



2016

Annual Report



Eau Claire City-County
Health Department

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Strategic Plan 2017-2021

Mission

Promoting health and safety for all Eau Claire communities

Guiding 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

Data Informed – Collection and analysis of data guides decisions

Evidence Based – Building and utilizing evidence and promising practices in programs and services

Ethical Practice – Acting with the highest standards of professional practice

Goals

Goal 1: Increase utilization of program and population data

Rationale – Accurate, timely and relevant data has been consistently identified as crucial to planning, decision-making and effective communication. Considerable work has been done to identify areas to improve information management and identify data to support our performance management system, our community partners and coalitions, and future priorities and planning.

Goal 2: Invest in a strong workforce and infrastructure

Rationale – Our workforce is our greatest asset. We are committed to retaining and recruiting an expert team and providing them with the necessary tools and environment to provide service and program excellence. We will strategically prioritize resources to meet our current and future needs for training, professional development and working conditions.

Goal 3: Engage the community in collaborative efforts to improve health and safety

Rationale – In order to address challenging community health issues we need to provide a community leadership role in mobilizing community action, particularly in priorities identified by Eau Claire Community Health Assessment. These community partnerships are critical in identifying and addressing complex health issues and building shared priorities. We will continue our existing work, along with exploring new and innovative ways, to engage with the community and policy makers to address health priorities and social determinants of health. We will specifically focus on the need to strategically address health equity concerns in our community.

Goal 4: Develop long-term fiscal and operational strategies supporting innovation and sustainability

Rationale: In order to reach our vision and to be mission-focused in our work, we need a department that has a strong operational infrastructure. Both short and long-range fiscal and organizational planning are vital to maintaining the necessary levels of programs and services. Innovation and improvement in our internal operations (Department policies and practices) and external operations (how we provide our programs and services) will assure a strategic and strong foundation for the future. We will strive to create an environment where staff at all levels are encouraged to find creative opportunities for the department to grow.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I am particularly excited to share the 2016 Eau Claire City-County Health Department Annual Report as 2016 marks the 75th anniversary of the Health Department! Public health has experienced dramatic changes over the last 75 years and so have we.

In 1941 the health department had 15 employees and 9 general program areas like communicable disease control, community sanitation and farm milk inspection. In 2016 we had more than 65 employees and 40 distinct programs including suicide prevention, restaurant and food inspection, and family planning.

All of these programs contribute to improved health outcomes for the Eau Claire community. According to the American Public Health Association, Americans are living 20 years longer than their grandparents' generation, thanks largely to the work of public health. But we know that it is not enough to ask people to make healthy choices when so many factors impact health. This report provides you with some highlights of how staff at the health department promote and protect the health of Eau Claire Communities every day including:

- Building and strengthening community partnerships
- Focusing on prevention rather than treatment
- Paying attention to the “root causes” of poor health
- Supporting our most vulnerable community members

Thank you to the staff, the community and Eau Claire leaders who support our efforts. I encourage you to let me know how we can continue to improve the work we do at the health department. Please contact me at 715.839.4721 or elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us

Respectfully,



I

Director/Health Officer ECCCHD

BOARD OF HEALTH
As of December 31, 2016

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, 2016

Elizabeth Giese, Director/Health Officer RN, MSPH
+Part-Time

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
+Terri Pala, Office Associate
Alicia Traut, Office Associate

Community Health Education

Cortney Draxler, BS, CHES, Health Education
Supervisor
Audrey Boerner, MS, Public Health Educator
+Trish Chmelik, Program Assistant
+Rachael Manning, BS, Public Health Educator
Peggy O'Halloran, MPH, Project Evaluator
Carleigh Olson, MPH, CHES Public Health Educator
Brenda Scheurer, MS, Project Director
+Deb Tackmann, BS, MEPD, Youth Advocacy Advisor
Gina Schemenauer, BS, CHES, Public Health Educator

Emergency Preparedness Specialist

Kelli Engen, BSN, RN

Environmental Health

Shane Sanderson, MS, JD, REHS, Director of
Environmental Health & Laboratory
KT Gallagher, BS, REHS, Environmental Health
Supervisor
+Jennifer Hanson, BS
Iris Lang, BS, REHS
Elizabeth Paulson, BS, REHS
Daniel Peterson, BS, RS
Valerie Reiter, BS, RS
+Breanna Rheinschmidt, EH Aide
Phil Schumacher, BS, REHS
Alyssa Streveler, BS, REHS
Tate Zurbuchen, BS, RS

Health Benefits Specialist

+TJ Atkins

Hmong Interpreter

+May Her, Bilingual Health Aide

Laboratory

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

Public Health Aide

+Bhenni Johnson

Public Health 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
Allison Gosbin, BSN, RN
Hannah Harter, BSN, RN
Janel Hebert, BSN, RN
+Melyssa Heintz, MSN, FNP-BC, APNP, Nurse Practitioner
Abby Hinz, BSN, RN
Ellen Jacobs, MSN, RN
+Rebecca Knutson, BSN, RN
Jacqueline Krumenauer, BSN, RN
Andrea Kubarek, BSN, RN
Tammy Raeder, BSN, RN
+Patricia Reis, BSN, RN
Chelsalyn Smith, BSN, RN
+Beverly Anna Walden, 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
Ruth Kilness, RD, CD, CLC,
+Susan Krahn, MS, RD, CD, CLC
+Anna Rekow, WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor
+Elizabeth Smith, WIC Clerk
+Ann Statz, MLT, ASCP, WIC Clerk
+Alexis Tuma, MS, RD, CD, CLE

Spanish Interpreters

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

The image features an abstract background with three overlapping curved shapes. At the bottom is a teal shape, above it is a light green shape, and at the top is a yellow shape. 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 2016, federal public health emergency preparedness dollars supported emergency planning and exercising.

Accomplishments for 2016 included:

- Hired 1 FTE preparedness specialist.
- Supported the continuation of a county-wide Public Health Emergency Planning and Response group to assure that partners are connected.
- Member and participant of the Northwest Wisconsin Regional Healthcare Coalition meetings and exercises.
- Completed hazard vulnerability assessment (HVA) in early 2016 and identified cyber-attacks as the top threat facing our health department and community partners.
- Exercised Eau Claire County’s Mass Clinic Plans relative to multi-vaccine distribution for adolescents in 7 schools within 4 weeks. Provided immunizations to 431 youth.

- Table 1. Influenza, Tetanus, Meningococcal and Human Papilloma Virus and the total number of immunizations given

Influenza	Tdap	Mening	HPV	Sum
385	60	71	111	627

- Table 2. Age of client breakdown

Average Age	11.7
Max Age	19
Min Age	2
Median Age	12

- Collaborated with Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) of Eau Claire and the Dementia coalition in their efforts of becoming a dementia friendly community.
 - Partnered with UW-EC nursing students to engage students to coordinate ADRC’s Language Enriched Exercise Plus Socialization (LEEPS) program with patients living with dementia.
 - UW-EC students designed a video for Eau Claire County area business discussing the benefits of becoming dementia friendly.



Public Health Nursing & Nutrition

PUBLIC HEALTH 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 2016**

Clinic Site	# Served	# of Visits	# of Referrals
Augusta	30	116	0
Fairchild	8	57	0
TOTAL	38	173	0

Wisconsin Well Woman Program (WWWP)

The Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, Division of Public Health administers the WWWP. In previous years, the Eau Claire City-County Health Department was a contracted local coordinating agency for only Eau Claire County. As of July 1, 2015, the Eau Claire City-County Health Department has been contracted to be a multi-jurisdiction coordinating agency for 8 counties: Eau Claire, Chippewa, Dunn, Jackson, Pepin, Pierce, St. Croix and Trempealeau.

WWWP pays for certain screenings, diagnostic tests and patient education services related to some of the most common health concerns of women. Eligibility standards focus on 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. The Affordable Care Act and changes to Badger Care eligibility, both which cover cervical cancer screenings and mammograms have impacted the number of women served by this program in recent years.

