis screenings.

Fluoride Mouthrinse Program

Augusta and Altoona public schools continued to participate in the fluoride mouthrinse program this year. The purpose of the program is to reduce dental caries by topical application of fluoride.

The Health Department provides the fluoride and other supplies funded by a grant from the Division of Public Health. School personnel and parent volunteers administer the mouthrinse in consultation with the public health nurse serving the school.

Fluoride Mouthrinse Program Participation: 2014

School	# of children
Augusta Elementary School	267 children in grades 1 through grade 4
Pedersen Elementary School-Altoona	678 children in grade 1 and grade 2

Vision Screening 2013-2014

Volunteers screened school children enrolled in kindergarten, first, third and sixth grade in all city and county schools using the HOTV, LEA, and Snellen vision charts. Children who did not pass the initial screening were rescreened. Parents of children who had difficulty with the second screening were notified by the public health nurse and requested to have their eyes examined by an eye doctor. The numbers served are noted below.

School-Based Vision Screening: 2013-14

	2013-2014
Total Enrolled in Grades Screened	4,066
Total Number Screened	4,041
Total in Other Grades Screened	16
Total Number Rescreened	167
Number Already Wearing Corrective Lenses	402
Total Number Referred for Eye Exam	183
Total Number Obtaining Corrective Lenses	54
Total Number Examined but not Needing Corrective Lenses	26
Total Recommended for Special Seating or Optional Corrective Lenses	3
Number Under Care for Previously Known Problem	61
Number Whose Parents Chose not to Have Eye Exam	21
Number Lost to Follow-up or Moved	18

Hearing Screening Program: 2013-14 School Year

Hearing screening was provided in Eau Claire city and county schools for children enrolled in Head Start, kindergarten and first grade. The initial screening was done by UW-EC Audiology students and volunteers recruited by the school health chairmen. Children with deviations from normal were retested by trained technicians. After the second testing, audiograms indicating apparent hearing problems were evaluated and recommendations were made for further testing or medical evaluation. Children needing a medical examination were referred to their primary physician.

Hearing Screening

2013-2014	
Total Enrolled in Grades Screened	2,129
Number of Children Screened, Includes New Students in all Grades	2,044
Number Rescreened by Technician	305
Number Referred for Further Evaluation	28
Number Under Care for Existing Problem	6
Children Evaluated by Personal Physician	8
Treatment Recommended	2
Received Hearing Aid	0
Preferential Seating	0
No Treatment Recommended	4
Moved From Area	0
Chose Not to Follow-up	8

SUMMARY OF IMMUNIZATION STATUS OF KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN BY SCHOOL AS REPORTED BY THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, FALL 2014

School	Kindergarten Enrollment	Immunizations Complete #	Immunizations Complete %	Immunizations		Waiver	No Record On File
				In Process	Behind Schedule		
Altoona/Pedersen Elementary	121	116	96%	0	0	5	0
Augusta Elementary	40	40	100%	0	0	0	0
Crestview	22	20	91%	0	0	2	0
Fairchild	7	6	86%	1	0	0	0
Fall Creek	63	60	95%	0	1	2	0
Flynn	54	52	96%	0	0	2	0
Immaculate Conception	43	41	95%	0	1	1	0
Lakeshore	71	66	93%	1	1	3	0
Locust Lane	43	40	93%	0	0	3	0
Longfellow	48	41	85%	0	0	7	0

School	Kindergarten	Immunizations	Immunizations	Immunizations		Waiver	No
Manz	67	61	91%	0	3	3	0
Meadowview	80	75	94%	0	0	5	0
Messiah Lutheran	11	8	73%	0	0	3	0
Montessori	48	27	56%	0	7	14	0
Northwoods	67	63	94%	0	0	4	0
Otter Creek Christian Academy	0	0	100%	0	0	0	0
Putnam Heights	46	45	98%	0	0	1	0
Robbins	73	68	93%	0	0	5	0
Roosevelt	50	45	90%	0	0	5	0
St. James	24	22	92%	1	0	1	0
St. Mark's	19	18	95%	0	0	1	0
St. Mary's	23	17	74%	0	0	0	6
Sam Davey	61	58	95%	0	0	3	0
Sherman	89	85	95%	0	0	3	0
Total	1170	1074	92%	3	13	73	6

Scoliosis Screening 2013-2014 School Year

In consultation with the Board of Health, the Department of Public Instruction, and the Eau Claire Area School District, scoliosis screening protocol changes were made in 2014. To more specifically target students in need, nurses provided screening as an “opt in” program, offered to students whose parents specifically requested screening for their child. Nurses worked with administrators of the private and parochial schools to provide the option that made the most sense for their school population. In the fall, screening was offered as part of an adolescent health theme to include both scoliosis screening and immunizations. Screening was offered for girls in grades six and seven and boys in grade eight. Two students will be followed in 6 months for a rescreening.

**SUMMARY OF STUDENTS SCREENED FOR SCOLIOSIS BY GRADE AND GENDER
2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR**

	6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade	Total	
	Female	Female	Male	Male	Female
Number of Students Screened	75	57	50	50	132
Number Refused Screening	14	28	2	2	42
Number of Medical Referrals	0	0	0	0	0

UWEC AND OTHER NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM COLLABORATIONS

Partnerships with nursing education are expanding to meet the changing needs of students and to build the public health nursing workforce. Public health nurses continue to provide clinical practicum experiences for baccalaureate, masters and doctoral program nursing students from UW-EC College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Viterbo and other UW-system universities with students living in the Eau Claire area.

In 2014, 16 nursing students worked side-by side with public health nurses on real-world projects that provided broad-based experiences in promoting population health. Project activities included the following:

- Breastfeeding-Friendly Child Care Centers – Students prepared 50 training binders and a resource guide, joined a public health nurse conducting four training sessions for providers, produced a power point and created a tracking spreadsheet to track centers' progress toward fulfilling requirements for certification. Students gained experience in providing public presentations, project management, collaboration and coalition building with providers in the community.
- Breastfeeding Display Board for WIC – Students collaborated with WIC staff to develop this display on the benefits of breastfeeding, worked with the Northwestern Wisconsin Breastfeeding Network to plan the biannual regional breastfeeding conference, and participated in public health nursing clinical and shadowing experiences to broaden their practice.
- Student Nurse Field Experience – A registered nurse seeking a baccalaureate degree in nursing completed 25 hours of experience with a public health nurse providing family home visits, clinics, services to Amish families, participating in the Healthy Communities Oral Health Action Team and attending a breastfeeding conference.
- School Vision Screening Program – Eight students and their professor became certified screeners through Prevent Blindness Wisconsin training. They then prepared educational tool kits to prepare school children for screening, worked with a public health nurse to conduct school-based screenings and provided a presentation to public health nursing staff about their experiences, challenges and proposed solutions to improve efficiency in the screening process.
- Flu Center Planning Team – A doctoral student worked with the director of nursing to facilitate a community collaborative planning team, research best practice, compile team recommendations into a written plan and develop diagrams depicting key organizational components of the Flu Center incident command structure and process.

Throughout the year, public health nursing staff and managers participate in student education in the classroom as well. Presentations are provided at UWEC, CVTC and Globe University on a variety of topics including, communicable disease control, perspectives on the role of the public health nurse, nursing leadership, political advocacy and public health emergency preparedness.

In turn, nursing faculty members participate in community service projects and offer their expertise on topics such as research, evidence-based practice and literature resources. Collaboration with our nurse colleagues in education is a vital component of public health nursing as a learning profession.

WIC PROGRAM

WIC Program Participation

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC Program) in Eau Claire County was funded to serve 2,017 participants per month during 2014. An average of 1,948 participants were served each month during 2014.

The Eau Claire City-County WIC Program serves pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children up to the age of five years. A total of 3,271 individuals participated in the WIC Program during this past year. Please see the following chart for WIC participation during 2014. The WIC Program serves as an adjunct to health care during critical times of growth and development by providing participants with nutritious supplemental foods, nutrition and health education, and referrals to area physicians, public health nurses and other community services.

An Eau Claire City or County woman, infant or child who meets the income eligibility requirements of the WIC Program is seen at a WIC clinic in Eau Claire or Augusta. Applicants are screened to determine if they have a health or nutritional need which will qualify them for the program. Height, weight and hemoglobin are measured for each potential participant along with an assessment of dietary and other health risks.

WIC provides supplemental nutritious foods, nutrition education and counseling that are based on assessment findings as well as needs verbalized by participants. Along with nutrition education, WIC participants receive vouchers to purchase specific foods that are designed to supplement their diets with nutrients that benefit WIC's target population.

WIC foods include infant cereal, iron-fortified adult cereal, vitamin-C rich fruit or vegetable juice, eggs, milk, cheese, peanut butter, dried and canned beans/peas, canned fish, soy based beverages, fruits and vegetables, baby foods, whole wheat bread and other whole grain options.

WIC recognizes and promotes breastfeeding as the optimal source of nutrition for infants. For women who do not fully breastfeed, WIC provides iron fortified infant formula. Special infant formulas and medical foods may be provided when prescribed by a physician for a specified medical condition.

WIC PARTICIPATION DURING 2014

Participant Type	Number	% of Caseload
Pregnant Women	212	6%
Breastfeeding Women	247	8%
Postpartum Women	474	14%
Infants	676	21%
Children		
Age 1 – 484		
Age 2 – 338		
Age 3 – 393		
Age 4 – 447	1,662	51%
Yearly Total = 3,271 unduplicated participants		

WIC PARTICIPATION DURING 2014

Race	% of Caseload
Asian	15%
Black	9%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	2%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0%
White	74%
Total	100%

Ethnicity	% of Caseload
Hispanic or Latino Origin (a)	8%
Not Hispanic or Latino Origin (a)	92%
Total	100%

(a) Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories.

Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

The WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program continued in Eau Claire County during the summer of 2014. This program provides participants in the WIC Program with vouchers to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs at authorized Farmers' Markets and Farmstands throughout Wisconsin. The goal of the WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program is to provide fresh, unprepared, locally grown fruits and vegetables to WIC participants and to expand the awareness, use of and sales at farmers' markets. Participants receive a list of locations, dates and times that local area Farmers' Markets and Farmstands will be open. Markets in Eau Claire County included Phoenix Park, Festival Foods and Gordy's County Market. Farmstands in Eau Claire County included Hillview Farm, McIlquham Orchard and Avenue Orchard. New in 2014 was a flyer that was shared with WIC participants who reside in Augusta and Fairchild that listed rural Farmers' Markets and Farmstands in surrounding counties. This list provided participants with more options for using their WIC Farmers' Market vouchers. Each WIC family received \$15 -\$17.00 in market vouchers for the summer which they could use to purchase fruits, vegetables or herbs at authorized Farmers' Markets or Farmstands. A total of 1,215 families received these coupons through the WIC Program during the summer of 2014.

Farmers' Market Nutrition Education Project – Veggin' Out

The City-County Health Department's WIC nutrition program continued its successful Veggin' Out fruit and vegetable education demonstrations at area Farmers' Markets. Education targeted WIC families but was open to all community visitors to the farmers' markets located in Phoenix Park and at Festival Foods. In 2014, UW-Stout field experience students in the Dietetics program staffed the demonstration tables and offered healthy food samples, recipes and other nutrition education. The team of seven students had over 2,200 contacts with community members, including 60 families using the WIC program. The UW-Extension Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program partnered with WIC to provide technical assistance and oversight of this program. This is planned to continue as an annual offering.

Nutrition Education

WIC participants are certified for periods of up to one year. Individual nutrition counseling is provided by a Registered Dietitian at each appointment. Nutrition counseling is based on the participant's needs and includes anticipatory counseling as needed. Participants are also encouraged to complete self-paced modules or one-on-one sessions during their certification period. Self-paced and one-on-one sessions are provided on voucher issuance days by Public Health Nutritionists/Dietitians. The education modules/sessions teach the participant

how to incorporate better nutrition and increased physical activity habits into their family’s life. The modules/sessions offered during 2014 were:

- 1) Be Food Safe
- 2) Rethink Your Drink
- 3) Veggin’ Out at the Farmers Market
- 4) Make Half Your Grains Whole
- 5) How to Use Your Fruit and Vegetable Vouchers
- 6) Eat a Variety and More Fruits and Vegetables
- 7) Feeding Your Older Baby
- 8) Low Fat Milk
- 9) “Do You Have a Choosy Eater?”
- 10) What will \$6 buy? Making the Most of Your Fruit & Vegetable Voucher
- 11) Quick and Easy Low Cost Meals
- 12) Family Meal Times
- 13) Fruits and Vegetables – Eat More!
- 14) Fiber Focus
- 15) Portion Control – Know Your Serving Size
- 16) Serving Up Whole Grains
- 17) Healthy Habits For a Lifetime
- 18) Crockpot Cooking
- 19) A Visit to the Farmers’ Market

One-on-one sessions with WIC Dietitians address specific health and/or nutrition goals set at the previous certification appointment.

WIC Grocery Stores and Pharmacies

Eau Claire grocery stores and pharmacies continue to be an important partner in the WIC Program, as they redeem drafts according to state and federal regulations. A total of **\$1,351,560** was redeemed in Eau Claire County during 2014 with WIC vouchers. Please see the following chart for food dollars redeemed at area grocery stores and pharmacies. The WIC Program appreciates the continued support of the area vendors. The combination of nutritious supplemental foods and nutrition education within the WIC Program continues to have a positive impact on the health of children.

**WIC FOOD DOLLARS REDEEMED AT VENDORS IN EAU CLAIRE COUNTY
January 1 – December 31, 2014**

Vendor Name	Dollars Redeemed
Ameriental Food Store	\$41,430
Festival Foods	94,791
Gordy’s County Market, Augusta	31,703
Gordy’s County Market, Birch Street	195,838
Gordy’s County Market, Clairemont Avenue	98,423
Gordy’s County Market, Hamilton Avenue	79,507
Loriental Store	37,993
Mega Foods East	84,914
Mega Foods West	164,779
Target	40,686

Vendor Name	Dollars Redeemed
Walgreens – Clairemont Avenue	5,095
Walgreens – Hastings Way	17,647
Walmart	458,754
TOTAL	1,351,560

WIC Outreach

The Health Benefits Specialist continues to work with the WIC Director to promote the WIC Program throughout Eau Claire County. The following avenues were utilized in 2014 for WIC outreach:

- Distributed outreach materials to: Eau Claire Area School Districts and Early Learning Programs; healthcare systems; and to local businesses, non-profits and organizations located in Eau Claire, Altoona, Fall Creek, Augusta and Fairchild.
- Participated in community outreach events such as: McKinley Charter School Teen Parent Night, Here We Grow Again Sale, Breakfast in the Valley, farm show, Altoona Childhood Development Days and Phoenix Park Music Night.
- Coordinated print ads in EC4T Newsletter, Buck Saver, Family Times, Senior Review, Leader Telegram Supplement and Child Care Directory.
- Sent Monthly “Birth” day cards to families of newborns.
- Arranged WEAU television interview for Mom’s Everyday segment on WIC program and breastfeeding education.
- Coordinated regular Facebook posts promoting the WIC program.