WWWP SCREENING ACTIVITY: 2015 - 16

	7/1/2015-6/30/2016 8 Covered Counties
Total Enrolled	66
Total Cervical Cancer Screenings	17
Total Breast Cancer Screenings	38
Total Mammograms	30
Total Mammograms aged 50-64 yrs.	25
Percentage of Mammograms aged 50-64 yrs. (goal 75%)	83

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROGRAM

School Illness-Related Absenteeism Surveillance

An absenteeism surveillance program is conducted by the City-County Health Department each year to monitor for upper respiratory influenza-like activity as well as gastrointestinal illnesses. Absentee checks begin in October and end in May of each year.

E-mails are sent to the schools on Wednesday mornings for Tuesday absentees. The absentees to be reported include half and full day illnesses only. Absentees for doctor appointments, deer hunting, field trips, etc., are not counted. After the numbers are collected, the absentees are recorded and absentee rates are calculated.

The schools surveyed in 2015-2016 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 to the Health Department for all grades.

**AVERAGE MONTHLY ABSENTEE RATES FOR STUDENTS
October 2015 through May 2016**

Enrollment	OCT	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR	APR	MAY	TOTAL
Elementary 3609	1.51	2.01	2.07	2.57	2.94	2.81	1.78	1.57	2.15
Middle 3083	1.80	2.46	2.93	2.66	2.63	2.14	2.24	1.90	2.34
High 3985	2.45	2.64	3.29	3.13	3.30	2.92	2.47	2.15	2.79

The peak of absenteeism during the 2015-2016 school year was in the week of February 9, 2016 in all schools surveyed. The absenteeism survey proves to be helpful in determining when to acquire nose and throat cultures to isolate and identify the type of "flu-like" illnesses circulating in the Eau Claire community. This information combined with data collected from Urgent Care Centers and Hospital Emergency Department proves useful also to medical clinics and nursing homes so proper precautions can be followed with patients to reduce further spread.

HIV Testing & Counseling Services

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

HIV Testing Services: 2016

Type of Service	Number Served
Pre/Post-test Counseling	60
Total # of HIV Tests Provided	60

HIV Partner Services 2016

Total Cases Assigned in the 14 county coverage area	10
Eau Claire	6
Douglas	1
Dunn	1
Pierce	2
Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Clark, Chippewa, Pepin, St. Croix, Rusk, Polk, Washburn	0

Communicable Disease Epidemiology

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE Case Reports

	2016 TOTAL	2015 TOTAL
Arboviral Disease	1	0
Babesiosis	52	2
Blastomycosis	2	3
Campylobacter	17	27
Chlamydia	481	426
Cryptosporidium	23	5
E. Coli pathogenic Shiga toxin-producing/Enteropathogenic*/Enterotoxigenic	8/28/3	4/1 1
Ehrlichiosis-Anaplasmosis Phagocytophilum/Chaffeensis/Ewingii/Undetermined	30/0/0/3	27/0/0/2
Giardia	6	9
Gonorrhea	31	53
Haemophilus Influenzae	0	3
Hepatitis B – acute/chronic /unknown	0/8/0	0/8/0
Hepatitis C – acute/chronic	2/82	1/61
Influenza, Seasonal (Hospitalized Cases)	40	49
Legionella	0	0
Listeria	0	0
Lyme Disease		49
Malaria	0	2
Measles	0	0
Meningococcal Disease	0	0
Mumps	0	0
Mycobacterial Disease (Non-Tuberculosis)	13	18
Parapertussis	2	4
Pertussis (Whooping Cough) - confirmed/probable/suspect	16/1/7	14/0/5
Salmonella	21	15
Shigella	0	1
Streptococcal Invasive Disease - Group A/Group B	6/13	3/9
Streptococcus Pneumoniae Invasive Disease	6	14
Syphilis	4	6
Tuberculosis	0	2
Varicella (Chickenpox)	3	5
Yersiniosis	1	0
	2016 TOTAL	2015 TOTAL

*Many labs changed to using a multi-disease panel for testing enteric diseases rather than individual tests. The new testing panel identifies Enteropathogenic E.coli so it was found when it may have been previously missed.

Immunization Program

NUMBER IMMUNIZED AT HEALTH DEPARTMENT CLINICS BY LOCATION January through December 2016

Eau Claire Health Dept. Clinics	Augusta	Special Clinics (Adolescent Clinics)	Chippewa Valley Free Clinic	Total
528	93	366	78	1065

DOSES OF VACCINE ADMINISTERED IN CLINICS: 2016

Vaccine	Total Doses
DTaP = Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular, Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	14
DTaP/Polio/HB = Combined Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis, Polio, Hepatitis B	15
DTaP/Hib/Polio=Combined Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis, Haemophilus, Influenza type B, Polio	38
DTap/Polio = Combined Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis, Polio	22
HA = Hepatitis A	29
HB = Hepatitis B	Total 36 (23 by contract)
Hep A/Hep B = Hepatitis A /and Hepatitis B	5
Hib = Haemophilus influenza type B	21
HPV = Human papillomavirus	202
Influenza Vaccine	710
IPV = Poliomyelitis (Inactivated Polio Vaccine)	8
MCV ₄ = Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine	92
MMR = Measles, Mumps, Rubella (German Measles)	62
MenB = Meningococcal Group B	6
PCV ₁₃ = Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine	75
Pneumonia (PPSV23) = Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine	3
Rota Teq = Rotavirus Vaccine	14
Td = Tetanus, Diphtheria (adult)	12
Tdap = Combined Tetanus, Diphtheria and Acellular Pertussis	190
Varicella = Chicken Pox	43
Total	1597

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 2016, the clinic administered 96 vaccinations to 78 adult clinic patients who would not otherwise have had access to immunization.

Influenza Immunization

The 2016-17 quadrivalent vaccine strains administered were A/California7/2009 (H1N1) pdm09-like, A/Hong Kong/4801/2014 (H3N2)-like virus, B/Brisbane/60/2008-like (Victoria lineage), B/Phuket/3073/2013-like (Yamagata lineage). A table of the “2016 Influenza Immunization Clinics” follows:

Clinic Location	Total Immunizations
Altoona - St Mary's	40
LE Phillips Senior Ctr.	41
Chippewa Valley Free Clinic	49
Augusta Senior Ctr.	14
Fairchild	8
Fall Creek	26
Adolescent School Clinics	331
Health Department Immunization Clinics	200
Homebound	1
TOTAL ADMINISTERED	710
TOTAL BILLED TO MEDICARE	140

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: 2016

	Male	Female	2016 Total	2015 Total	2014 Totals
Gonorrhea					
# Screened	38	39	77	115	94
# Positive	3	1	4	9	8
Chlamydia					
# Screened	117	239	356	542	358
# Positive	21	31	52	66	51

NUMBER OF EAU CLAIRE CO. STI CASES BY TYPE, AGE AND GENDER: 2016

Age	Gonorrhea		Chlamydia		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Unknown
10-14 years	0	0	0	2	0
15-19 years	2	3	28	94	0
20-24 years	9	2	60	129	1
25-29 years	6	1	43	60	0
30-34 years	3	1	11	20	0
35 and older	2	2	12	21	0
Total	22	9	154	326	1

Tuberculin Skin Testing

TUBERCULIN SKIN TESTING FOR COMMUNITY RESIDENTS JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016	
Number of Tests with Negative Results, 0mm	478
Number of Tests with Positive Results, 1-9mm	0
Number of Tests with Positive Results 10 or over	6
Number of Tests Not Read	4
TOTAL Tests Administered	488

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH PROGRAM

Health Benefits Counseling

Health benefits counseling included providing information, enrollment, referral and follow-up services for health department clients. With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), additional efforts were dedicated for access to care outreach by 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 participation in a local ACA coalition. The position was filled in November 2016.

Oral Health Program

The Health Department collaborates with a hygienist through Smiles for Eau Claire County LLC. This organization received grant funding from the WI Division of Public Health/Children's Health Alliance *Sealants Today for Smiles Tomorrow Program*. With additional grant and in kind support from various community partner organizations, the oral health program provided preventive health services for underserved children. Partner organizations included the Northwest Dental Hygienist Association, Junior League of Eau Claire, Oral Health America-National Sealant Alliance, and Chippewa Valley Technical College.

The *Sealants Today for Smiles Tomorrow* school-based dental sealant project targeted second grade students in 15 Eau Claire County elementary schools and targeted 6th graders in 5 middle schools with the highest numbers of children receiving free and reduced lunch. Total services provided were-

- 1777 children received chairside oral health education
- 526 children received dental sealants- totaling 1475 teeth sealed (1st molars=1351, 2nd molars=124)
- 1196 children received two fluoride varnish applications
- 249 children in need of dental care
- 50 children in need received treatment

The *Headstart Cavity Prevention Program* was offered at 4 sites in Eau Claire County Western Dairyland's Head Start program. Services offered included oral examinations, education, fluoride varnish applications a total of three times during the school year and dental care referral for any dental problems identified. Services provided were –

- 234 children received preventive oral health education and oral examinations.
- 224 children received fluoride varnish applications, an average of 2 per child.
- 77 children needed dental treatment
- 59 children in need received dental treatment.

The *Eau Claire 4 Tomorrow and Head Start Cavity Prevention Program* included the fluoride varnish program to children enrolled at the Prairie Ridge Early Learning School and 10 community sites. Services provided were: (*Sara Pederson*)

- 917 children received oral examinations.
- 263 children received one fluoride varnish application.
- 254 children received two fluoride varnish applications.
- 228 children received three fluoride varnish applications.
- 117 children needed treatment.
- 43 children in need received treatment.

Prenatal Care Coordination Benefit Services

The Health Department continues as a Medicaid-certified provider of the Prenatal Care Coordination benefit services. Through this benefit services are provided to pregnant women at high risk for adverse pregnancy outcomes and their newborns during the first two months of life. There are two programs that the Health Department offers that utilize this benefit, Healthy Beginnings+ and Nurse Family Partnership. Dieticians and nurses provided 369 risk assessments to determine program eligibility. Nurses made prenatal care coordination visits to 186 women in 2016.

Program evaluation demonstrates that nursing interventions produced positive outcomes. For example, after participating in the program, 71% reported quitting or decreasing smoking during pregnancy and 76% initiated breastfeeding.

Nurse-Family Partnership®

Nurse-Family Partnership®, a maternal and child health program, helps low-income, first-time moms with the support they need to become confident parents and strong women, and ultimately, give their babies the best possible start in life. We were fortunate to bring this evidence based program to Eau Claire County in late 2015.

Public health nurses are the backbone of Nurse-Family Partnership's success. Because of their specialized knowledge, the nurses who deliver this program establish trusted relationships with young, at-risk mothers by providing home visits that are designed around three goals: a healthy pregnancy and delivery, baby's good health and development, and the woman's vision and goals for her future. The Nurse Home Visitors work to help families give their new baby the best start possible which includes breastfeeding. Our Nurse-Family Partnership families have a rate of breastfeeding of 85% which is above the state rate of 83% (CDC Breastfeeding Report Card, 2016).

Women voluntarily enroll as early as possible and one of our trusted, respected, and compassionate public health nurses visits her from pregnancy until her baby turns 2-years old. Nurse-Family Partnership changes the lives of our most vulnerable citizens, and thereby creates a better, safer, and stronger community, not just for today but for generations to come.

In 2016, four public health nurses worked with 27 families providing 243 home visits.

**PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING ACTIVITY SUMMARY
JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016**

Public health nurses are a valuable resource for health information and guidance for the community. During 2016, nurses made over 1,900 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	48	Private Physician	11
Communicable Disease	107	Mayo Clinic Health System	23
Lead Poisoning Prevention	24	Sacred Heart Hospital	22
Maternal & Child Health	992	Out of County Hospitals	10
Healthy Beginnings + Nurse Family Partnership	523 <u>243</u>	WIC Program	132
		Family/Friend/Self	7
		State Agencies	4
		Social Service Agencies	2
TOTAL	1,937	HMO Provider	4
		Nursing Homes	0
		Other	3
		Unknown	<u>140</u>
		TOTAL	358

Nurses provided case management services in follow-up to 1,937 visits during 2016. 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.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING PROJECTS

Child Death Review Team

A Nursing and Nutrition 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 2016, the team reviewed 11 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. The Safe Sleep Task Force for Eau Claire County has developed and distributed toolkits to healthcare and community providers for them to utilize when discussing consistent safe sleep education based upon current best practice recommendations. Pack ‘n Plays were also distributed to families who do not have a safe sleep option.

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. 2016’s focus was 20-40 year olds with a campaign modality of print ads in Volume One. The partnership agreement was updated and signed, partners contributed funds and developed and carried out a collaborative flu vaccination promotional campaign.

Maternal Child Health

The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Title V Block Grant guidance centered around federal changes in National Performance Measures and requirements to address 6 population domains with emphasis on accountability and family engagement. Wisconsin’s MCH Priorities, Performance Measures and Strategies were all identified through a needs assessment.

- Nurses continued with the Safe Sleep objective which includes coordinating the *Safe Sleep Task Force for Eau Claire County* who’s charge is training on implementing safe sleep practices with community groups, childcare providers and health systems. This task force has successfully applied for three grants to provide safe sleep options for those that can’t afford it.
- Nurses also participate in a community collaboration in providing QPR training to adolescents. This is an expansion of the QPR training for adults.

First Breath Program

The public health nursing staff participates in the First Breath program, which is through the Wisconsin Women’s Health Foundation. Staff enrolled 21 clients in the program, offering resources and support to help women remain tobacco-free during pregnancy.

My Baby and Me Program

The public health nursing staff participates in My Baby and Me program, which is a program offered through the Wisconsin Women’s Health Foundation. Through My Baby and Me, 54 women enrolled in Prenatal Care Coordination were screened for alcohol use during pregnancy. Of those 54 clients, 14 clients were referred to My Baby and Me and received individual counseling sessions, support, and resources in order to remain alcohol-free throughout their 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. 51 Newborn Hearing Screenings were completed. The public health nurse also collected 57 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 two Mental Wellness educational sessions at Wellness Days for Hmong elders as well as assisted in program development. Wellness Days is hosted by Eau Claire Area Hmong Mutual Assistance Association during the UWEC school year.

These continuing educational sessions are held in partnership with the Healthy Communities Mental Health Action Team, Hmong Mutual Assistance Association and the Boys and Girls Club as a sustainability plan from a Security Health Plan grant award received in 2014.

Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP)

Utilizing public health strategies and partnerships, staff taught CDSMP workshops to working-age and rural populations in Eau Claire County in partnership with the Healthy Communities Chronic Disease Action Team, the Aging and Disability Resource Center, Mayo Clinic Health System and the YMCA. Nineteen people in these 2 workshops learned techniques to take control of their chronic conditions.

BRAIN Team

The Brain Research Awareness and Integration Network (BRAIN) Team offered its annual BRAIN Conference. A public health nursing supervisor provided conference planning leadership. The conference entitled “Childhood Experience: The Link to Mental Health” was attended by 206 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.

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** continued work on an educational initiative to encourage parents to establish a dental home for children by the age of one year and Healthy Smiles for Mom and Baby, also connecting pregnant women to dental care. The team also targeted parents of toddlers with oral health packets that included a book for parents to read to their children.
- **Healthy Relationships Action Team** has continued to work on implementing *Safe Dates*, a teen dating violence prevention program, for middle and high school aged youth across Eau Claire County. In 2016, 77 youth were reached with this program. The team completed the Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute and created a public awareness video about intimate partner violence and the need for the community to support healthy relationships.
- **Mental Health Action Team** partnered with the Eau Claire BRAIN team and Eau Claire Coalition for Youth to host the Spotlight on Children’s Mental Health Summit which had over 100 attendees. This team also completed updates on the Children and Adolescent Early Warning Signs booklets and the Navigating Mental Health Services guides. A group of trained volunteers and Public Health Nurses have continued to provide Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR), an evidenced based suicide prevention program to members of our community.
- **High-Risk Drinking Prevention Action Team** hosted a “Hello Sunday Morning” Kubb event in partnership with local Kubb leagues to promote use of the “Hello Sunday Morning” app, an initiative to encourage people to evaluate their relationship with alcohol by taking a break from drinking or simply cutting back. They also reached out to local leaders in law enforcement, city council and city office to build relationships and better understand their perspectives on alcohol in our community.
- **Chronic Disease Prevention Action Team** continues to focus efforts on partnering with the Eau Claire Chamber of Commerce on workplace wellness goals, grocery stores to institute strategies to guide shoppers toward healthy food choices, and healthcare organizations/providers to promote evidence-based programs available in our community. The team hosted a second annual BE Fit Forum and supports the many efforts happening in Eau Claire that promote opportunities for access to healthy food and physical activity through the built environment including the Cannery District health impact assessment research project. A food systems subgroup teamed up with Chippewa County’s Challenge Chippewa coalition and Dunn County’s Eat Well Dunn County coalition. Through engagement with the state healthTIDE partners, the group started participation as a pilot community to implement the Fruits N Vegetables (FNV) campaign, which provides high level media advertising to promote fruit and vegetable consumption.

PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITION PROGRAM

To continue to address the many unmet needs and opportunities for community nutrition education in Eau Claire City-County, the Public Health Nutrition Program is staffed by five Registered Dietitian-Nutritionists. Activities included the following:

- Provided 60+ nutrition consultations for families receiving public health nursing services as well as community members.
- Provided community nutrition education through the news media via 25 articles written for print media and six television interviews.
- Provided telephone consultation and 46 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 Health 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 the Western Wisconsin Nutrition Network;
 10. Served on the Health Department C-3 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 eighth year.
- Cooking Matters at the Store Implementation Grant: Cooking Matters at the Store is a program of Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry Campaign. Cooking Matters at the Store is an interactive grocery store tour that offers families tips and tricks for healthy eating on a budget. Smart shopping techniques like comparing unit prices, identifying whole grain products, and buying fruits and vegetables on a limited budget are shared during the tours. This grant was awarded in November 2016, and will support Cooking Matters at the Store Tours held in 2017.
- DHS C-Store Coalition Retail Grant: A Health Department registered dietitian, in partnership with a health educator, lead the application for this grant and coordinated the Chronic Disease Prevention Action Team Food System subgroup's work to improve healthy food access in small retail venues, such as corner stores, convenience stores, and drug stores with food options. The grant was awarded in October 2016, with much of the work to be completed in 2017.
- CDC Public Health Associate Program: In 2016, Public Health Nutrition staff submitted an application for the ECCCHD to become a host site for the Public Health Associate Program (PHAP). PHAP is a competitive, two-year, paid training program with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. PHAP associates are assigned to public health agencies to work alongside other professionals across a variety of public health settings. The department was chosen as a host site. In fall of 2016, a Public Health Associate began work at the ECCCHD with a focus on obesity prevention and food insecurity.

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 for 110 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, aims to offer two family night cooking events that promote nutrition and literacy with young children each academic year. In 2016, two sessions were offered. One was titled "The Very Hungry Caterpillar Family Night" and one was titled "Kids in the Kitchen Family Night." All sessions focused on exploring tips to teach children about trying new foods while helping in the kitchen. Parents and children read, learn, and help prepare a healthy meal together at family night cooking events. The programs are a time to "get into reading as we read, cook and eat together."

A Health Department registered dietitian provided a nutrition focused in-service training for Eau Claire Area School District Head Start and EC4T Early Learning Program staff.

The City-County Health Department's Public Health Nutrition program partners with the Eau Claire Area School District Head Start and EC4T Early Learning Program's Fight Against Hunger coalition. A registered dietitian attends monthly meetings and provides the group with evidence-based nutrition education resources for their family education garden, on-site food pantry, crockpot cooking project, and summer food delivery program.

The City-County Health Department's Public Health Nutrition program partners with the Family Resource Center for Eau Claire County to offer nutrition-focused parent education classes. During these classes, parents are offered practical nutrition tips and recipes for feeding their family healthy foods. In 2016, a hands-on class allowed children to help prepare a healthy snack and learn about fruits and vegetables while reading a story. Parents took away tips for helping their child learn about nutrition and healthy recipes.

Breastfeeding Promotion

The Northwest Wisconsin Breastfeeding Network with participation from the Health Department helped to get a local milk depot to come to fruition. Once interested donors are screened and receive a donor number they can drop their milk off at the local milk depot which is located at the Family Resource Center for Eau Claire County, Inc.

The Northwest Wisconsin Breastfeeding Network hosted their third breastfeeding conference entitled “Keys to Improving your Knowledge for Supporting and Assisting Moms and Babies” on November 17, 2016. Several Health Department staff members were part of the conference planning team. Over 100 participants were in attendance and gave very positive feedback.

Loving Support Award

The Eau Claire City-County Health Department received the Loving Support Award of Excellence - Gold Award in 2016. This award highlighted the Eau Claire City-County Health Department/ WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counseling Program. This award explained the peer counseling program policies and procedures that encourage and support breastfeeding among prenatal and postpartum WIC participants. It also discussed breastfeeding support and training for our breastfeeding peer counselor, the breastfeeding peer counselor coordinator and the entire WIC staff. The award addressed continuing education for WIC staff, breastfeeding referrals, the scope of practice for the peer, and established time frames for addressing participant concerns.

Wisconsin Breastfeeding Coalition Award

The Northwestern Wisconsin Breastfeeding Network (NWBN) won the Wisconsin Breastfeeding Coalition Award in 2016. The award highlighted NWBN’s accomplishments in the areas of maternity care practices, breastfeeding disparities and other breastfeeding activities. NWBN works hard to promote and protect breastfeeding in Northwestern Wisconsin. Members of NWBN provide monthly breastfeeding classes at HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital, Mayo Health Systems and at the Eau Claire City-County Health Department. NWBN also provides breastfeeding education to healthcare providers/lactation professional through organizing and sponsoring the NWBN Breastfeeding Conference every other year. NWBN has worked with a local hospital to help them achieve the baby friendly designation. NWBN provides daycares in the area with training and the certification to become Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Centers. NWBN supports breastfeeding peer counseling programs in Northwestern Wisconsin providing peers with support and resources. NWBN also promotes World Breastfeeding Week with a press release, social media posts, and a breastfeeding walk through a local park to support breastfeeding.

Dietetic Internship Programs

Public Health Nutrition staff continued to serve as a public health nutrition site for accredited Dietetic Internship programs. Three masters-prepared students from the University of Wisconsin-Stout Dietetic Internship Program interned at the Department in 2016.

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 Dietetic Internship Programs 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 4-6 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 engaging in planning, developing and delivering nutrition education in various community settings.

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. Partnership with Dietetic Internship programs 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.

A Health Department registered dietitian contributes to the University of Wisconsin-Stout dietetics program by offering presentations to undergraduate courses. In 2016, three presentations were given in Community Nutrition and Dietetics as a Profession courses. Additionally, a registered dietitian sits on the University’s Nutritional Sciences graduate program advisory committee and serves as a field experience supervisor.

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: 2016

School	# of children
Augusta Elementary School	229 children in grade 1 through grade 5
Pedersen Elementary School-Altoona	348 children in grade 1 through grade 3

School-Based Vision Screening: 2015-16

2015-2016	
Total Enrolled in Grades Screened	2939
Total Number Screened	2800
Total in Other Grades Screened	23
Total Number Rescreened	176
Number Already Wearing Corrective Lenses	222
Total Number Referred for Eye Exam	159
Total Number Obtaining Corrective Lenses	87
Total Number Examined but not Needing Corrective Lenses	23
Total Recommended for Special Seating or Optional Corrective Lenses	1
Number Under Care for Previously Known Problem	22
Number Whose Parents Chose not to Have Eye Exam	16
Number Lost to Follow-up or Moved	10

Hearing Screening Program: 2015-16 School Year

Hearing screening was provided in Eau Claire city and county schools for children in 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

2015-2016	
Total Enrolled in Grades Screened	2,002
Number of Children Screened, Includes New Students in all Grades	1,935
Number Rescreened by Technician	292
Number Referred for Further Evaluation	26
Number Under Care for Existing Problem	8
Children Evaluated by Personal Physician	5
Treatment Recommended	3
Received Hearing Aid	0
Preferential Seating	0
No Treatment Recommended	6
Moved From Area	1
Chose Not to Follow-up	3

**SUMMARY OF IMMUNIZATION STATUS OF KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN
BY SCHOOL AS REPORTED BY THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, FALL 2016**