WIC Projects

Breastfeeding Education and Support

The American Academy of Pediatrics has identified breastfeeding as the ideal method of feeding and nurturing infants; and has recognized breastfeeding as primary in achieving optimal infant and child health, growth and development. The WIC Program continues to promote breastfeeding as best for baby, best for mom. In its fifth year, the Breastfeeding Peer Counselor program continues to reach women with relevant breastfeeding information and support. In 2014, 222 women had contact with the Peer Counselor.

All of the registered dietitians have received certifications in breastfeeding (Certified Breastfeeding Educator, Certified Lactation Counselor, Certified Lactation Educator). All WIC staff (registered dietitians as well as support staff) are aware that they each have an important role in promoting, protecting and supporting breastfeeding.

“Feeding Your New Baby: A Very Personal Choice” Class

The WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor and Breastfeeding Coordinator developed this class for pregnant women to prepare for baby’s arrival. The class encourages breastfeeding through education and connection with resources for support. In 2014, 50 pregnant WIC participants plus their support people attended the class. Promotion efforts include flyers at medical clinics, mailed invitations to women due to deliver soon, telephone calls, referrals by staff providing Prenatal Care Coordination and notices published in the Family Times and Volume One. Class participants report increased knowledge and increased likelihood they will breastfeed following the class.

Prenatal Care Coordination

All pregnant women certified for the WIC Program (who are eligible for Medical Assistance) are assessed for enrollment into the Prenatal Care Coordination Program. Based upon the needs identified, women are then offered the option of clinic or home visit services. In the clinic setting, they receive in-depth nutrition counseling as well as nursing services offered in a team approach. If the home visit option is chosen, women receive nursing services in the home and nutrition counseling in the WIC office. The WIC dietitians completed a total of 429 risk assessments as well as 450 follow-up nutrition therapy sessions in 2014.

Lead Screening

Blood lead screening was offered to children at ages one and two years in the WIC Program. A total of 797 children received blood lead screening from their physician or the WIC Program. 589 (74%) of the screenings were completed in the WIC Program during 2014.

Kids Ride Safe Project

The WIC program partnered with Chippewa Valley Safe Kids for a fifth year to continue the Kids Ride Safe project. A \$4,000 Department of Transportation grant, which was written by the Public Health Nutrition Supervisor, funded this project. It targeted women who were pregnant and enrolled in WIC and offered education on transporting children safely as well as a convertible car seat. In 2014, 65 seats were distributed to families in need who would otherwise be unable to access car seats for the safety of their infants.

Cooking Matters Grocery Store & Farmers' Market Tours

The Department's WIC program partnered with local grocery stores and UW-Extension's Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program to conduct *Cooking Matters* grocery store and farmers' market tours for WIC families. This has been a meaningful addition to the nutrition education that WIC provides. Tours are offered at local grocery stores as well as the Phoenix Park Farmers' Market. A total of fifteen tours were offered in 2014. During the tour, WIC families are given the hands on opportunity to make healthy choices while shopping on a limited budget. They also learn how to buy and prepare a variety of locally grown fruits and vegetables at the farmers' market. Educational materials are developed by Share Our Strength, a national non-profit organization working towards ending childhood hunger. Tours are planned to be offered quarterly at local grocery stores and weekly at the farmers' markets during June-August 2015.

The graphic features a white background with a large, thick, yellow curved line that starts from the bottom left and curves upwards towards the top right. Below this line is a light green area, and at the bottom is a teal area. The text "Community Health Education" is written in white, sans-serif font, centered in the teal area.

Community Health Education

COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION

The focus of Community Health Education has been to develop partnerships with community agencies; provide leadership, collaboration and support for variety of community and departmental projects; build coalition capacity; analyze and report on community health data; research best practice; assist with grant writing; provide community outreach relating to local health issues and assist health department staff with presenting data and health information to the public. Community Health Education staff was involved in the following accomplishments:

Eau Claire Healthy Communities

Community Health Educators provided leadership and support to the Healthy Communities Council and action teams: sharing health data, prioritizing health needs, compiling and analyzing data for the community health improvement plan, developing action teams goals and objectives, researching evidence-based strategies and best practices, providing tools and facilitation skills to advance the planning process and writing grants.

The Eau Claire Health Department and Healthy Communities collaborated with local hospitals and non-profits in Eau Claire and Chippewa counties to create one collaborative community health assessment. This collaborative assessment reduced duplication of effort, costs, potential confusion, and promoted greater coordination of resources with potentially a more significant impact on the health needs of the communities.

Community Health Educators provided leadership for the *Eau Claire Healthy Communities Celebration and Healthy Eau Claire Legislative Events*. Over 90 community members attended the Eau Claire Healthy Communities Celebration and learned more about the action team's success in the areas of Chronic Disease Prevention, High-Risk Drinking Prevention, Mental Health, Oral Health Promotion and Family Violence Prevention. Conversations focused on how to help move forward community collaborative efforts that will result in community health improvement. Healthy Communities and the Board of Health made it a priority to have a continued focus on advocacy and policy work through the creation of the Healthy Eau Claire Task Force. On May 1st, 2014 the task force held the Healthy Eau Claire Legislative event where legislators learned more about health priorities in Eau Claire County from the Board of Health and Eau Claire Healthy Communities. It was a good foundational conversation leading to increased understanding of important public health and prevention work.

Eau Claire Healthy Communities Website

As part of the 2-year Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program grant, Health Education Staff completed focus groups and key informant interviews with a total of 44 leaders in the policymaking and media fields, as well as with Healthy Communities members, to understand how they use health data. Using the themes that emerged from the focus groups and interviews, the grant team held a health data summit for policymakers, media and Healthy Communities members. More than 30 individuals participated in the summit and learned how to use the Healthy Communities data portal as a consistent and reliable source of health data for decision making and news reports.

Community Outreach

Community Health Educators researched best practice and collaborated with staff to identify and develop a variety of communication strategies, methods and techniques to promote Health Department services to a variety of audiences. Community Health Educators coordinated both internal and external marketing and social media efforts. Community Health Educators supervised several interns and collaborated with our year-long Health Corps member to research access to care issues in our community, participate in community efforts around the Affordable Care Act and dedicate efforts to marketing efforts/outreach for our WIC and Family Planning Clinics. Additionally, Health Education Staff participated in county, regional and statewide health

coalitions. Health Education staff presented at the THRIVE WI Summit, an emerging effort to build, align and support partnerships between public health and community organizing networks to enhance collective action towards affecting social and economic drivers of equity to advance the health of Wisconsin. Health Educators coordinated and participated in quality improvement and performance management training.

Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention in Eau Claire County

The Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (Alliance) works to improve the lives of children, youth and adults by mobilizing communities to prevent and treat alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse in Eau Claire County. The Alliance, formed in 2002, has the following six prevention and treatment priorities: 1) underage drinking – 12-17 year olds; 2) underage drinking – 18-20 year olds; 3) high-risk drinking – 18-25 year olds; 4) tobacco use; 5) other drug use (prescription drug misuse and marijuana use); and 6) early intervention and treatment. The Alliance website can be found at www.getinvolvedASAP.org.

Four grant sources support the Alliance in reducing alcohol and other drug use among youth in Eau Claire County and building its capacity to do so. Four part-time positions, Community Advocacy Director, Coalition Facilitator, Youth Advocacy Advisor and Program Assistant, are supported by these grants. The City-County Health Department and the Eau Claire Area School District serve as the grant fiscal agents.

An Eau Claire County Youth Survey, conducted by the Alliance every 2-3 years, measures alcohol, tobacco and other drug use as well as contributing factors among 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grade students. The countywide survey was initiated in 2001 to evaluate prevention efforts and identify emerging trends. Comparisons of outcome measures in the 2013-2014 report to the 2004 report indicate the following:

- Fewer high school students report using alcohol, tobacco products and marijuana;
- More high school students report marijuana is not harmful to their health;
- More high school students report tobacco is not harmful to their health; and
- Fewer high school students report alcohol, tobacco & marijuana is easy to get; and
- More high school students report their parents feel it is not wrong for them to use marijuana.

A Community Perceptions Survey on Drug Use in Eau Claire County was conducted in 2012 by the Alliance. A total of 454 surveys were completed, providing a statistically valid random sample. This 2012 survey, considered an update to a similar countywide survey conducted in 2004, provides a current understanding of community perceptions of the various issues surrounding alcohol, tobacco and other drug use. A few of the findings are listed below:

- Residents feel alcohol use and binge drinking is a serious problem, primarily among ages 18-25;
- Residents feel binge drinking and marijuana use are serious problems among ages 12-17;
- More residents feel it is NEVER acceptable for adults to provide alcohol to underage persons than in 2004; and
- Residents believe adults are major contributors to underage drinking by providing alcohol, having alcohol easily accessible in homes and allowing unsupervised house parties.

Grant funding for alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention again decreased in 2013, resulting in a reduction of staff from 2.7 to 2.1 full-time employees. Efforts to obtain community support began in 2012 with the establishment of a Pass-Through Fund at the Eau Claire Community Foundation and additional fundraising efforts.

The More Kids Drug Free campaign was launched in 2014 to convey the impact of drugs on our youth and how important it is to sustain our prevention efforts – decreasing the acceptance of youth use and reducing youth access to alcohol, prescription medicine, nicotine products and other drugs. The campaign was focused around

community members sharing their concerns or stories about alcohol and other drug abuse through photos of them holding their personal story signs. These photos and messages were seen over 75,000 times over social media and the campaign generated 10 traditional media stories/interviews including TV, radio and newspaper. Governor Walker endorsed the More Kids Drug Free campaign stating, “Working to prevent drug abuse is a lifesaving cause; increasing awareness is a critical step in helping people live happy, healthy, prosperous lives.” The More Kids Drug Free monthly e-newsletter was kicked off in September to further educate parents about prevention efforts, their role in prevention, substance abuse trends, and new substances of concern. The e-newsletter is also used to keep coalition members up to date on prevention efforts in the county.

Underage drinking (UAD) Prevention

Local community members from Augusta, Altoona, Fall Creek and Eau Claire are engaged in Community Action Teams to reduce youth access to alcohol and decrease acceptance of underage drinking. Each team typically meets 2-3 times a year to assess local policies as well as plan and implement change initiatives and awareness-building campaigns. Over 100 adult volunteers are active in efforts to reduce underage drinking.

Youth Advocates – Four SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) members from each high school are selected to represent their group on the Eau Claire County Youth Advisory Board (YAB). YAB, coordinated by the Alliance Youth Advisor, meets monthly to assess training needs, plan the annual SADD training and develop ways to convey prevention messages to their peers. YAB plans activisms (activities done by youth prevention activists) for their school SADD groups to conduct.

65 high school youth from the six area SADD groups and their advisors attended the sixth annual day-long advocacy training sponsored by the Alliance. Students were empowered with the knowledge and skills they need to become advocates for change. Youth learned from their student leaders how availability, acceptance and attractiveness contribute to the problems of underage drinking and prescription drug misuse. They also developed skills on how to get messages to their peers through activisms.

SADD members from all six high schools conducted a football activism called “Why all the T-Shirts?” Fifty t-shirts hung during a football game to represent the 5,000 people under age 21 who die due to underage drinking. Flyers were distributed with all game programs telling youth and adults more about the risks of underage drinking. Announcements were made throughout the game – “It’s just not worth the risk.” This message reached over 3,200 community members at six football games.

The Municipal Alcohol Policy (MAP) Action Team brings leaders, law enforcement and community members together to discuss how to improve the local alcohol environment through policy and practice changes. This team also assists in educating policymakers and the community about the impact of proposed policies on underage drinking.

In 2012, the Alliance conducted a countywide survey of establishments licensed to serve alcohol to learn about their policies regarding two specific issues: serving alcohol to parents for their children under 21 year old and allowing bartenders to drink alcohol on the job. Over 70% of establishments participated in the survey. In 2013, the data was analyzed and discussed. It was found that 74% of establishments do not serve anyone under age 21 even if accompanied by a parent, and 52% of these establishments had this policy in writing. It was also found that 81% of establishments do not allow bartenders to drink alcohol while working and 60% of establishments had this policy in writing. In 2014, the Alliance met with establishments who have policies in place to learn more about how the policies work and what the benefits are of having such a policy. The longer term goal is to provide all licensed establishments with information regarding the benefits of having such policies, assist with policy development and encourage adopted policies be written.

The Parents Who Host Lose the Most campaign was conducted for the sixth year throughout Eau Claire County to relay why underage drinking is a serious health, safety and legal issue. This year the theme of the campaign was, “Start Talking... Sooner the Better.” Community Action team members in all Eau Claire County communities helped shape the theme and determine talking points for the campaign.

Kids grow up in a culture surrounded by people drinking alcohol responsibly and irresponsibly. Music, advertising and social media contain many images and ideas about alcohol. When they don't hear from their parents, kids draw their own conclusions, and sometimes those conclusions are not accurate. Kids need their parent's help to interpret what they see. They also need to hear from parents that underage drinking is not okay, or again, without that message, may draw their own inaccurate conclusion. Parents are the number one reason why kids choose not to drink, and parents need to exercise that influence.

The 2014 Parents Who Host Lose the Most campaign with a focus on “Start Talking – the sooner the better” included extensive earned and paid media coverage, including one newspaper article, radio programs, TV shows and newspaper ads. Three volunteer spokespersons and the Coalition Facilitator comprised the media team. This campaign focused on decreasing underage drinking through parent action. Additional promotions involve yard signs, stickers and banners. 17,556 pieces of Parents Who Host promotional material were distributed. Also, 72 community organizations, businesses and governing bodies across the county joined our efforts by adopting a Parents Who Host Proclamation.

The Parents Connecting Network was initiated in 2011 to connect parents and keep teens safe by creating a directory of members. When parents hear that their kids are going to a friend's home, they can call to confirm details, supervision and that it will be alcohol free. Many parents do not realize youth are getting alcohol from their home or drinking alcohol on their property. Together, parents can reduce the chances of this happening. Youth report that they drink most often at home or a friend's home.

Over 850 families have joined the Eau Claire County Parents Connecting Directory by committing to not allow anyone under age 21 to drink alcohol in their home or on their property. In collaboration with schools, recruitment materials were provided to parents of all six Eau Claire County high schools, approximately 4,600 households, to encourage participation in the network in 2014. Families are also provided with information about underage drinking and steps to prevent it in the home. The Alliance also began providing information to parents about prescription drug misuse and disposal.