School	Kindergarten Enrollment	Immunizations Complete #	Immunizations Complete %	Immunizations		Waiver	No Record On File
				In Process	Behind Schedule		
Altoona	115	105	91%	0	5	5	0
Augusta	37	37	100%	0	0	0	0
Crestview Academy	20	18	90%	0	0	2	0
Fall Creek	49	39	80%	2	4	4	0
Flynn	46	39	85%	0	6	1	0
Immaculate Conception	20	19	95%	0	0	1	0
Lakeshore	66	58	88%	0	3	3	2
Locust Lane	47	40	85%	0	2	4	1
Longfellow	48	41	85%	0	3	4	0
Manz	69	59	86%	0	8	2	0
Meadowview	69	61	88%	3	1	4	0
Messiah Lutheran	17	13	76%	0	0	4	0
Montessori Charter	49	34	69%	0	2	13	0
Northwoods	72	66	92%	0	4	2	0
Otter Creek Christian Academy	1	0	0%	0	0	0	1
Putnam Heights	70	66	94%	0	3	1	0
Robbins	85	78	92%	0	3	4	0
Roosevelt	48	46	96%	0	0	2	0
St. James the Greater	16	15	94%	0	0	1	0
St. Mark's Lutheran	13	10	77%	0	0	3	0
St. Mary's Grade School	12	12	100%	0	0	0	0
Sam Davey	62	59	95%	0	1	2	0
Sherman	90	83	92%	0	2	5	0
Total	1121	998	89%	5	48	67	4

Scoliosis Screening 2015-2016 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 2015. 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. Due to the low numbers of students screened in 2014-15, organized school-based scoliosis screening was discontinued by the public health nurses.

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 preparing nursing students from UW-EC College of Nursing and Health Sciences, the University of Wisconsin Green Bay Nursing Program, Viterbo University, The College of St. Scholastica, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and other UW-system universities with students living in the Eau Claire area.

In 2016, 18 nursing students and 1 medical student 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:

In spring 2016, a group of four nursing students from UWEC worked on an Adolescent Health Grant Project. The students helped to organize and led focus groups with adolescents at the Juvenile Detention Center, and the Boys and Girls Club. The medical student completed a presentation on Communicable Disease at the Juvenile Detention Center.

Over the summer, two students had shadow/observation based clinical experiences. One student from The College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, MN completed twenty hours of shadowing and wrote a paper focused on the Nurse Family Partnership Program. A second student from Viterbo University, La Crosse, completed twenty four hours of observation experiences.

In fall, twelve nursing students from UWEC worked on three separate projects with PHNs. One group focused on Safe Sleep work. This group completed Pack ‘N Play distribution, provided Safe Sleep training to fellow students, and developed Facebook and media posts. A second group worked with the AMPED Health grant, and developed an Adolescent health care provider database and adolescent friendliness survey. The third group worked with Healthy Beginnings+ (PNCC) program. This group developed four educational videos for clients and provided recommendations on pregnancy applications. The students presented their projects to staff at the end of the semester.

Along with the students, 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.

Throughout the year, public health nursing staff and managers participate in student education in the classroom as well. Presentations are provided at UWEC and CVTC 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 1,819 participants per month during 2016. An average of 1,720 participants was served each month during 2016.

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 2,928 individuals participated in the WIC Program during this past year. Please see the following chart for WIC participation during 2016. 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 are able to purchase specific foods that are designed to supplement their diets with nutrients that benefit WIC's target population. Participants utilize the WIC EBT system to make their purchases. This is an electronic system that replaces paper food checks or vouchers with a card for food benefit issuance and redemption at authorized WIC grocery stores.

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 2016

Participant Type	Number	% of Caseload
Pregnant Women	198	7%
Breastfeeding Women	219	8%
Postpartum Women	414	14%
Infants	565	19%
Children		
Age 1 – 396		
Age 2 – 362		
Age 3 – 309		
Age 4 – 465	1,532	52%

Yearly Total = 2,928 unduplicated participants

WIC PARTICIPATION DURING 2016

Race	% of Caseload
Asian	17%
Black	7%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	3%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0%
White	73%
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 2016. 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. Each WIC family received \$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 1,053 families received these coupons through the WIC Program during the summer of 2016.

Farmers' Market Nutrition Education Project – Veggin' Out

The City-County Health Department's WIC nutrition program continued its successful Veggin' Out cooking 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 2016, UW-Stout field experience students in the UW-Stout Dietetics program staffed the demonstration tables and offered healthy food samples, recipes and other nutrition education. The team of five students had over 3,400 contacts with community members, including 58 families using the WIC program. This is planned to continue as an annual offering.

Nutrition Education

WIC participants may be certified for periods of up to one year. Individual nutrition counseling is provided by a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist at each appointment. Nutrition counseling is based on the participant's needs and includes anticipatory counseling as needed. Participants are also offered and encouraged to engage in nutrition education opportunities during their certification period. Public health nutritionists offer a "Nutrition Education Menu" for clients to select opportunities for learning that best meet their needs and interests. The types of opportunities offered on the menu in 2016 included:

1. One-on-one sessions with a registered dietitian

2. WICHealth.org: Self-paced online learning modules with a variety of infant, child, maternal, and family health and nutrition topics
3. Family Resource Center classes: Casual nutrition classes focused on topics relevant to families with young children
4. Flip charts: Self-paced learning activities that clients can complete in the WIC waiting room
5. Head Start Family Cooking Events: A fun evening of reading and cooking offered to all families in our community
6. Grocery store tours: A 1-hour tour focused on buying healthy food on a budget that takes place at local grocery stores
7. Veggin' Out at the Farmers Market: Interactive cooking demonstrations where clients receive food samples, recipes, and tips for shopping at a farmers' market
8. Breastfeeding class

MyWIC app

The MyWIC app is designed for families enrolled in the Wisconsin Women, Infants, and Children Program to view eWIC benefit balances, find WIC-approved foods, and locate authorized grocery stores and pharmacies. The MyWIC app successfully rolled out in 2016.

Fit Families

In 2016 the health department WIC Program was awarded the funds through SNAP-Ed to become a Fit Families Center to help combat this issue. Fit Families engages three components: Family, Organization, and Community Partnerships. Families are offered individual guidance, support and tools on a monthly basis for 1 year or more by passionate Fit Families coaches. The health department also has an environment which practices and promotes healthy lifestyles for staff, the families they serve and the broader community. By building strong environments, families will feel empowered to adopt healthy eating and physical activity behaviors.

Fit Families enforces these core messages:

- 1) Move More... Watch Less
- 2) Make Every Bite Count... More Fruits and Vegetables
- 3) Make Every Sip Count... More Healthy Beverages

Parents are encouraged to be good role models by making healthy lifestyle changes through the overarching Fit Families message: Eat Healthy, Be Active... Your Kids are Watching.

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 and electronic benefits according to state and federal regulations. A total of **\$1,144,962** was redeemed in Eau Claire County during 2016 with eWIC benefits. 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, 2016**

Vendor Name	Dollars Redeemed
Ameriental Food Store	\$ 20,795
Festival Foods	\$ 67,473
Gordy's County Market, Augusta	\$ 23,007
Gordy's County Market, Birch Street	\$132,705
Gordy's County Market, West Clairemont Avenue	\$ 66,071
Gordy's County Market, North Clairemont Avenue	\$ 88,444
Gordy's County Market, Hamilton Avenue	\$ 45,270
Loriental Store	\$ 51,359
Mega Foods East	\$ 3,220
Mega Foods West	\$ 14,409
Target	\$ 52,561
Walgreens – Clairemont Avenue	\$ 13,941
Walgreens – Hastings Way	\$ 19,155
Walmart	\$439,895
Woodmans Food Market	\$106,657
TOTAL	\$1,144,962

WIC Outreach

Health Educators continue to work with the WIC Director to promote the WIC Program throughout Eau Claire County. The following avenues were utilized in 2016 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, Breakfast in the Valley, Altoona Childhood Development Days and Phoenix Park Music Night.
- Coordinated print ads in EC4T Newsletter, Family Times, Chippewa Valley Family, Senior Review, City of Eau Claire Newsletter, Leader Telegram Supplement and Child Care Directory.
- Sent Monthly “Birth” day cards to families of newborns.
- Coordinated regular Facebook posts promoting the WIC program and breastfeeding.

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 sixth year, the Breastfeeding Peer Counselor program continues to reach women with relevant breastfeeding information and support. In 2016, 309 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 and 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 2016, 110 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.

Healthy Beginnings + (Prenatal Care Coordination)

All pregnant women certified for the WIC Program (who are eligible for Medical Assistance) are assessed for enrollment into the Healthy Beginnings (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 public health dietitians completed a total of 365 risk assessments as well as 103 follow-up nutrition therapy sessions in 2016.

Lead Screening

Blood lead screening was offered to children at ages one and two years in the WIC Program. A total of 647 children received blood lead screening from their physician or the WIC Program. 490 (76%) of the screenings were completed in the WIC Program during 2016.

Kids Ride Safe Project

The WIC program continued the Kids Ride Safe project for a sixth year. 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 2016, 70 seats were distributed to families in need who would otherwise be unable to access car seats for the safety of their infants.

The graphic features a white background with a large, curved yellow shape on the right side. Below this, there are two overlapping curved shapes: a light green one on top and a teal one on the bottom. The teal shape contains the text "Community Health Education" in white, serif font.

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:

Mental Health Matters

The Health Department, along with community partners in both Chippewa and Eau Claire counties received funding (\$195,192) from Healthy Wisconsin Partnership Program (HWPP) for a collaborative 1 year grant between the Medical College of Wisconsin and the ECCCHD. The project, entitled *Mental Health Matters: A Strategic Investment for Children, Youth, and Families in our Community*, will bring community partners and members together to move beyond single focus interventions driven by individual agencies to strategic transformation of policy and systems changes aimed at promoting behavioral health and reducing mental illness. Through collaboration with partners, as well as the statewide learning community and experts in the field, we expect to activate policy and systems change. By targeting youth, we hope to both decrease rates of childhood depression and increase resiliency leading to long-term decreases in adolescent substance abuse, reduced rates of self-harm and suicide, and improved data regarding protective factors, such as social support for adolescents.

Data to Action Grant

The Health Department wrapped up a two-year research project with United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley and the Medical College of Wisconsin. The project researched how media, policymakers and Healthy Communities members utilize health data to drive action. This project was funded by the Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program which is an endowment from the divestment of Blue Cross Blue Shield many years ago. Many Board of Health members were part of this project and contributed to the data for the research by participating in focus groups, key informant interviews, community trainings and meetings. Toolkits are available for the community. The results of this research project have been shared at state and national conferences.

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, completing the [annual report](#) and writing grants.

Community Health Educators provided leadership for the *Eau Claire Healthy Communities Celebration and Healthy Eau Claire Legislative Events*. Nearly 90 community members attended the 3rd Annual Eau Claire Healthy Communities Celebration and learned more about the action teams' 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 April 28th, 2016 the task force held the 3rd annual Healthy Eau Claire Legislative event where participants discussed what we - policymakers and community organizations - could do to increase prevention of mental health issues Eau Claire County. This was a very challenging topic to tackle in a short meeting, but

groups came up with great ideas. It was a great conversation that will help continue to build relationships with legislators.

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, Health Education Supervisor, 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 2015-2016 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;
- 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.

The More Kids Drug Free campaign was held in the fall of 2015 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.

The More Kids Drug Free monthly e-newsletter was kicked off in September 2015 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.

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.

60 high school youth from the six area SADD groups and their advisors attended the eighth 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 heard from keynote speaker Kevin Sabet about 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.

The Parents Who Host Lose the Most campaign was conducted for the 7th year throughout Eau Claire County to relay why underage drinking is a serious health, safety and legal issue. 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 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 950 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 2016. 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.

PFS grant

A one year, \$50,000 grant was awarded to the Eau Claire City-County Health Department as the fiscal agent for the Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services applied for and received this competitive Strategic Prevention Framework funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to prevent prescription drug misuse. The grant will began on 10/1/16 and ends 9/30/17. The overall target of this initiative is to build and sustain substance abuse prevention coalitions and decrease prescription drug misuse and abuse among persons aged 12-25. Eau Claire County was identified as a community of high need through an extensive analysis of available data, by the state of Wisconsin. Based on the analysis, substance abuse prevention coalitions in 14 counties were eligible to apply for funding to support strategies for reducing prescription drug abuse. This grant will build on the Alliance's current DFC action plan which focuses on reducing alcohol use and prescription drug misuse. In addition, the work plan of this grant includes:

- Implementation of Dose of Reality materials through a community education and/or media campaign.
- Supporting prescription (Rx) drug security, collection and disposal.
- Working with and providing resources to support law enforcement Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) training.

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 2016, 90.4% of the establishments

checked did not sell alcohol to an underage buyer, complying with the law. Twenty-three percent (9.6%) of establishments were not compliant and sold to an underage buyer.

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 Alliance 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. 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 and resulted in 100% compliance (zero sales). In 2015 this partnership also worked with the new Eaux Claires festival around underage drinking prevention and continued in 2016.

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 2016, 90.2% 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 five public outreach activities were accomplished in 2016, including newsletter articles, press releases, media interviews, thank you’s to compliant establishments and educational information to noncompliant establishments.

ID Check Training - The Alliance for Substance Abuse worked in partnership with the Eau Claire Police Department (ECPD) to hold 2 ID Check Trainings for retailers, [both owners/managers and front end sellers], with a primary objective of giving the business owners/managers enhanced knowledge and tools to train their employees on how to accurately read ID’s and educating the clerks who failed compliance checks on the importance of not selling alcohol/tobacco to minors. Ongoing collaboration with ECPD on ID Check training will continue in the next year.



Environmental Health/Lab

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). 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			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Number of Licensed Restaurants/Taverns	378	324	348
Routine Inspections - Restaurant/Tavern	608	600	431
Reinspections - Restaurant/Tavern	216	244	208
Investigations - Restaurant/Tavern	52	40	69
New/Change of Ownership Restaurant/Tavern Licenses	48	36	42
Temporary Restaurant Licenses Issued	65	230	200
Temporary Restaurant Inspections (inc. reinspections)	133	130	90
Vending Machine Vendors	1	1	1
Vending Machine Inspections	76	79	85
Total Number of Inspections (all types):	1,085	1,093	883
Total Number of Licensed Facilities (all types):	444	565	548

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			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Number of Active Licenses	151	153	141
Active Processing Licenses	126	130	116
Active Non-Processing Licenses	25	23	25
Routine Inspections	169	189	187
Reinspections	37	66	39
Investigations	47	41	44
New Retail Food Processing Licenses	12	13	11
New Retail Food Non-Processing Licenses	1	4	1
Discontinuation of Operation	1	5	7
Retail Food Complaints	17	7	9
Total Number of Inspections (all types):	270	303	279

Foodborne Illness Risk Factors and Good Retail Practices Violations Summary

The Health Department strives for continued improvement of violations within licensed facilities. 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.

Foodborne Illness Risk Factors Violations Summary			
	Violation Numbers		
Violation Category	2016	2015	2014
Demonstration of Knowledge	302	170	
Employee Health	34	27	
Good Hygienic Practices	52	41	
Preventing Contamination from Hands	1233	378	
Approved Source	12	14	
Protecting from Contamination	389	327	
Time/Temperature Control	412	477	
Consumer Advisory	99	19	
Highly Susceptible Populations	0	2	
Chemicals	413	152	
Conformance with Approved Procedures	18	10	
Total Violations:	2964	1617	
Total Inspections:	1085	674	
Average Violations/Inspection:	2.73	2.40	

Good Retail Practices Violations Summary (does not include retail inspections)			
Violation Category	Violation Numbers		
	2016	2015	2014
Safe Food and Water	0	0	
Food Temperature Control	772	407	
Food Protection	429	472	
Proper Use of Utensils	384	136	
Utensils and Equipment	1643	459	
Physical Facilities	2328	646	
Total Violations:	5556	2120	
Total Inspections:	1085	674	
Average Violations/Inspection:	5.12	3.15	

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. 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			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Number of Schools	34	36	34
Routine Inspections	68	68	68
Reinspections	2	2	2
Investigations	0	0	1
Total Number of Inspections (all types):	70	70	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, 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.