The Life of an Athlete Program is about healthy lifestyles in youth sports that focuses on top performance, helps athletes be injury-free, and increases community, school and team pride. Information is provided to parents, youth, coaches and other school staff on the negative impact of alcohol on athletic performance. In 2011, John Underwood, founder of the American Athletic Institute and Life of an Athlete program, was brought to Eau Claire County to educate coaches, parents and students. In 2014, the Life of an Athlete program was advanced countywide through Athletic Code Signing Nights at 3 high schools attended by 1,400 parents and athletes. Presentations were also given to 45 teams, reaching over 950 student athletes. The first Life of an Athlete Summit training was also held in July of 2014 to provide area athletes leadership training, empowering them with the necessary confidence, knowledge and skills to be effective team leaders and spread the Life of an Athlete messages. 82 athletes and 15 coaches from three high schools participated.

Community Festivals Program – The Eau Claire City-County Health Department first conducted compliance checks at Country Jam in 2006 and the initial compliance check rate was only 33%. The Reality Check 21 Partnership has worked with Country Jam organizers along with the Sheriff's Department to decrease youth access to alcohol at the event over the past seven years. Ten changes have been made to improve the policy and practices around underage drinking prevention. This year 53 volunteers were recruited and invested 319 hours

to reduce underage drinking at Country Jam. Expanded education of staff and volunteers, increased signage, improved processes and new policies adopted by Country Jam have had significant impact in preventing sales to underage buyers. The 2013 compliance check rate was 99%. In 2014, new management discontinued the educational efforts and the compliance check rate dropped to 71% with plans to reinstate the education provided to volunteer alcohol servers.

Alcohol and Tobacco Compliance Check Programs

Alcohol Compliance Checks were initiated by the Eau Claire City-County Health Department in 2004 in accordance with Wisconsin laws prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages to underage people. In partnership with our six law enforcement agencies, trained teams of four (2 adults and 2 buyers) investigate establishments that hold a license to sell or serve alcohol in Eau Claire County. Underage buyers are 18-20 years old for alcohol compliance checks (CCs). Checks are conducted randomly throughout the year.

Buyers carry their actual ID during the CC process and present it when requested. Servers and sellers do an excellent job asking for IDs but do a poor job of accurately checking IDs. In 2014, 84% of the establishments checked did not sell alcohol to an underage buyer, complying with the law. Sixteen percent (16%) of establishments were not compliant and sold to an underage buyer.

Tobacco Compliance Checks were initiated by the Eau Claire City-County Health Department in 2002 in accordance with Wisconsin laws prohibiting the sale of tobacco products to underage people. In partnership with our six law enforcement agencies, trained teams of four (2 adults and 2 buyers) investigate establishments that hold a license to sell tobacco products in Eau Claire County. Underage buyers are 16-17 years old who try to purchase tobacco products.

Checks are conducted randomly throughout the year through the Wisconsin Wins Program. Checks are conducted to ensure that store employees request and verify the IDs of youth attempting to buy tobacco products and that they refuse sales to persons under age 18. In 2014, 90% of the establishments checked did not sell tobacco to an underage buyer, complying with the law. Ten percent (10%) of establishments were not compliant and sold to an underage buyer.

Four media outreach and four community outreach activities were accomplished in 2014, including newsletter articles, press releases, media interviews, thank you's to compliant establishments and educational information to noncompliant establishments.

Outcome Data

An Eau Claire County Youth Survey, conducted every 2-3 years, measures youth alcohol, tobacco and other drug use as well as contributing factors. This data allows us to monitor youth substance use. The Four Core Measures, identified by federal agencies as the most important indicators in measuring drug use and perceptions among youth, are used to assess, plan, implement and evaluate strategies to reduce use. Two additional measures (age of onset and availability) are included to monitor local conditions.

Results of surveys conducted over 12 years (2001-2013) indicate that our strategies to reduce youth alcohol use in Eau Claire County are working. The latest Eau Claire County Youth Survey was done in 2013. The table below provides trend data on core measures of alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana use among our youth. The table includes data on monthly use, availability and perception of risk for prescription drug misuse.

Core Measures of Youth Substance Use

2001 – 2014

(MS – Middle School, HS – High School)

#1 Core Measure – <u>Age of Onset</u> The average age reported for first use		2001	2004	2007	2009	2011	2013
Alcohol	All	n/a	12.3	12.9	13.1	13.2	n/a
Tobacco	All	n/a	12.0	13.1	13.5	13.5	n/a
Marijuana	All	n/a	14.0	13.9	14.0	13.9	n/a
Prescription Drug Misuse	All	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
#2 Core Measure – <u>Monthly Use</u> Percentage youth reporting monthly use		2001	2004	2007	2009	2011	2013
Alcohol	MS	7.6	5.7	3.8	3.4	2.6	3.8
	HS	38.2	36.2	32.0	26.8	22.8	17.4
	All	22.8	19.2	17.1	14.2	12.4	9.9
Tobacco	MS	5.4	3.9	2.1	2.7	1.8	n/a
	HS	28.2	25.0	22.6	19.1	17.7	n/a
	All	17.0	13.2	11.8	10.3	9.6	n/a
Marijuana	MS	3.1	1.8	1.1	1.8	1.7	1.7
	HS	21.1	16.9	16.3	15.2	14.1	10.7
	All	12.0	8.5	8.3	8.0	7.7	5.7
Prescription Drug Misuse (use within the past year)	MS	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.3	3.8	n/a
	HS	N/A	N/A	N/A	20.1	19.0	n/a
	All	N/A	N/A	N/A	11.5	11.4	n/a
#3 Core Measure – <u>Availability</u> Percentage of youth reporting it is fairly easy/very easy to get		2001	2004	2007	2009	2011	2013
Alcohol	MS	41.1	31.3	22.6	25.2	15.2	19.2
	HS	82.5	72.3	63.9	58.8	57.6	59.9
	All	61.8	49.7	42.4	41.3	35.9	37.5
Tobacco	Cigs						
	MS	31.7	23.7	15.1	18.1	12.1	12.8
	HS	78.9	70.0	55.8	55.3	51.0	55.6
All	55.2	44.6	34.6	35.9	31.1	31.9	
Marijuana	MS	12.7	10.9	6.8	9.1	7.0	5.7
	HS	60.9	47.5	42.8	40.4	39.1	42.8
	All	36.6	27.3	24.0	24.1	22.7	22.3
Prescription Drug	MS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10.7	9.0
	HS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	32.1	29.3
	All	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	21.6	18.1
#4 Core Measure – <u>Perception of Risk</u> Percentage of youth who think it is harmful/very harmful to their health		2001	2004	2007	2009	2011	2013
Alcohol (general)	MS	N/A	83.2	81.5	77.7	80.4	79.4
	HS	N/A	57.3	64.4	69.2	76.2	75.6
	All	N/A	71.8	73.4	73.6	78.3	77.8
Alcohol - Beer	MS	65.6	68.7	67.5	67.6	66.0	n/a
	HS	44.9	43.0	47.6	48.5	52.2	n/a
	All	55.3	57.3	58.0	58.6	59.2	n/a
Tobacco	MS	N/A	95.3	91.6	89.0	89.3	87.7
	HS	N/A	89.2	91.6	90.4	90.6	87.1
	All	N/A	92.6	91.6	89.6	90.0	87.4
Marijuana	MS	91.1	92.0	90.9	86.4	86.0	85.1
	HS	67.1	70.9	71.0	68.2	65.9	66.1
	All	79.7	82.7	81.4	77.9	76.2	76.6

Prescription Drugs	MS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	78.2	86.4
	HS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	76.6	85.2
	All	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	77.4	85.8
#5 Core Measure – <i>Peer Disapproval</i>							
Percentage of youth reporting their friends would feel it is wrong/very wrong for them to use:		2001	2004	2007	2009	2011	2013
Alcohol	MS	N/A	65.4	86.1	85.0	87.4	88.5
	HS	N/A	33.7	35.1	38.4	41.1	45.8
	All	N/A	51.2	61.7	62.8	64.8	69.4
Tobacco	MS	N/A	68.6	92.5	88.8	91.8	92.3
	HS	N/A	52.1	59.4	58.1	61.1	64.7
	All	N/A	61.3	76.7	74.1	76.8	79.9
Marijuana	MS	N/A	65.4	86.1	85.0	87.4	92.5
	HS	N/A	33.7	35.1	38.4	41.1	56.9
	All	N/A	51.2	61.7	62.8	64.8	76.5
Prescription Drugs	MS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	HS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	All	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
#6 Core Measure – <i>Parental Disapproval</i>							
Percentage of youth reporting their parents would feel it is wrong/very wrong for them to use:		2001	2004	2007	2009	2011	2013
Alcohol	MS	N/A	80.0	89.5	89.7	90.8	93.5
	HS	N/A	80.3	71.9	73.3	76.9	75.2
	All	N/A	80.1	81.1	81.9	84.0	85.3
Tobacco	MS	N/A	83.5	95.2	95.9	95.7	97.0
	HS	N/A	85.6	86.8	88.5	88.3	87.7
	All	N/A	84.4	91.2	92.4	92.1	92.8
Marijuana	MS	N/A	84.4	97.1	96.6	96.2	96.7
	HS	N/A	89.1	91.1	91.3	90.8	87.4
	All	N/A	86.5	94.2	94.1	93.6	92.4
Prescription Drugs	MS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	HS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	All	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



Environmental Health/Lab

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND CERTIFIED PUBLIC LABORATORY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Environmental health is defined by State Statute Chapter 254 as the assessment, management, control and prevention of environmental factors that may adversely affect the health, safety or well-being of individuals. The department's environmental health and laboratory staff are highly trained in environmental, public health and laboratory science to carry out these responsibilities.

Tickborne Disease Grant:

As a result of our collaboration with UW-Madison on tick collection in the fall of 2013, ECCCHD was approached by the WI Department of Health Services (DHS) to further assist in a longer term research project related to tick-borne disease in Western Wisconsin. The Building Resilience Against Climate Effects (BRACE) program is a Centers for Disease Control (CDC) grant that was developed to assist states to develop and implement effective response to climate change. The WI DHS is the fiscal agent for the grant. Grant funds provided to ECCCHD from DHS to participate in BRACE activities will be approximately \$17,000 for three years and \$12,000 for the remaining years of the study.

The goal of this study is to quantify the prevalence of *Borrelia burgdorferi* variants associated with more severe disease (such as Lyme disease and now a new related illness) and tick phenological patterns to better understand the potential for altered tick phenology and pathogen virulence.

Body Art Regulation:

The Body Art Advisory Committee was established in late 2013. In the spirit of collaboration, the group has brought together shop owners, practitioners, the police department and environmental health (EH) staff to work through issues that arise in this program. The group built a new ordinance focusing on education and communicable disease prevention. It was passed by the Board of Health in September 2014.

Beach Closures:

There were numerous city of Eau Claire beach closures during the summer due to a variety of factors including heavy rain and potential contamination from geese droppings. The Health Department worked closely with the City of Eau Claire and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on closure strategy, communication and options for prevention.

“Pack It Up, Pass It On” and Spring Move Out:

The annual event took place at the UWEC Water Street parking lot. Spring Move Out was held again the week around finals. Interfaith Hospitality and Hope Gospel Mission participated again this year to receive useable items. UWEC Student Senate worked with the Health Department to modify flyers and distribute information on and off-campus using social media and other University tools. This annual event is a collaborative effort including EH staff; the above-mentioned charitable organizations; Boxx Sanitation; the Apartment Owners Association; City Streets, Police and Planning Departments; Historic Randall and Third Ward Neighborhood Associations; UWEC University police and CVTC Law Enforcement Students.

FDA Retail Food Standards:

We enrolled in the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Voluntary Retail Food Standards program to improve one of our flagship programs. Very few health departments across the country are consistently meeting the nine standards in the program so this will be a welcome challenge to help us improve our program. Funding is available to help support some of this work and staff are applying for this resource.

Mosquito surveillance:

We revitalized our Mosquito/West Nile Virus surveillance that was stopped a decade ago by using a volunteer who worked with us over the summer. The project provided some interesting results indicating that the West Nile Virus species appear to make up a larger percent of the mosquito populations than they did ten years ago. Our volunteer left us with a well written report and a full project design with standardized sample sites to use in the future. This is one of many programs and services that Environmental Health plans on initiating and maintaining for the community using volunteers.

Runway Avenue Clean-up:

ECCCHD partnered with various Eau Claire City and County agencies to conduct a neighborhood cleanup of the Runway Avenue neighborhood amidst concerns of the neighborhood's deteriorating physical condition, which can directly influence health, crime and disorder issues. This project was a collaborative effort with City of Eau Claire Inspections, Housing and Streets Divisions, the Eau Claire Police Department and the Eau Claire County Recycling Program.

Electronic records:

DHS and the Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) inspections began using the state-supplied software HealthSpace. It not only provides a clear and organized report for the operator that can be emailed, but it also gives us data-analysis and report generating capabilities that we have not had before. This is an important step in process improvement and our staff has done a great job embracing the technology.

Radon Campaign:

The Radon advertising campaign was launched the last week of December to increase test kit sales and raise awareness. It consisted of six billboards, dozens of radio spots, print media advertising and traditional media outreach. Funding came from the State and was previously approved by the BOH. Radon exposure continues to be a significant health issue in this county.

Nitrate in Drinking Water:

The public health lab staff identified four townships in Eau Claire with higher than average nitrate results in drinking water. The department brought an interdepartmental team together and has built an outreach program to increase testing in these townships by partnering with Eau Claire County Land Conservation and UW-Extension.

Shane Sanderson, M.S., J.D., R.E.H.S.

Environmental Health Director

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND CERTIFIED PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

Environmental Health/Laboratory Programs:

- Food Protection
- Environmental Communicable Disease Investigations
- Housing and Property Maintenance and Hygiene
- Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention
- Environmental and Recreational Sanitation
- Drinking Water Protection
- Air Quality Protection
- Human Health Hazards and Solid Waste
- Private Onsite Wastewater Disposal
- Radiation Protection and Emergency Preparedness
- Rodent, Insect, Rabies and Vector Control

Overarching Environmental Health Goals/Objectives:

- Assure protection from the spread of communicable diseases through food, water and rodents/insects.
- Assure that the public is provided housing that is safe and adequate for the protection of the public's health, safety and general welfare.
- Assure that the public is provided a safe water supply that is protected from organic and inorganic chemical contamination.
- Assure the proper treatment and disposal of wastewater to prevent human health hazards, water pollution, drinking water contamination and the spread of communicable diseases.
- Assure protection from injury and disease at facilities such as schools, beaches, pools, body art facilities, campgrounds, lodging facilities, massage therapy facilities and manufactured home communities.
- Assure proper storage, collection, transportation and disposal of solid waste to protect health and safety.
- Assure protection from radiation and radioactive materials, devices and products.
- Assure that children live in lead-safe environments.
- To reduce the exposure to air contaminants.

FOOD PROTECTION

Purpose/Goals: (1) To assure that the public is adequately provided with food that is safe, clean, wholesome and sanitary and (2) To assure that the public is protected from the unnecessary spread of communicable diseases through food.

Program Description: Administer state and local regulations governing food service facilities. Conduct inspections of food service establishments and require correction of violations. Collect and test food samples to assess for food contamination using standard plate count (SPC) and coliform, which directly correlate with sanitation deficiencies. Conduct epidemiological investigations of suspected and confirmed foodborne illness cases and outbreaks. Provide consultation and information to the public and food service workers on food safety.

Food Service Inspection Program

State agent agreements require annual inspections of licensed establishments; additionally, the department's inspection frequency policy is based on a risk assessment. Risk assessments link the number of critical

violations to the frequency of inspection. Critical violations are defined in the Wisconsin Food Code as “those most likely to result in foodborne illness.” Inspections are conducted using an inspection form that separates violations into critical and non-critical categories. This allows the inspection report to be used as an effective tool that focuses the establishment operator on correcting problems within the establishment that are more likely to cause human illness or food contamination. Re-inspections are conducted to confirm that all critical violations have been corrected. If critical violations still remain after the initial two re-inspections, a fee is assessed for each additional re-inspection required to ensure compliance.

Education of food service establishment staff is an important factor in achieving compliance with the Wisconsin Food Code. At least one employee of the food service establishment must be certified in food service sanitation. Courses are offered through the Wisconsin Restaurant Association and the Tavern League of Wisconsin. Those individuals who pass the course examination are then able to obtain certification through the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Restaurants/Taverns/Vending Machines

As an agent of the Wisconsin DHS, the department conducts inspections of licensed food service establishments (restaurants, temporary restaurants and vending machines). Additionally, the Board of Health has adopted regulations requiring routine annual licensing and inspection of beverage service establishments (taverns). In addition to temporary restaurant rules enforced using the Wisconsin Food Code, the City of Eau Claire also requires an itinerant (temporary) restaurant license. Food program staff routinely inspect temporary restaurants at special events throughout the year. The majority of the events take place during the months of summer and early fall. Some events include Country Jam, Taste of the Valley, Festival in the Pines, International Fall Festival, Hmong New Year and many other smaller venues. Application forms are sent to the temporary restaurant operators and consultations are frequently given prior to the events. Temporary restaurants are inspected for compliance with the Wisconsin Food Code with an emphasis placed on critical violations.

Restaurant/Tavern/Temporary Food/Vending Licenses and Inspections					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total Number of Licensed Restaurants/Taverns	348	325	316	321	308
Routine Inspections - Restaurant/Tavern	431	365	360	447	297
Reinspections - Restaurant/Tavern	208	223	212	268	219
Investigations - Restaurant/Tavern	69	56	64	61	63
New/Change of Ownership Restaurant/Tavern Licenses	42	29	27	24	25
Temporary Restaurant Licenses Issued	200	212	271	232	270
Temporary Restaurant Inspections (inc. reinspections)	90	96	130	139	61
Vending Machine Vendors	1	1	3	3	5
Vending Machine Inspections	85	70	102	98	103
Total Number of Inspections (all types):	883	810	868	1,013	743
Total Number of Licensed Facilities (all types):	548	537	587	553	578

Retail Food

As an agent of DATCP, the Department conducts routine annual inspections of licensed retail food establishments, e.g., grocery stores, convenience stores, coffee shops, etc. These establishments are routinely inspected once annually and more frequently as needed. Re-inspections are conducted to obtain compliance with cited critical violations. Samples of ground beef, cold cuts, deli foods and swabs of food preparation equipment are collected at regular intervals by environmental health staff, providing a comprehensive evaluation of sanitary conditions in processing retail food establishments. These results are summarized in the “Laboratory Food and Beverage Sampling Program” section of this report.

Retail Food Licenses and Inspections					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total Number of Active Licenses	141	134	131	126	138
Active Processing Licenses	116	112	114	111	113
Active Non-Processing Licenses	25	22	17	15	25
Routine Inspections	187	116	134	151	162
Reinspections	39	42	48	56	62
Investigations	44	24	14	43	51
New Retail Food Processing Licenses	11	12	26	10	18
New Retail Food Non-Processing Licenses	1	3	3	1	2
Discontinuation of Operation	7	13	22	22	15
Retail Food Complaints	9	24	5	5	3
Total Number of Inspections (all types):	279	206	201	255	278

Critical Violations Summary

The Health Department strives for continued improvement of critical violations within licensed restaurants. Unfortunately, restaurant and tavern staff turnover and management changes result in a continuous cycle of education and repeat violations. Some activities our department has developed to reduce the number of critical violations include numerous educational and enforcement activities such as an annual “Food Facts Newsletter,” refrigeration temperature logs, risk control plans, enforcement letters and citations.

Critical Violations Summary					
	Violation Numbers				
Violation Category	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
1. Person in Charge	11	8	1	0	3
2. Employee Health	20	12	5	1	2
3. Hygienic Practices	68	46	27	36	34
4. Food Source	7	11	10	10	7
5. Food Reception	1	0	0	0	0
6. Contamination Protection	64	59	44	56	34
7. Improper Holding	102	99	123	185	141
8. Inadequate Cooking	5	0	0	1	2
9. Food Safety	89	120	126	130	101
10. Equipment Design	3	6	5	6	7
11. Equipment Cleanliness	57	51	62	65	50
12. Wash & Sanitize	31	30	45	46	33
13. Plumbing	23	31	39	47	49
14. Water & Sewer	2	1	6	2	5
15. Pest Control	2	7	3	0	4
16. Toxic Products	55	43	38	56	34
Total Critical Violations:	540	474	476	582	441
Total Inspections:	685	644	636	776	579
Average Critical Violations/Inspection:	0.79	0.74	0.75	0.75	0.76

School Food Program

The Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 1998 requires annual mandatory health inspections of all school food service facilities participating in the National School Lunch and/or Breakfast Programs. This federal law requires a state or local governmental agency responsible for food safety to conduct the inspections annually through Section III of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004. Congress decided that beginning July 1, 2005, each school participating in the National School Lunch or Breakfast Programs must obtain at least two safety inspections each school year. In addition, schools must post, in a publicly visible

location, a report on the most recent food safety inspection and provide a copy of the food safety inspection report to the public upon request.

Schools participating in the National School Lunch or Breakfast Programs are required to comply with a HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point) system established by the Secretary of Agriculture. Several HACCP training sessions have been offered jointly through DHFS and the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) throughout the state. The majority of the school districts have developed or are in the process of developing their HACCP programs. Additional staff time was spent advising school staff in HACCP implementation.

Inspections are conducted at public and private elementary, middle and high schools in Eau Claire County. All public and private schools that participate in the National School Lunch and/or Breakfast programs are inspected twice a year, and non-participants are inspected annually. The entire facility is evaluated for general safety and maintenance, and inspections are usually performed near lunchtime to evaluate food handling techniques and kitchen sanitation in the same inspection. Private wells and septic systems are also inspected for rural schools. Violations are noted on the inspection sheets and copies are sent to the school administration for each school building. Consultation takes place at the time of the inspection to ensure that potentially hazardous conditions are understood and corrected.

School Food Service					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total Number of Schools	34	34	33	32	32
Routine Inspections	68	65	65	64	64
Reinspections	2	1	1	1	7
Investigations	1	1	0	3	0
Total Number of Inspections (all types):	71	67	66	68	71

Laboratory Food and Beverage Sampling Program

Food samples and food preparation surface swabs are periodically collected from food/beverage service establishments within the City and County of Eau Claire for laboratory analysis using standard plate count (SPC) and coliform testing. The results are used to help identify possible sanitation deficiencies in these establishments. If results indicate sanitation deficiencies, an environmental health specialist works with the establishment and the operators to identify problems and to correct any deficiencies.

Bacteria standards have been adopted as part of state and local regulations for ice cream products, milk products, ground meat and ice. These products are sampled and tested on a periodic basis to assess compliance with these standards. Failure to meet the bacteria standards can result in an order from the Health Department that requires sale of the product to be discontinued. Establishments with deficiencies receive evaluations and recommendations by Health Department environmental health specialists regarding storage, handling, temperature maintenance, cleaning, sanitizing and rotation of products exceeding bacteria standards. Bacteria standards have not been adopted for restaurant foods, cold cuts, sandwiches, deli products, ice, sodas or food/preparation surface swabs. Bacteria counts for these products are used as a guideline to indicate possible

sanitary deficiencies. Environmental health staff will conduct on-site evaluations where test results indicate sanitary deficiencies may exist. Recommendations such as storage, handling, temperature maintenance, product rotation and sanitation are discussed with management to correct possible problems and follow-up sampling and testing is done to assess improvements.

In addition to sampling and analyzing food samples in our local certified public health laboratory, the department also collects retail food equipment swab samples under the DATCP Agent Agreement. These samples are shipped to the Bureau of Laboratory Services in Madison, Wisconsin and are routinely tested for the presence of *Listeria monocytogenes*.

Sample Type: Cold Cut, Retail Deli Foods and Sandwiches			
Coliform Guideline (500 CFU)			
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2014	119	19	15.97%
2013	105	5	4.76%
2012	201	28	13.93%

Sample Type: Hamburger Samples						
SPC Standard (4,000,000 CFU)				Coliform Standard (2,000 CFU)		
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2014	29	2	6.90%	29	3	10.34%
2013	47	0	0.00%	47	0	0.00%
2012	70	11	15.71%	70	7	10.00%

Sample Type: Restaurant Food						
SPC Guideline (100,000 CFU)				Coliform Guideline (500 CFU)		
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2014	28	5	17.86%	74	15	20.27%
2013	9	1	11.11%	77	4	5.19%
2012	18	1	5.56%	154	6	3.90%

Sample Type: Food/Preparation Surface Swabs						
	SPC Guideline (100 CFU)			Coliform Guideline (10 CFU)		
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2014	50	7	14.00%	50	1	2.00%
2013	83	22	26.51%	83	9	10.84%
2012	194	42	21.65%	194	10	5.15%

Sample Type: Milk Dispensers						
	SPC Standard (20,000 CFU)			Coliform Standard (10 CFU)		
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2014	74	5	6.76%	74	5	6.76%
2013	71	10	14.08%	92	6	6.52%
2012	92	11	11.96%	92	6	6.52%

Sample Type: Fresh-Brewed Iced Tea, Soda and Beer (Retail Food Establishments, Restaurants, and Taverns)						
	SPC Guideline (100,000 CFU)			Coliform Guideline (50 CFU)		
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2014	55	2	3.64%	55	5	9.09%
2013	105	10	9.52%	105	21	20.00%
2012	374	44	11.76%	376	100	26.60%

Sample Type: Ice (Retail Food Establishments, Restaurants, and Taverns)						
	SPC Guideline (100,000 CFU)			Coliform Guideline (50 CFU)		
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2014	68	0	0.00%	68	1	1.47%
2013	92	0	0.00%	92	5	5.43%
2012	143	0	0.00%	143	1	0.70%
	Colilert (Present/Absent)					
	Total # Samples	# Present	% Present			
2014	82	15	18.29%			
2013	118	33	27.97%			
2012	183	43	23.50%			

Sample Type: Frozen Yogurt, Soft Freeze, Ice Cream, and Premixes						
	SPC Standard (100,000 CFU)			Coliform Standard (50 CFU)		
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2014	919	59	6.42%	1254	192	15.31%
2013	849	51	6.01%	1215	186	15.31%
2012	833	34	4.08%	972	125	12.86%

Sample Type: Pasteurized Milk (Retail Stores)						
	SPC Standard (20,000 CFU)			Coliform Standard (10 CFU)		
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2014	170	12	7.06%	171	12	7.02%
2013	168	2	1.19%	168	0	0.00%
2012	190	10	5.26%	190	3	1.58%

Sample Type: Retail Bottled Water			
		Colilert (Present/Absent)	
Year	Total # Samples	# Present	% Present
2014	5	0	0.00%
2013	6	0	0.00%
2012	8	0	0.00%

Sample Type: Cottage Cheese, Dips, Sour Cream (Cultured)			
		Coliform Standard	
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2014	12	0	0.00%
2013	23	0	0.00%
2012	19	0	0.00%

**Note:* The percent of samples exceeding bacteria standards or guidelines in the following tables can be biased to a higher percent by the number of repeat samples tested to achieve correction of a specific problem. All samples are measured in colony-forming units (CFU).

License Review Committee

A representative of the Health Department takes part in the City of Eau Claire License Review Committee, which reviews applications for liquor licenses. The committee makes recommendations to the City Council whether or not the license should be granted.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICABLE DISEASE INVESTIGATIONS

Communicable Disease Committee

New in 2008, this committee was formed as a result of the Department’s 2007-09 Strategic Plan. The committee worked on establishing a system for inter-office communication, follow-up and review of communicable diseases that crossover nursing and environmental health. Environmental Health staff investigate confirmed cases of reported communicable diseases that have an environmental health component.

Communicable Disease Reviews				
2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
61	34	51	80	75

Foodborne Illness Investigations

Environmental Health Specialists respond to reports of suspected foodborne illness in the community on a routine basis. An extensive food history is taken, and all suspect locations are investigated (if licensed by the department). Consultation is also provided to complainants that have general concerns regarding foodborne illness.

Foodborne Illness Activities					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Foodborne Illness - Investigations	9	18	19	7	11
Foodborne Illness - Reports of Illness	9	6	12	13	11
Foodborne Illness real or suspected outbreaks	1	0	1	0	0

HOUSING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & HYGIENE

Purpose/Goals: To assure that the public is provided housing that is safe and adequate for the protection of the public's health, safety and general welfare.

Program Description: Administer the City of Eau Claire, Altoona, Augusta, Fall Creek, Fairchild, Town of Seymour, and Town of Union Housing Maintenance and Occupancy Codes. Enforce provisions of the County Sanitary Code that address health hazards created by unsanitary or unsafe housing conditions. Administer and enforce the State of Wisconsin manufactured home community rules as an agent of the state. Conduct inspections, re-inspections and investigations in response to complaints or other agency referrals. Conduct a proactive Intensified Housing Code Compliance Program in an area of the City of Eau Claire as defined by the Community Development Block Grant target area. Provide assessment of community housing conditions. License and conduct annual inspections of rooming houses (dwelling units with more than four unrelated occupants). Conduct collaborative investigations, inspections and activities with other City and County agencies regarding community housing issues.

Housing Code Enforcement

The Housing Maintenance and Occupancy Code is an Eau Claire City Ordinance and has also been adopted by Altoona, Augusta, Fall Creek, Fairchild, and the Townships of Seymour and Union. It is used as an enforcement tool in annual inspections of licensed rooming houses, inspections of other properties on a complaint basis and for the Intensified Housing Code Compliance Program (IHCCP). The code is also used as a guideline on inspections for City Housing Assistance Programs, the County Department of Human Services (referrals regarding sanitary conditions and neglect cases), and for inspections of houses in areas of the county which do not have a housing code. Follow-up inspections and re-inspections are conducted to achieve compliance with the code.