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
2016	35	1	2.86%
2015	111	14	12.61%
2014	119	19	15.97%

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
2016	31	2	6.45%	31	4	12.90%
2015	46	3	6.52%	46	10	21.74%
2014	29	2	6.90%	29	3	10.34%

Sample Type: Restaurant Food						
SPC Guideline (100,000 CFU)				Coliform Guideline (500 CFU)		
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2016	0	0	0.00%	75	23	30.67%
2015	3	0	0.00%	164	29	17.68%
2014	28	5	17.86%	74	15	20.27%

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
2016	399	78	19.55%	387	21	5.43%
2015	91	22	24.18%	96	8	8.33%
2014	50	7	14.00%	50	1	2.00%

Sample Type: Milk Dispensers						
	SPC Standard (20,000 CFU)			Coliform Standard (10 CFU)		
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2016	31	1	3.23%	31	1	3.23%
2015	56	4	7.14%	56	2	3.57%
2014	74	5	6.76%	74	5	6.76%

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
2016	35	4	11.43%	35	8	22.86%
2015	91	8	8.79%	91	24	26.37%
2014	55	2	3.64%	55	5	9.09%

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
2016	76	0	0.00%	76	0	0.00%
2015	196	0	0.00%	196	3	1.53%
2014	68	0	0.00%	68	1	1.47%
	Colilert (Present/Absent)					
	Total # Samples	# Present	% Present			
2016	78	2	2.56%			
2015	225	31	13.78%			
2014	82	15	18.29%			

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
2016	418	38	9.09%	518	75	14.48%
2015	622	55	8.84%	805	110	13.66%
2014	919	59	6.42%	1254	192	15.31%

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
2016	174	4	2.30%	174	1	0.57%
2015	175	5	2.86%	175	1	0.57%
2014	170	12	7.06%	171	12	7.02%

Sample Type: Retail Bottled Water			
	Colilert (Present/Absent)		
Year	Total # Samples	# Present	% Present
2016	6	0	0.00%
2015	3	0	0.00%
2014	5	0	0.00%

Sample Type: Cottage Cheese, Dips, Sour Cream (Cultured)			
	Coliform Standard		
Year	Total # Samples	# Exceeding	% Exceeding Standard
2016	16	0	0.00%
2015	8	0	0.00%
2014	12	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).

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.

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			
	2016	2015	2014
Foodborne Illness - Investigations	20	2	9
Foodborne Illness - Reports of Illness	20	2	9
Foodborne Illness real or suspected outbreaks	0	1	1

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 2015 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.

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 harborages by enforcement of proper garbage storage and disposal. 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							
					2016	2015	2014
A. CDBG Funds: Primarily used to cover 50%-80% of the 1 FTE dedicated to the program plus mileage/supplies/etc.					\$71,200	\$62,000	\$62,000
B. Inspections:							
	1. Dwellings Inspected				128	118	163
		a. Renter-occupied			113	103	124
		b. Owner-occupied			14	12	35
		c. Owner and renter occupied			1	3	4
	2. Dwelling Units contained in dwellings				162	145	185
	3. Total Inspections				508	667	773
		a. Initial Inspections			128	118	163
		b. Reinspections to assess compliance			380	549	510
	4. Complaint Investigations (specific problems - not complete inspections)				20	65	100
C. Enforcement Actions:							
	1. Compliance Orders Issued				65	96	106
	2. Citations Issued				31	20	20
	3. Housing Advisory Board Hearings				1	1	1
	4. Inspection Warrants				1	1	0
	5. Dwelling Units placarded as unfit for habitation				2	10	9
D. Total Program Inspections (1980-2016):							
	1. Total Number Inspected				4474	4411	4228
	2. Houses Brought into Compliance				4278	4213	4117
	3. Houses in Progress				196	198	111

Housing Activities Summary (*Includes IHCCP)			
	2016	2015	2014
Rooming House Licenses	0*	142	144
Rooming House Inspections	16	142	144
Rooming House Reinspections	55	83	82
Complaint Inspections/Investigations	186	165	177
Complaint Reinspections	336	457	536
IHCCP Inspections and Investigations	128	183	263
IHCCP Reinspections	380	549	510
Housing Advisory Board Meetings*	1	2	1
Dwelling Units Placarded as Unfit *for Occupancy	16	20	28
Total Housing Consultations*	1335	1567	1641
Citations Issued *	44	40	29
Total Inspections and Reinspections*	1101	1579	1712

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			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Number of Licensed Establishments	17	17	17
Total Number of Licensed Sites	1477	1477	1477
Routine Inspections	17	17	17
Reinspections	11	18	10
Investigations	15	9	5
Total Inspections (includes all types):	43	44	32

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.

XRF Lead Investigations		
2016	2015	2014
7	4	4

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			
	2016	2015	2014
Public Health Nurse-Childhood Lead Cases	14	11	20
Referrals to Environmental Health (Home Evaluations)	7	4	5
Lead Abatement Orders	2	2	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. In 2014, the department entered into an agreement to contract investigation services to Buffalo county.

Lead Samples Collected		
2016	2015	2014
5	60	7

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 annually. The physical facilities, such as toilet rooms, square footage, lighting, furnishings, linens and clothing, are inspected by the Department upon complaint. Massage therapists are licensed and regulated through the State of Wisconsin.

Massage Facilities		
2016	2015	2014
28	33	33

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 Safety and Professional Services (DPS) to utilize only pre-sterile, single-use disposable equipment. Currently, nine establishments have obtained the variance from DHS.

Body Art Facilities		
2016	2015	2014
17	18	14

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								
2016			2015			2014		
Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total	Sat	Unsat	Total
57	0	57	73	1	74	48	1	49

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			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Number of Licensed Establishments	48	42	39
Routine Inspections/Preinspections	55	47	48
Reinspections	21	32	27
Investigations	8	6	7
Consultations	22	53	32
Total Inspections (includes all types):	84	85	82

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			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Number of Campgrounds	13	13	13
Total Number of Educational Camps	2	2	2
Special Event Campground Licenses Issued (see below)	7	5	4
Routine Inspections	16	20	20
Reinspections	1	1	2
Investigations	0	0	2
Consultations	11	15	21
Total Inspections (includes all types):	24	26	28

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.

Swimming Pools/Water Attractions			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Number of Licensed Features	56	56	56
Routine Inspections	65	57	51
Reinspections	14	17	13
Investigations	26	1	2
Consultations	16	50	24
Total Inspections (includes all types):	105	75	66

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			
	2016	2015	2014
Big Falls	4	6	2
Lake Altoona	4	1	1
Riverview Park	0	4	0
Half Moon Lake	1	3	1
Coon Fork	0	1	2
Lake Eau Claire	2	0	0
Total Closures	11	15	6

Swimming Pools and Beach Laboratory Sampling

Eau Claire City and County whirlpools and therapy 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.

Recreation Water Samples - Bacteriological Summary				
		2016	2015	2014
Pools	Pseudomonas Satisfactory	228	347	257
	Pseudomonas Unsatisfactory	7	8	10
	% Unsatisfactory	3%	2%	4%
Beaches	E Coli Satisfactory	426	427	417
	E Coli Unsatisfactory	100	108	71
	% Unsatisfactory	19%	20%	15%

Noise

Noise investigations of commercial or public properties are periodically conducted by the department at the request of a complainant.

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.

Municipal Drinking 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.

Eau Claire County Bacteriological Tests of Municipal Water				
		2016	2015	2014
Distribution Systems	Negative	169	170	181
	Positive	0	0	1
	% Positive	0%	0%	1%
Wells	Negative	57	59	70
	Positive	0	1	0
	% Positive	0%	2%	0%
Residual Chlorine Samples		196	190	206
Residual Chlorine Tests				
-Free Available		587	567	618
-Combined Available				
-Total Residual				

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.

As a result of Eau Claire’s geology, private wells consistently struggle to get safe water without treatment of modification. Safe water remains a focus of the lab and inspection team.

Eau Claire County Private Well Coliform Tests			
	2016	2015	2014
Negative	506	515	437
Positive	118	121	113
% Positive	19%	19%	21%
Eau Claire County Private Well E Coli Tests			
	2016	2015	2014
Negative	115	119	109
Positive	3	1	3
% Positive	3%	1%	3%
Eau Claire County Private Well Nitrate Samples Analyzed			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Samples not Exceeding Standard	462	417	287
Total Samples Exceeding Standard	35	24	16
% Exceeding Standard	7%	5%	5%

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						
	2016		2015		2014	
Letters Sent To Families	184		151		181	
Families Participating (%)	43	23%	39	26%	32	18%

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	Number of Samples
	2016	Exceeding MCL
Copper	44	5
Lead	43	0
Total Coliform (bacteria)	46	6
Nitrate	45	4
Fluoride*	43	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.