Rooming houses

A rooming house is a dwelling unit that is occupied by more than four unrelated occupants. All rooming houses in the City of Eau Claire and Altoona are required to have a current operating license, issued by the Health Department. Rooming houses are inspected annually to determine compliance with the provisions of the Housing Code and State/Federal laws.

Human Services Investigations

Joint investigations are conducted in conjunction with the Eau Claire County Department of Human Services. These investigations are often more complex, dealing with such issues as unsanitary living conditions, health and safety concerns for children and elderly persons, economic problems as well as housing code violations. Resolution of these cases often involves working with landlords, family members and staff from both agencies.

Interagency Agreement for the Investigation of Dangerous Living Conditions

Dangerous living conditions are those in the home environment which are hazardous, unsanitary or situations where the competency of an individual is such that occupants' lives are seriously threatened. An interagency agreement for the investigation of dangerous living conditions was signed by seven City of Eau Claire and County agencies in 1993. The agencies signing the agreement are the City Police Department, City Fire Department, City Community Development Department, City Attorney's Office, County Department of Human Services, Corporation Counsel's Office and the City-County Health Department. The purpose of the interagency agreement is to establish a protocol and team for appropriate city and county agencies to collectively address those problems in a timely and coordinated manner. This team approach has proven beneficial to solving multi-disciplinary and complex housing related problems.

Intensified Housing Code Compliance Program (IHCCP)

This program involves a systematic housing inspection effort in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Target Areas in the City of Eau Claire. Exterior conditions of individual properties within the strategy areas are surveyed block by block to determine properties needing a complete inspection. An exterior housing survey was conducted during 2010-11 to re-evaluate housing conditions within the target area. Each dwelling was rated according to the number of structural defect points (areas of deterioration) noted on the exterior of that property and then each block was rated according to the percent of dwellings present in that block with more than four structure defect points. The 2010-11 survey was implemented using new Geographic Information System (GIS) software and a Global Positioning System unit to survey the CDBG target area residences. This new technology allowed for one individual to conduct the survey while immediately collecting and applying the data to the City parcel map.

The program design continues to be effective in identification of the more significantly deteriorated dwellings in Eau Claire by using an objective means to assess the property conditions. The inspections have identified many significant interior health and safety hazards, have improved block conditions due to exterior maintenance and have helped to eliminate insect and rodent harborage by enforcement of proper garbage storage and disposal. Reasonable compliance has been achieved as indicated by the increased number of houses with all cited violations being completely corrected and other properties in various stages of completion. A continued policy to first notify the owner of a property of a pending inspection and then to establish a joint inspection appointment is felt to be a major factor in the small number of Housing Advisory Board appeals. Conducting inspections with the property owner present reduces confusion of required corrections and also increases effective use of staff time. Issuing citations in instances of non-compliance is done in an effort to achieve improved compliance within reasonable time periods.

Intensified Housing Code Compliance Program - Field Activity Summary						2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
A. CDBG Funds: Primarily used to cover 50%-80% of the 1 FTE dedicated to the program plus mileage/supplies/etc.						\$62,000	\$62,000	\$62,000	\$65,000	\$72,300
B. Inspections:										
1. Dwellings Inspected						163	108	166	168	153
a. Renter-occupied						124	95	143	147	132
b. Owner-occupied						35	12	21	19	19
c. Owner and renter occupied						4	1	2	2	2
2. Dwelling Units contained in 168 dwellings						185	203	181	191	188
3. Total Inspections						773	377	791	822	839
a. Initial Inspections						163	108	181	191	188
b. Reinspections to assess compliance						510	269	610	631	651
4. Complaint Investigations (specific problems - not complete inspections)						100	30	37	63	43
C. Enforcement Actions:										
1. Compliance Orders Issued						263	138	210	254	231
2. Citations Issued						20	46	30	30	45
3. Housing Advisory Board Hearings						1	1	1	0	0
4. Inspection Warrants						0	2	2	1	0
5. Dwelling Units placarded as unfit for habitation						9	6	16	11	16
D. Total Program Inspections (1980-2013):										
1. Total Number Inspected						4228	4065	3862	3681	3490
2. Houses Brought into Compliance						4117	4011	3747	3551	3370
3. Houses in Progress						111	54	115	130	120

Housing Activities Summary (*Includes IHCCP)					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Rooming House Licenses	144	144	145	146	147
Rooming House Inspections	144	144	145	146	147
Rooming House Reinspections	82	99	174	162	190
Complaint Inspections/Investigations	177	215	260	335	269
Complaint Reinspections	536	688	875	980	824
IHCCP Inspections and Investigations	263	137	260	144	196
IHCCP Reinspections	510	269	689	541	651
Housing Advisory Board Meetings*	1	0	1	0	1

Dwelling Units Placarded as Unfit *for Occupancy	28	26	47	45	53
Total Housing Consultations*	1641	2306	3441	3581	3587
Citations Issued *	29	45	45	41	45
Total Inspections and Reinspections*	1712	1596	2402	2343	2273

Manufactured Home Communities

Manufactured Home Communities in Eau Claire County are licensed and inspected as an agent of the Wisconsin Department of Commerce and the Board of Health Manufactured Home Community regulation. Additional investigations of problems or violations are also conducted on a complaint basis. Manufactured Home Communities served by drinking water wells are required by the safe drinking water regulations to have their water tested by a certified laboratory on a monthly basis, these results are reported in the Drinking Water and Certified Laboratory sections of this report.

Manufactured Home Communities					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total Number of Licensed Establishments	17	17	17	17	17
Total Number of Licensed Sites	1477	1477	1477	1477	-
Routine Inspections	17	17	17	18	18
Reinspections	10	9	28	35	27
Investigations	5	7	5	13	3
Orders issued for correction of maintenance and sanitation violations	12	8	12	16	14
Total Inspections (includes all types):	32	33	50	66	48

CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION

Purpose/Goals: To protect children in Eau Claire County from lead poisoning.

Program Description: Conduct lead hazard assessments of homes where children with lead poisoning reside. Assure that children with elevated blood lead levels receive ongoing medical follow-up and testing as recommended. Provide lead hazard assessment upon request of families with young children living in high-risk homes for the presence of lead hazards. Educate the public on reducing and managing potential lead hazards. Collect and test environmental samples for lead. Assure that high-risk children served in the WIC Program have a documented blood lead test. Provide consultation and literature on how to safely eliminate lead hazards.

General Lead Investigations

Environmental Health Specialists receive special training and certification for lead investigation and enforcement. An X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) lead paint analyzer is used during the home evaluations to determine the presence and quantity of lead in a painted or varnished surface. Environmental health staff investigate and provide consultation and literature on how to safely eliminate lead hazards within or outside the home.

General Lead Investigations using XRF				
2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
4	4	5	7	11

Elevated Blood-Lead Investigations

Public Health nurses provide case management and teaching to the families of children with elevated blood lead levels. In 2013, the Centers for Disease Control recommendation changed from 15 micrograms per deciliter to 5 micrograms per deciliter. Depending upon the findings of case management, children may be referred to Environmental Health staff for investigation and evaluation of the home environment. Lead abatement orders are issued during these investigations if significant lead hazards are identified.

Elevated Blood-Lead Investigations					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Public Health Nurse-Childhood Lead Cases	20	13	12	16	9
Referrals to Environmental Health (Home Evaluations)	5	3	3	6	5
Lead Abatement Orders	3	2	5	4	3

Environmental samples are also obtained to help determine the source of the lead in the children's bodies. These environmental samples include paint chips, soil and surface wipes. A total of thirty-six (36) samples were obtained by staff and analyzed by either the Health Department's chemistry laboratory or the Wisconsin Occupational Health Laboratory for their lead concentration. In 2014, the department entered into an agreement to contract investigation services to Buffalo county.

Total Number of Lead Samples Collected				
2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
7	15	44	13	36

ENVIRONMENTAL AND RECREATIONAL SANITATION

Purpose/Goals: To assure that the public is adequately protected from injury or the spread of disease when using or occupying facilities such as schools, beaches, pools, body art facilities, campgrounds, lodging facilities and massage therapy facilities.

Program Description: License and inspect for overall safety and sanitary conditions and enforce state and local regulations governing these facilities. Collect and test drinking water, pool, and beach samples to assess for contamination and require corrective measures when unsafe levels of contaminants are identified. Provide

consultation to facility operators and the public on preventing health and safety hazards when operating or using these facilities.

Public Facility Regulation

The County and City of Eau Claire have adopted rules which establish minimum sanitary standards for the operation of various public facilities. Below are the facilities regulated and inspected under these City and County regulations:

Adult-oriented Bookstores: Eau Claire has one adult oriented bookstore which is inspected annually by the Health Department. Inspections of these facilities include toilet rooms, physical maintenance and other sanitation maintenance concerns.

Massage Facilities: Massage facilities within the City of Eau Claire, are licensed and inspected at least annually by the Health Department. The physical facilities, such as toilet rooms, square footage, lighting, furnishings, linens and clothing, are inspected by the Department. Massage therapists are licensed and regulated through the State of Wisconsin.

Licensed Massage Facilities				
2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
33	33	35	46	39

Tattoo/Body Piercing Facilities: Tattoo and Body Piercing facilities are licensed and inspected in the City and County of Eau Claire through City and County Ordinance. These facilities must be licensed and inspected at least annually by the Health Department. The State of Wisconsin also has rules for these facilities and license requirements for the artists. As an agent of the State of Wisconsin, the Health Department enforces these rules, which address both the physical facilities and artist’s methods and practices.

Tattoo and Body Piercing establishments must test their sterilization equipment on a minimum monthly basis, unless they have obtained a “variance” from the State of Wisconsin, Department of Health Services (DHS) to utilize only pre-sterile, single-use disposable equipment. Currently, six establishments have obtained the variance from DHS.

Tattoo/Body Piercing Facilities				
2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
14	14	14	13	12

One option for testing is using the local health department laboratory. Establishments can submit spore tests to the Health Department Laboratory for testing to verify that their sterilization process is adequate.

Spore Ampule Tests														
2014			2013			2011			2010			2009		
Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total
73	1	74	48	1	49	53	0	53	45	5	50	51	0	51

Hotels and Motels

Lodging facilities such as Hotels, Motels, Tourist Rooming houses and Bed & Breakfast establishments in Eau Claire County are licensed and inspected as an agent of the Wisconsin DHS and the Board of Health Hotel/Motel regulation. The Eau Claire City-County Board of Health Regulations allow for serving a full service breakfast at the licensed bed and breakfast establishments. The operator or manager must pass a certified food handlers course as stated in the Wisconsin Food Code. At this time all of the bed and breakfast establishments have chosen to serve a full service breakfast.

Hotels/Motels/Lodging					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total Number of Licensed Establishments	39	41	39	38	38
Routine Inspections	48	43	44	45	51
Reinspections	27	21	27	32	46
Investigations	7	4	5	12	15
Consultations	32	36	58	57	109
Total Inspections (includes all types):	82	68	76	89	112

Parks and Campgrounds

Campgrounds and educational camps in Eau Claire County are licensed and inspected as an agent of the Wisconsin DHS and the Board of Health pools and recreational facility regulation. All public parks, campgrounds, beaches and recreational areas are inspected before the season gets underway. The department also licenses and inspects special event campgrounds. Water samples are collected in May and again in July from wells at all public parks and campgrounds, and tested in the Health Department Laboratory for bacteria and nitrates.

Campgrounds and Recreational Camps					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total Number of Campgrounds	13	14	13	13	12
Total Number of Educational Camps	2	2	2	2	2
Special Event Campground Licenses Issued (see below)	4	4	5	6	8
Routine Inspections	20	17	17	23	22
Reinspections	2	0	0	4	5
Investigations	2	0	1	0	0
Consultations	21	21	22	35	17
Total Inspections (includes all types):	24	17	18	27	27

Recreational Waters

Swimming Pools: Monthly water quality and cleanliness inspections were made at all swimming pools located at schools, motels, private clubs, and apartment and condominium complexes. Inspections, re-inspections and investigations are conducted with regard to pool equipment and any significant water quality problems.

Pseudalert: This test method was started in 2012 and is used for the detection of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in swimming pools and whirlpools. This organism causes an infection, resulting in “Hot Tub Rash”. This name, however, does not limit the organism only to hot tubs/whirlpools, but also swimming pools.

Swimming Pools/Water Attractions					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total Number of Licensed Features	56	56	60	62	55
Routine Inspections	51	54	40	47	58
Reinspections	13	25	29	51	60
Investigations	2	5	8	30	30
Consultations	24	42	48	116	120
Total Inspections (includes all types):	66	84	77	128	148
Pool Water Samples Analyzed (Bacteria)					
Bacteriological Safe Samples	589	546	554	543	609
Bacteriological UnSafe Samples	6	2	5	4	7
Percent Bacti Unsafe:	1.02%	0.37%	0.90%	0.74%	1.15%
Pseudomonas Safe Samples	260	189	234		
Pseudomonas UnSafe Samples	10	2	10		
Percent Pseudo Unsafe:	3.85%	1.06%	4.27%		
Total Samples Analyzed:	865	739	803	547	616

**Pseudomonas testing started in 2012, resulting in an increase in the total number of samples analyzed.*

Beaches – Water Quality

Weekly water quality and cleanliness inspections are made at Big Falls, Lake Altoona, Riverview Park, Coon Fork, and Lake Eau Claire from May through August. Other popular swimming locations, such as beaches along the Eau Claire River and Half Moon Beach are also sampled on a weekly basis. A level of 235 *E. coli* bacteria per 100 ml of water is used as the limit for considering a beach water sample as unsafe.

Beach Closures				
	2014	2013	2012	2011
Big Falls	2	1	1	3
Lake Altoona	1	0	0	2
Riverview Park	0	0	2	2
Half Moon Lake	1	3	0	0
Coon Fork	2	1	0	2
Lake Eau Claire	0	1	0	1
Total Closures	6	6	3	10

Swimming Pools and Beach Laboratory Sampling

Eau Claire City and County swimming pools are sampled monthly. Beaches are sampled weekly during the summer months for water quality and cleanliness. The following table summarizes the recreational water samples analyzed by the laboratory for Eau Claire County. Additionally, samples are analyzed for beaches in Chippewa, and Clark Counties. Out-of-county data is contained in the “Certified Public Health Laboratory” section of this report.

Eau Claire County - Recreational Water Samples - Bacteriological Summary															
	2014			2013			2012			2011			2010		
	Sat	Unsat.	Total	Sat	Unsat.	Total	Sat	Unsat.	Total	Sat	Unsat.	Total	Sat	Unsat.	Total
Pools															
Coliform	589	6	595	546	2	548	554	5	559	543	4	547	609	7	616
Beaches															
E.coli	264	57	321	265	37	302	291	23	314	340	77	417	341	93	434
Sand															
E.coli	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	8	12	0	12	0	0	0

Sat = Satisfactory; Unsat = Unsatisfactory

Noise

Noise investigations are periodically conducted by the department at the request of a complainant. Two investigations were performed in 2013.

DRINKING WATER PROTECTION

Purpose/Goals: To assure that the public is provided a safe water supply that is protected from organic and inorganic chemical contamination and communicable diseases.

Program Description: Promote the testing of private water wells for contaminants, review and issue well permits to assure proper location of new wells, require abandonment of unused wells and conduct inspections of

existing wells to assess their risk of being or becoming contaminated. Provide consultation and work with the public to correct their drinking water problems and on measures they can take to prevent contamination of their well. Provide drinking water testing for contaminants such as fecal coliform bacteria, organic chemicals, nitrates, pesticides, lead and copper. Conduct epidemiological investigations of suspected and confirmed waterborne illness cases and outbreaks. Participate with the County Groundwater Advisory Committee to implement groundwater protection initiatives.

Public Drinking Water Supplies

Municipal Water Supplies

The Health Department collects municipal water samples to test for coliform bacteria and residual chlorine from Altoona, Augusta, Fairchild and Fall Creek. These samples are collected twice a month from various locations in each municipality as required by the safe drinking water law.

The following table summarizes the municipal water samples analyzed by the laboratory for Eau Claire County. Data from the locations outside of Eau Claire County are contained in the “Certified Public Health Laboratory” section of this report.

Eau Claire County - Bacteriological Testing of Municipal Water Samples												
	2014			2013			2012			2011		
	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total
Altoona Municipal	98	1	99	96	0	96	98	1	99	103	1	104
-Municipal Wells	31	0	31	21	0	21	30	1	31	42	2	44
Augusta Municipal	30	0	30	24	0	24	28	0	28	31	0	31
-Municipal Wells	24	0	24	16	0	16	16	0	16	16	0	16
Fairchild Municipal	28	0	28	24	0	24	37	2	39	24	0	24
-Municipal Wells	8	0	8	8	0	8	9	0	9	8	0	8
Fall Creek Municipal	25	0	25	25	0	25	35	2	37	32	0	32
-Municipal Wells	7	0	7	7	0	7	9	0	9	2	0	2
Total Samples:	251	1	252	221	0	221	262	6	268	258	3	261
Other Analyses-												
Residual Chlorine Samples	206			194			218			182		
Residual Chlorine Tests	618			579			654			546		
-Free Available												
-Combined Available												
-Total Residual												

Sat = Satisfactory; Unsat = Unsatisfactory

Private Drinking Water Supplies

The Eau Claire County Sanitary Code requires that all premises intended for human occupancy shall be provided with an adequate supply of water that is safe and acceptable to drink. Water samples are collected upon request and wells are evaluated at the time of the sampling. Recommendations are made by environmental health specialists to correct unsafe water supplies.

The chemistry and microbiology department conduct numerous tests and analyses to ensure safe drinking water is available to private homeowners. Some information is contained within this section, while other information can be found in the ‘Certified Public Health Laboratory’ section of this report.

Newborn Infants Program

A grant for the testing of private water supplies serving families with newborn infants for arsenic, fluoride, lead, and copper was discontinued by the State Division of Public Health in 2012. Free testing for these contaminants, as well as Bacteria and Nitrate, were still offered to families with newborn infants.

Newborn Infants Program										
	2014		2013		2012		2011		2010	
Letters Sent To Families	181		163		118		94		156	
Families Participating (%)	32	18%	37	23%	43	36%	40	43%	55	35%

Follow up action by department staff was initiated whenever a test result showed contamination beyond the maximum contaminant level (MCL) set forth in the Wisconsin Safe Drinking Water Code. A summary of the newborn water testing results is shown in the following table.

Newborn Water Testing Results

Parameter Tested	Number of Samples	
	2014	Exceeding MCL
Copper	32	5
Lead	32	1
Total Coliform (bacteria)	38	8
Nitrate	36	2
Fluoride*	32	0

Wisconsin Well Code

The Health Department administers portions of the Wisconsin Well Code through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources County Well Delegation program. The Health Department currently participates in Delegation Levels 1 and 5. Level 1 is concerned with private well location and includes issuing permits and inspecting new wells for proper separation distance from contamination sources, adequate casing height and proper seals. Level 5 involves abandonment of wells either taken out of service or not in use. Wells not abandoned, or abandoned improperly, can provide a direct conduit to the groundwater from the ground surface and potentially pollute the groundwater.

Well Drillers – Laboratory Sample Analysis					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Water samples analyzed from newly drilled wells	62	86	96	80	53
Samples bacteriologically contaminated	9	6	13	15	5
Percent Unsafe:	15%	7%	14%	19%	9%

In addition to Delegation Levels 1 and 5, the Health Department entered into a Level 3 County Delegation agreement with the DNR in 1989. This agreement gives the Health Department authority to administer the portions of the Wisconsin well code that govern existing private wells and Transient Non-Community water systems. Transient non-community water systems are individual water supply systems that serve facilities such as restaurants, motels, campgrounds and service stations. Transient non-community systems must be sampled for bacteria and nitrate annually. Action is initiated when problems with water safety or the condition of the system are encountered. Facilities with bacteriologically unsafe results are required to discontinue use of their water for drinking and food preparation until corrective actions were taken and follow-up samples test safe.

Transient Non-community Water Systems - Bacteriologically Unsafe				
2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
3	2	5	4	2

ACTIVITY SUMMARY FOR WELL LOCATION PERMIT PROGRAM					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Consultations - (Levels 1, 3 & 5 combined)	227	406	301	331	497
Total no. Permits Issued	90	113	104	92	163
-New Well Permits Issued	64	94	66	62	102
-Replacement Well Permits Issued	24	16	33	26	54
-Reconstruction Permits	2	3	5	4	7
Completed Inspections	108	104	99	94	46
Installations – Non-complying	1	3	1	5	6
Wells Requiring Abandonment	24	15	31	25	43
Orders Issued	24	26	55	67	72

ACTIVITY SUMMARY FOR LEVEL 3 - INSPECTION OF EXISTING SYSTEMS					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Consultations (existing private and transient non-community)	60	112	56	202	81
Inspections/Investigations – Private	4	2	14	0	7
Inspections – Non-community	27	20	19	19	19
Installations – Non-complying	2	6	15	14	18
Orders/Directives Issued	2	6	15	14	18
Completed Well Abandonments (City and County)	5	10	20	29	53

Nitrate Samples Analyzed (Public & Private)					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total Samples Not Exceeding Standard	643	669	872	868	879
Total Samples Exceeding Standard	58	65	60	54	81
% Exceeding Standard (unsafe)	8.3%	8.9%	6.4%	5.9%	8.4%
Total Samples Analyzed:	701	734	932	922	960

Eau Claire County - Other Drinking Water Bacteriological Samples									
	2014			2013			2012		
	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total
Non-transient Non-community	16	0	16	15	0	15	16	0	16
Transient Non-community	130	27	157	118	10	128	111	14	125
Mobile Home Parks	32	0	32	42	2	44	65	6	71
Municipal	242	2	244	222	0	222	261	6	267
Private Wells	419	108	527	450	76	526	421	63	484
Well Drillers	18	5	23	32	3	35	83	3	86
Total Samples:	857	142	999	879	91	970	957	92	1,049

Sat = Satisfactory; Unsat = Unsatisfactory

AIR QUALITY PROTECTION

Purpose/Goals: (1) To reduce the incidence of illness and death from diseases related to or aggravated by exposure to air contaminants and (2) To assure air quality that is aesthetically acceptable and enjoyable in Eau Claire County.

Program Description: Investigate air pollution complaints and enforce applicable state and county air quality regulations. Conduct community air monitoring to sample and test for air contaminants as well as to assess changes in air quality. Respond to concerns that poor indoor air quality is causing health problems to the occupants. Guidance is provided on how to correct indoor air quality problems.

Regulations

The Department is responsible for enforcement of the County Air Pollution Ordinance, which adopts the Department of Natural Resources regulations by reference.

Incinerator Licensing and Inspection

The county regulations require licensing of all incinerators. These are licensed and inspected by the Health Department for operational and maintenance violations.

Air Pollution Investigations and Complaints					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total Investigations	14	13	8	18	14
Illegal Open Burning or Business/Industrial Source emissions	4	1	1	10	8
Illegal Open Burning of Residential Garbage/Trash	6	11	2	3	3
Odors from Residential Wood Burning	1	1	2	2	1
Improper removal of asbestos-containing materials	1	1	2	1	0
Odors from Other Residential Sources	1	1	1	2	2
Air Pollution Complaints	16	13	10	19	20
Incinerator Inspections	7	6	6	6	6

Outdoor Air Monitoring

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources air monitoring equipment continued at the Wisconsin State Patrol Headquarters on Highway 53. The site is being operated by Environmental Health Staff. The site is currently monitoring PM_{2.5} particles (less than 2.5 micrometers in size) throughout the year and continuous ozone levels throughout the spring, summer, and fall. The National Air Quality Standards are as follows:

- PM_{2.5} – 35 ug/m³ (24-hour period), 12 ug/m³ (annual mean – primary standard); 15ug/m³ (annual mean – secondary standard)
- Ozone – 75 ppb (8-hour) or less would not result in any adverse health impacts

The following table summarizes the data collect on PM_{2.5} ad Ozone.

PM2.5 and Ozone Ambient Air Monitoring Summary			
	2014	2013	2012
Total # of PM2.5 Samples	45*	59	58
Average of PM2.5 Concentration (ug/m ³)	8.6*	7.4	8.0
Maximum PM2.5 Concentration (ug/m ³)	24*	22	26
Ozone 8-hour Annual Mean (ppb)	29	31	31.5
Ozone 8-hour Maximum (ppb)	68	60	75
Ozone 8-hour Minimum (ppb)	17	19	0

* Data only available through October of 2014

Indoor Air Pollution

Residences and public buildings or places of employment are investigated for the presence of carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, soot, mold, mercury, sewer gas, fumes, odors or other indoor air pollutants as a result of complaints received. The below table summarizes the indoor air pollution investigations conducted:

Indoor Air Pollution					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Residence	39	35	41	108	45
Public Building	2	2	2	6	5

Smoke-free Laws

The City of Eau Claire passed a *Smoking Prohibited* Ordinance, effective July 1, 2008. The State of Wisconsin passed a Smoke-Free Law, effective July 5, 2010. Environmental Health staff have enforcement authority to enforce violations of the City of Eau Claire's ordinance, chapter 8.05. However, any violations of the State Law must be enforced by Law Enforcement authorities, unless the same violation is stated in the City's ordinance. Environmental Health does, however, take complaints regarding violations of the state law and will issue warning notices, as well as copying the proper law enforcement agency on our notice.

HUMAN HEALTH HAZARDS AND SOLID WASTE

Purpose/Goals: To assure conditions are not created which present human health hazards and that solid waste is stored, collected, transported and disposed in a manner which does not create health, safety or aesthetic problems.

Program Description: Enforce state, city and county rules by conducting assessments and responding to complaints regarding human health hazards and requiring corrective measures be taken. Implement community initiatives and enforce local regulations to better assure proper handling, storage and disposal of solid waste.

Human Health Hazard/Public Health Nuisance Complaints

Wisconsin Statute 254 defines human health hazard as a substance, activity or condition that is known to have the potential to cause acute or chronic illness or death if exposure to the substance, activity or condition is not abated. Wisconsin Statute 251.05 requires the local health department to investigate and abate human health hazards. Additionally, Eau Claire County Ordinance s. 8.12.075 and City of Eau Claire Ordinance chapter 9.36 and s. 8.32.230 outline local guidelines for the prevention and regulation of human health hazards and public nuisances. Several of these situations also align with the growing number of human services referral, hoarding, and dangerous living condition investigations reported in the Housing section of this report.

Solid Waste

The Health Department is responsible for the enforcement of municipal and county ordinances relating to proper storage, collection and disposal of solid wastes in the county. The below table (Solid Waste Activities) summarizes the solid waste complaints received and investigated. Substantiated complaints relating to improper storage, collection or disposal of garbage and trash on private and public property are issued orders and further regulated, as needed, with enforcement actions to achieve compliance.

Garbage Truck Licensing and Inspection

All garbage trucks licensed by the cities of Altoona, Augusta and Eau Claire as well as by the county of Eau Claire, are inspected annually.

Seven-Mile Creek Landfill

The Health Department holds a seat on the Seven-Mile Landfill Standing Committee which meets quarterly to review, discuss and monitor the construction and operation of the facility. The committee also has the right to conduct on-site inspections of the facility. An Environmental Health Specialist conducts these inspections and a report is provided to and discussed at the committee meetings.

Solid Waste Activities

Solid Waste Inspections					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Garbage Truck Haulers	6	6	6*	12	10
Garbage Trucks (licensed)	88	78	83	77	65
Garbage Truck Inspections/Reinspections	94	78	94	72	69
Garbage Truck Investigations	0	0	1	1	1
Total Inspections:	94	78	95	73	70
2014 2013 2012 2011 2010					
Solid Waste Inspections/Investigations	450	401	322	365	180
Solid Waste Reinspections	50	50	214	241	474
Landfill Inspections	4	4	4	4	4
Total:	504	455	540	610	658
2014 2013 2012 2011 2010					
Total Inspections (all types):	598	533	635	683	728

*The City of Eau Claire revised ordinance 8.32 to add new definitions, change existing definitions, and change license categories to reflect changes in business models as well as cultural norm changes. The ordinance amendments were adopted by City Council and published effective June 2012.

Neighborhood Clean-up Programs

Door hangers were developed that demonstrate the code requirements regarding the City of Eau Claire curbside garbage pickup. Door hangers were left at properties during the investigation of complaints.

University Move-Out Events

A serious problem of large amounts of refuse placed at curbside and not removed in a timely manner during the spring student move out resulted in the development of the annual 'Spring Move Out' and 'Pack It Up, Pass It On' campaigns. These venues provide a convenient location for tenants to bring furniture and other reusable

items that can be donated to charitable organizations. Interfaith Hospitality and Hope Gospel Mission typically provide the volunteers and trucks to collect the usable furniture items. These annual events are very successful and provide a large amount of usable furniture to charitable organizations. The success of this project is largely due to the cooperation and active participation of student representatives from the University Student Senate and Environmental Public Health Club, as well as the garbage haulers involved.

University Move-Out Event Collections					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Spring Move Out Waste (tons)	130	67	68.2	76.52	99.23
-Waste (tons)	5.5	16.18	9.67	6.93	9.19
-Useable Donations (trucks)	8	8	7	7.5	7.5
Total Tons of Waste:	135.5	83.18	77.87	83.45	108.42

Pharmaceuticals

The Environmental Health section has actively participated in a Pharmaceuticals Work Group. UW-Extension has coordinated numerous monthly meetings to discuss the collection of unwanted household pharmaceuticals. The group developed a goal statement:

“To protect the health and safety of Eau Claire County residents and the environment by developing effective educational resources and safe disposal options for prescription drugs through public/private collaboration and community partnerships.”

The group has developed a permanent collection program for the disposal of household waste pharmaceuticals and prescription medications at four law enforcement locations in Eau Claire County (Eau Claire, Altoona, Fall Creek, Augusta).

PRIVATE ONSITE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL

Purpose/Goals: (1) To assure the proper treatment and disposal of wastewater from residences or buildings that require private onsite waste disposal and (2) To prevent human health hazards, water pollution, drinking water contamination and the spread of communicable diseases.

Program Description: Administer the County Sanitary Code. Review plans and issue permits for construction of private onsite wastewater and treatment systems (POWTS). Conduct inspections for all newly installed POWTS and enforce correction of failing systems. Review Wisconsin Fund applications from county residents for state funding to replace their failing sewage systems. Administer and enforce a state required maintenance program for all POWTS installed in Eau Claire County and/or within the city limits of Eau Claire.

A POWTS is also known as a sanitary or septic system. Its function is to collect household wastewater in a septic tank where biological processes digest solids and physical processes remove fats, oils, greases, and indigestible solids. Effluent (wastewater) exits the tank through a filter that removes suspended solids to an absorption system where it is discharged to the soil where microorganisms are removed and the clarified effluent percolates back into the groundwater. Some properties lack the necessary physical characteristics to

allow for this type of system, and therefore, on a case-by-case basis, are approved to have a holding tank installed.

Construction of New/Replacement Systems

The Eau Claire County Sanitary Ordinance designates that the Health Department review “Soil and Site Evaluation” reports, plans for proposed private on-site wastewater treatment systems (POWTS) and issue permits for POWTS construction. Inspection and approval by the Health Department is required prior to backfilling or use. The Health Department applied for and received approval to review plans for mounds, at-grade and in-ground pressure sewage systems in 2001. Previously the plans for these systems had to be submitted to the State Department of Commerce for review. As an agent for the Department of Commerce, the Health Department is able to provide quick service for the public.

Wisconsin Fund

Eau Claire County began participating in the Wisconsin Fund Program in January of 1991. This program, which is funded by the State, provides grant dollars to repair failing sanitary systems. The objective of the program is to protect surface water and groundwater from sewage waste contamination.

Wisconsin Fund					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Applications Processed	3	3	8	10	17
Yearly Grant Dollar Allotment	\$ 14,238.00	\$ 13,651.00	\$ 25,320.00	\$ 53,066.00	\$ 55,851.00
Total Systems Repaired (Since 1991)	509	506	503	495	485
Total Grant Dollars Allotted (Since 1991)	\$ 1,564,904	\$ 1,550,666	\$ 1,537,015	\$ 1,511,695	\$ 1,458,629

Audits/Evaluations

An annual audit of the POWTS program was conducted to check for compliance with the provisions of Wisconsin Administrative Code SPS 383, regulating POWTS design, construction and maintenance. The audit critiqued administrative procedures, sanitary permit data, POWTS maintenance and permit application reviews. The audit concluded that the program complied with statutory requirements.

Activity Summary - On-Site Waste Disposal Program					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Permits Issued and Plan Review					
Plan Approvals for At-Grades, Mounds, and In-Ground Pressure Systems	55	47	42	58	55
Commercial Conventional Plan Approvals	0	4	8	2	0
State Sanitary Permits Issued	149	150	137	151	146
County Privy Permits Issued	15	8	6	4	0
County Reconnection Permits Issued	18	7	2	3	0

SPS 383 Septic Systems Installed					
Non-Pressure Inground – New	33	61	32	20	34
Non-Pressure Inground – Replacement	44	35	51	55	48
At-Grades – New	6	4	6	8	8
At-Grades – Replacement	2	6	3	3	5
Mounds – New	23	28	15	42	25
Mounds – Replacement	21	10	17	28	28
In-Ground Pressure – Other New	0	0	0	1	0
In-Ground Pressure – Replacement	1	0	0	0	1
Holding Tanks – New	2	2	3	3	0
Holding Tanks – Replacement	1	2	3	7	1
Total Systems Installed	133	156	136	145	141
Other POWTS Activities					
POWTS Inspections	270	255	240	396	283
Reconnection/Privy Inspections	10	7	11	7	8
Soil On-site Inspections	34	24	29	56	44
Sewage System Complaint Inspections	26	17			
Legal Orders	16	16	17	23	17
Wisconsin Fund Grants	3	3	8	8	17
Plat and Certified Survey Map Approvals	24	24	20	18	26
Consultations	959	959	899	1065	680

POWTS Maintenance Program

This program has been developed in order to maintain compliance with laws requiring the Health Department to obtain and keep records of the maintenance of different types of POWTS. The Wisconsin State Legislature adopted Act 347 on April 14, 2006. This legislation created s.145.20(5) stats., which establishes the requirements for a private sewage system maintenance program. Wisconsin Administrative Code SPS 383.52 applies the maintenance program to all private sewage systems. These state laws require the maintenance program to be administered by the local governmental unit responsible for the regulation of private sewage systems. This governmental unit is the Health Department in Eau Claire County. In May of 2007, the Eau Claire County Sanitary Code was revised to comply with new state laws regarding private onsite wastewater treatment systems (POWTS).

Section 8.12.220 of the Eau Claire County Health and Safety Ordinance requires that all POWTS be subject to a maintenance program. Wisconsin Administrative Code SPS 383 requires that the local ‘governmental’ unit, in this case the Health Department, notify all property owners of the POWTS maintenance requirements and follow up with non-compliance. The program is responsible for the implementation and monitoring of all POWTS installed in Eau Claire County as well as developing and/or providing maintenance and operation information for property owners. Funding for the program is generated through a special charge for the private treatment system, labeled SC Sewage, on the property tax bill. The creation of a new position whose

responsibility includes the POWTS Maintenance Program has allowed allocation of more time to enforcement efforts.

Maintenance Reports and Compliance

Septic Tank Maintenance

SPS 383 requires homeowners to maintain their septic systems by regularly having maintenance performed. Every three years homeowners are sent a notice from the Health Department to achieve compliance. These notices are signed by a licensed Master Plumber or certified septic tank pumper and returned to the Health Department.

Septic Tanks										
	2014		2013		2012		2011		2010	
Reports Due	2663		2636		3238		2791		2616	
Reports Filed (%)	2486	93%	2441	93%	3081	117%	2608	81%	2441	87%

Holding Tank Maintenance

Eau Claire County Sanitary Ordinance 8.12.240 requires holding tank owners to submit quarterly pumping reports that specify the amounts pumped, the dates of pumping, the name of the pumper, and the disposal location.

Holding Tanks										
	2014		2013		2012		2011		2010	
Total Holding Tanks	278		277		268		273		265	
Compliant System Reporting (%)	239	86%	234	84%	227	82%	224	84%	221	81%

Pretreatment Unit Maintenance

Owners of sanitary systems that include a pretreatment component are required to provide annual reports of inspection by a licensed maintainer. Follow-up with non-reporting property owners is ongoing. Prior to 2008, notification and follow-up activity had been limited.

Pretreatment Units										
	2014		2013		2012		2011		2010	
Total Pretreatment Units	36		35		32		34		31	
Reports filed (%)	24	67%	29	83%	29	83%	27	84%	23	68%

POWTS Maintenance Program Activities					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total Program Consultations (In-Office)	1036	596	1016	619	567
Consultations/System Verifications (On-Site Visits)	44	28	29	10	447
Compliance Investigations (On-Site Visits)	350	275	264	496	522
Batch Mailings (informational and maintenance notices)	25	24	24	22	26
Total maintenance reminder/warning notices sent (All system types)	4938	5038	5768	4306	4112

Groundwater Surveillance and Testing

Groundwater contamination is a continuing concern to area residents. Health Department staff participates as a technical resource, for the Eau Claire County Board-appointed Groundwater Advisory Committee. The committee developed a groundwater management plan for Eau Claire County, published in 1994 and adopted by the County Board 1995. Activities associated with the development of the plan were the inventory of potential pollution sources; environmental assessment which included maps depicting groundwater depth and flow, directions, soil attenuation and depth to bedrock; a summary of existing groundwater management controls and groundwater protection recommendations. In 1999, revision of the county sub-division ordinance was conducted, focusing on reducing the impact of up gradient contamination sources on private wells within proposed subdivisions and the impact of sanitary systems within the subdivision on wells. A groundwater protection section in the County Subdivision Ordinance was adopted by the County Board in December 1999.

Subdivision plats are reviewed for groundwater flow direction and how to best to locate wells and septic systems relative to one another, and to evaluate potential adverse effects from septic systems on drinking water sources. Other potential contamination sources reviewed for on the subdivided and adjacent properties include: animal feed lots, manure storage facilities and cesspools, pesticide mixing or loading sites, solid waste disposal sites, salvage yards, underground storage tanks, recorded hazardous substance discharges, seepage generators and superfund sites.

A wellhead protection ordinance for municipal water supplies was adopted by Eau Claire County in 2001. For this ordinance to take effect in a municipality, that local governmental entity must adopt its own wellhead protection ordinance to control activities within the recharge area within its boundaries and request the County Planning and Development Department to create a Groundwater Protection District for the recharge area outside the municipal boundaries. The Eau Claire County Groundwater Committee promoted and authorized expenditures to identify recharge areas for each municipal well and inventory potential contamination sources in the identified areas. Fairchild, Augusta, Altoona, and Fall Creek have now adopted this ordinance.

RADIATION PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Purpose/Goals: To provide a public health system and workforce that: (1) prevents unnecessary exposure to radon from naturally occurring sources, (2) are capable of delivering essential public health services during routine and emergency operations, (3) provide rapid communication, analysis and interpretation of health data,

and timely access to accurate public health information, and (4) monitor health events to identify changes or patterns and to investigate underlying causes and factors to help detect and respond to public health threats and emergencies.

Program Description: Administer the Regional Radon Information Center for a seven-county area. Provide technical consultation on testing for radon and how to mitigate it when levels are above the standard. Participate in the state radiological response program as a trained radiological emergency response team to prevent and protect from any unnecessary exposure to radiation from the transportation, use or disposal of radioactive materials or radiation producing devices and products. Collaborate with appropriate first responders, County Emergency Management Coordinator, health care providers and other appropriate partners to address potential natural disasters, bio-terrorism response planning, chemical threats, and radiological preparation. Actively participate in developing bio-terrorism response planning with a 12 county/tribe jurisdiction consortium. Participate in local and regional training and planned tabletop and functional exercises with various bio-terrorism scenarios.

Radon

The USEPA grant to operate the West Central Wisconsin Radon Information Center was renewed for another year. This center provides radon information services for the following six counties: Buffalo, Chippewa, Clark, Eau Claire, Jackson and Trempealeau. This center also provided services, materials and consultation to Monroe County. The center provides assistance and resources to the local public health departments in these counties to aid in testing for the presence of radon and advice on mitigation (if radon is present at significant levels).

Data collected from radon testing in Eau Claire County dates back to 1988. The below table indicates the percentages of homes tested which are below the EPA recommended standard of 4.0 picocuries/liter (pCi/L), and those which are above. Homes with exceeding levels were given recommendations for further testing or mitigation depending upon the level of radon in their home.

Home Radon Levels					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
% of radon levels less than 4.0 pCi/L	53%	55%	58%	61%	61%
% of radon levels greater than or equal to 4pCi/L	47%	45%	42%	39%	39%

Even though there are statistics for radon levels locally in the County, there is no way to predict what the level of radon will be in a home. The only way to know is to test. Mapping of results obtained thus far has identified some areas that appear to be at higher risk. A GIS map of both the City and County of Eau Claire has been developed. Furthermore, the department provides both short-term and long-term radon test kits for a fee. Homeowners who wish to test their own homes can purchase these kits at the Eau Claire City-County Health Department office located in the County Courthouse.

Radon Home Test Kits Sold/Analyzed					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Long Term Kit Sales	7	13	7	10	7
Short Term Kits Sales	201	231	290	241	290
% of Short Term Kits Analyzed	72%	62%	69%	69%	69%
Total Kits:	208	244	297	251	297

Radiation Protection

A Radiological Incident Response Plan has been developed by the State of Wisconsin to handle all radioactive emergencies at nuclear power plants in or near Wisconsin. The State of Wisconsin conducts the following activities: developing/conducting training statewide, local and utility emergency responders; procedure development; exercise scenario development; and participation in scheduled nuclear plant emergency preparedness exercises evaluated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The state developed radiological emergency response teams statewide, consisting of field team members in various locations throughout Wisconsin.

The local radiological emergency response team consists of three environmental health specialists. This team participated in a radiological response exercise at the Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant in 2013. Wisconsin State Field Team Training took place on May 7-9, 2014 in Manitowoc, WI. This training maintains a statewide radiological field team presence and to exercise the State's radiological emergency response plan. Additionally, the Civil Support Team (CST), consisting of Army and Air National Guard personnel and area HazMat teams all train together at these exercises.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Environmental health staff members are trained in the incident command system (ICS) to serve as support staff or to serve in primary/secondary roles within incident command.

RODENT, INSECT, RABIES, AND VECTOR CONTROL

Purpose/Goals: (1) To assure that the public is protected from the spread of vectorborne diseases and (2) To assure that rabies does not occur in humans, dogs, cats or ferrets within Eau Claire County.

Program Description: Provide consultation and information to the public on eliminating or controlling rodents, insects and other animals capable of causing or transmitting disease to humans. Investigate and enforce state, city and county rules regarding insect, rodent and animal infestation problems of public health importance. Provide consultation and other resources to address vectorborne diseases. Partner with the Eau Claire City Police Department and County Humane Association to enforce city and county regulations on reported animal bites and pet quarantines. Advise the public and health care clinicians on appropriate measures to take when an individual is bitten by a domestic pet or a wild animal, and the appropriate preventive measures when following up on potential rabies cases. In cooperation with Eau Claire County veterinarians, conduct countywide rabies vaccination clinics for dogs, cats and ferrets every other year.

Program Activities

Rodent and vector control activities included responses to complaints on animals causing nuisances such as birds, mice, rats, bats, insects and skunks. Such responses include giving out information and recommendations on vector control, identification and control of insects, trapping nuisance animals and issuance of orders when necessary.

Live Traps

Environmental Health maintains a Live Trap for the trapping of skunks. Skunks are a high-risk animal for the transmission of the rabies virus. The trap is usually loaned to a property owner on a complaint basis. If a skunk is trapped, it is euthanized by Health Department staff.

West Nile Virus

Mosquito control is an important and basic public health function. The rapid spread of West Nile Virus (WNV) across the United States in the last ten years demonstrates the continuing need for mosquito control activities. Standing water is the primary source for breeding mosquitoes, specifically the culex species which is most likely to transmit WNV to humans. The Eau Claire City-County Health Department has worked on various educational, surveillance and control activities to help control the spread of WNV.

Surveillance/Investigation – Environmental Health staff will investigate complaints regarding mosquito-breeding areas or other high-risk locations.

Testing – Eau Claire County and statewide surveillance activities begin in May of each year. Each county is allowed to ship a maximum of two birds for testing to the USDA Wildlife Service. If a positive bird is identified, the State and County work together to issue a press release and educate the public.

Bed Bugs

The Health Department responds to bed bug infestation complaints in private homes, rentals, and public establishments. Even though bed bugs are not known to transmit disease, they are considered a pest of public health significance. The bites of bed bugs can cause severe allergic reactions, as with any other type of sensitivity to bug bites, as well as emotional distress to affected persons. There may also be associated financial losses to public and private entities for mitigation or public opinion/stigma. Bed bugs are difficult to control due to their habits and resistance to pesticides. Therefore, when Health Department staff encounter an infestation, the services of a professional pest control operator are strongly recommended, along with other advice regarding prevention and control measures. There is no official tracking or reporting of infestations, but anecdotal evidence indicates the number of infestations is increasing and the State Health Department expects this trend to continue.

Animal Bites and Rabies Control

The Health Department is approved by the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to administer a local rabies control program as required by Wis. Stats. 95.21(9)(b), and further outlined in Wis. Adm. Code ATCP 13.

Bites/Exposures

People reported bitten by or exposed to animals and animals reported bitten or exposed to a wild animal:

Bites/ Exposures					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Dog Bites	90	98	121	91	111
Cat Bites	40	51	50	45	43
Ferret Bites	1	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	35	43	48	50	30
Total Reported Bites/ Exposures:	166	192	219	186	184

Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)

PEP is initiated when people are exposed to animals/specimens that were either:

- Positive for rabies
- Too decomposed for testing
- Not available for testing
- Had Equivocal results

Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Initiated				
2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
23	16	34	19	10

Immunization Information

During bite investigations, the current immunization status of the animal(s) involved in incidents are reviewed and recorded. These findings are used to help determine animal quarantine orders as well as animal and human treatment options.

Current Immunization Status – Current (animals involved in incidents)					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Dogs	66%	67%	62%	85%	69%
Cats	15%	17%	12%	21%	21%

Quarantine Information

Those animals with current rabies vaccination and that do not exhibit symptoms of rabies may be quarantined (confined) at home, but are required to be examined by a licensed veterinarian within 24 hours of receiving a quarantine notice and again on the 10th day after the date of the bite. A cooperative effort exists between the Municipal Police, the County Humane Officers and the Department to carry out this program.

- Domestic pets exposed to wild animals that tested positive for rabies or wild animals that are not available for testing require special quarantine.
- Immunized pets are placed under a 60-day quarantine.
- Unimmunized pets are either euthanized or put into a 180-day quarantine.

Quarantine Information					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Veterinarian/Home Quarantines (Unimmunized)	51	49	90	50	70
Veterinarian/Home Quarantines (Immunized)	61	83	81	86	85

Rabies Testing Information

The Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WLSH) conducted testing for the rabies virus on animals/specimens shipped to the WLSH as follows:

Rabies Testing Information					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total Animals Sent to WSHL	47	73	69	50	63
Total Testing Positive for Rabies	1	1	1	0	1

CERTIFIED PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

The Certified Public Health laboratory is comprised of a microbiological and chemistry division that conduct microbiological and chemical analyses on a variety of substances, e.g., water, dairy products, food, utensils, air, that affect public health. Sampling and analysis is conducted to ensure sample acceptability and compliance with public health and environmental standards for public health and welfare. The Health Department laboratory services not only Eau Claire County, but also many surrounding counties as well, both public and private businesses (e.g., well drilling companies, health departments). Eau Claire County sampling results and program-related laboratory activities have been inserted into the following sections of this report wherever applicable and appropriate:

- Food Protection
- Housing (Lead Prevention)
- Drinking Water Protection
- Private Onsite Wastewater Disposal
- Rodent, Insect, Rabies and Vector Control
- Air Quality Protection
- Environmental and Recreational Sanitation data contained in this section of the report is cumulative data for all laboratory services, both local (Eau Claire County) and non-local.

Microbiological Division – Water Testing

Colilert/Colisure

These test methods are used for the simultaneous detection and confirmation of total coliforms and E coli in drinking water. All non-coliforms are suppressed giving faster and more specific results in 22 hours or less with Colilert. Colisure suppresses all non-coliforms, giving results in 24 – 48 hours.

Pseudalert

This test method was started in 2012 and is used for the detection of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in swimming pools and whirlpools. It provides results in 24-28 hours.

Colilert/Colisure and Pseudalert Samples				
	2014	2013	2012	2011
Drinking Water	1,870	1,674	1,233	1,773
Pools, Beaches, Rivers	1,352	1,216	1,262	1,028

Total Microbiological Sample Summary

Total Bacteria Tests - Private Drinking Water					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total Tests/Samples	1228	1073	1412	1489	1538
Total Unsafe Samples	200	166	182	210	214
Total Percent Unsafe:	16.3%	15.5%	12.9%	14.1%	13.9%

*Tests include *E. coli*

Out-of-County - Bacteriological Samples												
	2014			2013			2012			2011		
	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total
Out of County Beaches - <i>E. coli</i>	146	14	160	157	18	175	146	9	155	145	12	157
Out of Co Municipal Wells	154	1	155	157	5	162	101	0	101	193	1	194
Out of Co Non-transient Non-community	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	2
Out of Co. Transient Non-community	15	0	15	21	0	21	3	1	4	21	7	28
Out of Co. Mobile Home Parks	5	0	5	6	3	9	3	0	3	1	0	1
Out of Co. Private Wells	481	83	564	469	85	554	594	113	707	594	113	707
Out of Co Wells Drillers	39	4	43	48	3	51	60	6	66	60	6	66
Total Samples	840	102	942	858	114	972	975	143	1,118	925	135	1,060

Sat = Satisfactory; Unsat = Unsatisfactory

Chemistry Division

The laboratory receives samples such as water, soil, paint, and swabs in response to customer requests and to support environmental health field investigations. The following table demonstrates the types of samples and the number of analyses performed.

Chemistry Division - Chemical Samples and Analyses					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Received Samples of Analyses	944	839	1,084	1,153	1,161
Different Chemical Analyses	7,744	5,475	4,161	3,941	4,937

Types of Chemistry Samples Analyzed				
	Metals	VOC's	Nitrates	Misc. Chemicals
Water	141	114	701	41
Soil/Solid	2	0	0	0
Swab (wipes)	6	0	0	0
Paint	1	0	0	0
Total Samples Analyzed:	150	114	701	41
Total Tests Performed on Samples:	267	6702	701	49

Organic Chemical Testing

Samples are analyzed for up to 59 separate volatile organic chemicals (VOC's) using the laboratory's gas chromatograph/mass spectrometer (GC/MS). Testing continued on private wells around the former city landfill in the Town of Union.

Organic Chemical Testing					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Samples Analyzed	114	72	49	43	61
Total - Separate Analyses	6,702	4,318	2,891	2,537	3,599

Heavy Metal Analysis

Heavy metals are conducted utilizing the laboratory's atomic absorption spectrophotometer (AAS). Examples of heavy metals tested on this instrument are lead, copper, chromium, arsenic, cadmium, iron and zinc. Samples tested included drinking water from municipalities, private wells, and from monitoring wells.

Heavy Metal Sample Analyses				
2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
267	323	215	364	317

Lead and Copper Drinking Water Sample Results Summary			
Sample Location	Number of Tests	Elevated Lead	Elevated Copper
Schools and Manufactured Home Comm's	10	0	0
Residential – newborn	64	0	5
Other Private/Public	25	2	0
Municipalities	100	0	0
Totals:	199	2	5

Nitrate Samples

Water samples (public and private) are tested in the chemistry lab to determine nitrate-nitrogen levels. A nitrate reading exceeding 10 ppm can be potentially dangerous to newborn infants, pregnant women and cattle. The large number of nitrate tests conducted is due to the Safe Drinking Water Act requirements that public water supplies now have to test their water annually for nitrate. The data for nitrate analysis, public and private, can be seen in the following tables.

Nitrate Samples Analyzed (Public & Private)					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total Samples Not Exceeding Standard	643	669	872	868	879
Total Samples Exceeding Standard	58	65	60	54	81
% Exceeding Standard (unsafe)	8.3%	8.9%	6.4%	5.9%	8.4%
Total Samples Analyzed:	701	734	932	922	960

Nitrate Testing (Public Only)												
	2014			2013			2012			2011		
	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total
Mobile Home Parks	9	0	9	19	1	20	24	0	24	28	0	28
Non-Transient Non-Comm	14	1	15	11	0	11	9	2	11	7	2	9
Transient Non-Comm	81	3	84	83	3	86	160	6	166	164	5	169
Municipal	5	0	5	7	0	7	14	0	14	9	0	9

Sat = Satisfactory; Unsat = Unsatisfactory

Nitrate Testing (Private Only)												
	2014			2013			2012			2011		
	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total
Newborns	34	2	36	31	6	37	35	3	38	33	2	35
New Wells	50	4	54	48	3	51	43	2	45	36	4	40
Other	450	48	498	471	51	522	590	46	636	591	41	632

Sat = Satisfactory; Unsat = Unsatisfactory



Financial Statements

Eau Claire City-County Health Department				
Revenue and Expense Summary Report				
Preliminary For year ending December 31, 2014				
Unaudited				
	Revised Budget	YTD Actual	Available Budget	PCT Used
Revenues:				
Health Department Revenue				
Taxes	\$1,706,800	\$1,706,800	\$0	100.00%
Intrgov Revenue	\$1,055,400	\$1,128,797	(\$73,397)	106.95%
Licenses & Permits	\$397,200	\$512,980	(\$115,780)	129.15%
Charges for Services	\$221,300	\$212,732	\$8,568	96.13%
Charges Serv-Intrgov	\$1,485,400	\$1,432,770	\$52,630	96.46%
Misc. Revenue	\$60,700	\$67,194	(\$6,494)	110.70%
Other Finance Source	\$77,000	\$76,774	\$226	99.71%
Other Budgeted Rcpts	\$87,200	0	\$87,200	0.00%
Total Health Department Revenue	\$5,091,000	\$5,138,048	(\$47,048)	100.92%
Expenses:				
Health-Administration				
Personnel	\$617,400	\$584,937	\$32,463	94.74%
Contractual Services	\$170,500	\$149,836	\$20,664	87.88%
Utilities	\$11,500	\$11,695	(\$195)	101.69%
Fixed Charges	\$17,200	\$14,933	\$2,267	86.82%
Supplies	\$27,500	\$15,991	\$11,509	58.15%
Other Financing Uses	\$31,800	\$31,763	\$38	99.88%
Total Health-Administration	\$875,900	\$809,154	\$66,746	92.38%
Health Education				
Personnel	\$186,000	\$159,270	\$26,730	85.63%
Contractual Services	\$8,800	\$5,834	\$2,966	66.30%
Utilities	\$0	\$11	(\$11)	0.00%
Supplies	\$6,200	\$4,190	\$2,010	67.59%
Total Health Education	\$201,000	\$169,305	\$31,695	84.23%
Health Nursing				
Personnel	\$1,271,200	\$1,201,745	\$69,455	94.54%
Contractual Services	\$41,100	\$35,990	\$5,110	87.57%
Utilities	\$1,500	\$701	\$799	46.76%
Supplies	\$18,400	\$14,041	\$4,359	76.31%
Total Health Nursing	\$1,332,200	\$1,252,478	\$79,722	94.02%

Eau Claire City-County Health Department				
Revenue and Expense Summary Report				
Preliminary For year ending December 31, 2014				
Unaudited				
	Revised Budget	YTD Actual	Available Budget	PCT Used
Health Environmental Health				
Personnel	\$1,015,300	\$1,015,391	(\$91)	100.01%
Contractual Services	\$20,000	\$19,585	\$415	97.92%
Utilities	\$1,500	\$978	\$522	65.20%
Fixed Charges	\$3,700	\$3,687	\$13	99.65%
Supplies	\$76,900	\$71,171	\$5,729	92.55%
Capital Purchases	\$18,300	\$18,300	\$0	100.00%
Total Health Environmental Health	\$1,135,700	\$1,129,112	\$6,588	99.42%
Health Grant Programs				
Personnel	\$1,158,400	\$1,173,508	(\$15,108)	101.30%
Contractual Services	\$108,700	\$107,535	\$1,165	98.93%
Utilities	\$6,500	\$7,973	(\$1,473)	122.66%
Fixed Charges	\$2,000	\$200	\$1,800	10.00%
Supplies	\$161,800	\$103,399	\$58,401	63.91%
Contrib & Other Pmt	\$20,100	\$8,018	\$12,082	39.89%
Capital Purchases	\$6,900	\$6,867	\$33	99.52%
Total Health Grant Programs	\$1,464,400	\$1,407,499	\$56,901	96.11%
Health-HSG Code Compl				
Personnel	\$76,000	\$74,415	\$1,585	97.91%
Contractual Services	\$800	\$224	\$576	28.04%
Utilities	\$400	\$240	\$160	60.00%
Fixed Charges	\$500	\$200	\$300	40.00%
Supplies	\$4,100	\$1,695	\$2,405	41.33%
Total HSG Code Compl	\$81,800	\$76,774	\$5,026	93.86%
Total Expenses	\$5,091,000	\$4,844,322	\$246,678	95.15%
Total Revenue Over / (Under) expenses	\$ -	\$ 293,726	\$ (293,726)	

Eau Claire City-County Health Department		
Preliminary Balance Sheet for Year Ending December 31,2014		
Unaudited		
	Net Change from Prior Year End	Account Balance
City-County Health		
Assets:		
Description		
Cash & Investments	\$282,141	\$1,334,457
Accounts Receivables	\$54,320	\$63,270
Due From Other Funds	(\$103)	\$0
Due From Other Govts	(\$131,034)	\$375,369
Taxes Receivable	\$15,910	\$1,727,150
Prepayments	(\$23,543)	\$67,390
Inventory	(\$80)	\$562
L-T Receivables	(\$7,474)	(\$7,474)
Total Assets	\$190,138	\$3,560,725
Liabilities:		
Description		
Accounts Payable	(\$106,013)	\$111,679
Accrued Liabilities	\$9,575	\$55,802
Deposits	\$0	0
Due To Other Govts	\$19,079	\$312,815
Deferred Inflows	(\$26,229)	\$1,981,584
Total Liabilities	(\$103,588)	\$2,461,881
Fund Balance:		
Description		
Fund Balance	\$293,726	\$1,098,844
Total Fund Balance	\$293,726	\$1,098,844
Total Liabilities + Fund Balance	\$190,138	\$3,560,725