The department's lab also offers testing on new wells and well water after the pump is installed to ensure the supply is safe for consumption.

New Well Samples - Laboratory Analyses			
Coliform Tests			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Samples	77	136	62
Positive	5	18	9
% Positive	6%	13%	15%
Nitrate Tests			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Samples	75	131	54
# Exceeding Standard	4	12	4
% Exceeding Standard	5%	9%	7%

Pump Work Samples - Laboratory Analyses			
Coliform Tests			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Samples	287	84	107
Positive	57	15	10
% Positive	20%	18%	9%
Nitrate Tests			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Samples	249	76	29
# Exceeding Standard	40	8	2
% Exceeding Standard	16%	11%	7%
Arsenic Tests			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Samples	247	74	16
# Exceeding Standard	3	1	0
% Exceeding Standard	1%	1%	0%

Well Location Permit Program Activity Summary			
	2016	2015	2014
Consultations - (Levels 1, 3 & 5 combined)	170	244	227
Total no. Permits Issued	131	144	90
-New Well Permits Issued	98	110	64
-Replacement Well Permits Issued	31	31	24
-Reconstruction Permits	2	3	2
Completed Inspections	152	117	108
Installations – Non-complying	0	2	1
Wells Requiring Abandonment	29	29	24
Orders Issued	28	30	24

Level 3 - Inspection of Existing Systems Activity Summary			
	2016	2015	2014
Consultations (existing private and transient non-community)	148	53	60
Inspections/Investigations – Private	17	26	4
Inspections – Non-community	29	20	27
Installations – Non-complying	0	4	2
Orders/Directives Issued	2	4	2
Completed Well Abandonments (City and County)	16	2	5

Other Public Water Supplies

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 Well Coliform Tests			
	2016	2015	2014
Negative	102	138	145
Positive	15	10	17
% Positive	13%	7%	10%

Transient Non-Community Well E Coli Tests			
	2016	2015	2014
Negative	115	10	17
Positive	1	0	0
% Positive	1%	0%	0%

Transient Non-Community Well Nitrate Tests			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Samples not Exceeding Standard	85	83	81
Total Samples Exceeding Standard	5	3	3
% Exceeding Standard	6%	3%	4%

Other Community Well Coliform Tests			
	2016	2015	2014
Negative	78	35	37
Positive	1	1	0
% Positive	1%	3%	0%

Other Community Well E Coli Tests			
	2016	2015	2014
Negative	79	1	0
Positive	0	0	0
% Positive	0%	0%	0%

Other Community Well Nitrate Tests			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Samples not Exceeding Standard	10	9	9
Total Samples Exceeding Standard	0	0	0
% Exceeding Standard	0%	0%	0%

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 Inspections and Investigations		
	2016	2015
Asbestos-related Consultations	11	3
Asbestos-related Investigations	1	1
Mold-related Consultations	42	77
Mold-related Investigations	21	39
Indoor Air Consultations - Other	25	15
Indoor Air Investigations - Other	11	7
Ambient Air Consultations	25	22
Ambient Air Investigations	13	15

Outdoor Air Monitoring

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources air monitoring equipment continued at the Wisconsin State Patrol Headquarters on Highway 53. 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 following table summarizes the Air Quality Index, which is derived from PM_{2.5} and ozone monitoring.

Air Quality Index (AQI) # of Days per Category			
Year	Excellent	Moderate	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups
2016	307	58	0
2015	328	35	2
2014	312	53	0

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			
	2016	2015	2014
Residence	47	46	39
Public Building	2	2	2

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 are licensed by the cities of Altoona, August and Eau Claire as well as by the county of Eau Claire. An Environmental Health Specialist conducts annual inspections on each truck licensed in the referenced jurisdictions.

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. An Environmental Health Specialist conducts quarterly inspections and a report is provided to and discussed at the committee meetings.

Solid Waste Inspections			
	2016	2015	2014
Garbage Truck Haulers	7	7	6
Garbage Trucks (licensed)	97	91	88
Garbage Truck Inspections/Reinspections	96	95	94
Garbage Truck Investigations	2	0	0
Solid Waste Inspections/Investigations	285	402	450
Solid Waste Reinspections	214	113	50
Landfill Inspections	4	4	4
Total Inspections (all types):	599	614	598

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. In 2016 they took 7 truckloads full of

donations and captured 13.93 tons of garbage that did not have to be picked up curbside. 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.

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, 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			
	2016	2015	2014
Applications Processed	4	3	3
Yearly Grant Dollar Allotment	\$11,136	\$13,263	\$14,238
Total Systems Repaired (Since 1991)	516	512	509
Total Grant Dollars Allotted (Since 1991)	\$1,589,303	\$27,501	\$14,238

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			
	2016	2015	2014
Permits Issued and Plan Review			
Plan Approvals for At-Grades, Mounds, and In-Ground Pressure Systems	82	61	55
Commercial Conventional Plan Approvals	2	0	0
State Sanitary Permits Issued	190	162	149
County Privy Permits Issued	2	8	15
County Reconnection Permits Issued	10	11	18
Non-Pressure Inground – New	54	47	33
Non-Pressure Inground – Replacement	43	40	44
At-Grades – New	10	6	6
At-Grades – Replacement	4	2	2
Mounds – New	39	35	23
Mounds – Replacement	21	21	21
In-Ground Pressure – Other New	0	0	0
In-Ground Pressure – Replacement	0	0	1
Holding Tanks – New	1	3	2
Holding Tanks – Replacement	2	3	1
Total Systems Installed	174	157	133
Other POWTS Activities			
POWTS Inspections	438	293	270
Reconnection/Privy Inspections	10	15	10
Soil On-site Inspections	50	34	34
Sewage System Complaint Inspections	7	8	26
Legal Orders	4	13	16
Wisconsin Fund Grants	4	3	3
Plat and Certified Survey Map Approvals	44	33	24
Consultations	1612	1188	959

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.

POWTS Maintenance Program Activities			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Program Consultations (In-Office)	957	1049	1036
Consultations/System Verifications (On-Site Visits)	29	48	44
Compliance Investigations (On-Site Visits)	351	432	350
Batch Mailings (informational and maintenance notices)	26	26	25
Total maintenance reminder/warning notices sent (All system types)	4721	5590	4938

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						
	2016		2015		2014	
Reports Due	2905		3284		2663	
Reports Filed (%)	2698	93%	3090	94%	2486	93%

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						
	2016		2015		2014	
Total Holding Tanks	288		283		278	
Compliant System Reporting (%)	248	86%	235	83%	239	86%

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						
	2016		2015		2014	
Total Pretreatment Units	36		36		36	
Reports filed (%)	26	72%	28	78%	24	67%

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.

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			
	2016	2015	2014
% of radon levels less than 4.0 pCi/L	63%	57%	53%
% of radon levels greater than or equal to 4pCi/L	37%	43%	47%

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			
	2016	2015	2014
Long Term Kit Sales	5	10	7
Short Term Kits Sales	278	225	201
% of Short Term Kits Analyzed	76%	96%	72%
Total Kits:	283	235	208

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 2016. Wisconsin State Field Team Training took place on April 26-28, 2016 in Onalaska, 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 one bird 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. 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			
	2016	2015	2014
Dog Bites	85	86	90
Cat Bites	50	26	40
Ferret Bites	0	0	1
Miscellaneous	32	44	35
Total Reported Bites/ Exposures:	167	156	166

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				
2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
19	32	23	16	34

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)			
	2016	2015	2014
Dogs	79%	60%	66%
Cats	30%	11%	15%

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			
	2016	2015	2014
Veterinarian/Home Quarantines (Unimmunized)	38	57	51
Veterinarian/Home Quarantines (Immunized)	72	55	61

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			
	2016	2015	2014
Total Animals Sent to WSHL	56	44	47
Total Testing Positive for Rabies	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.

Total Laboratory Samples and Analyses			
	2016	2015	2014
Microbiological Examinations	18875	18973	17,647
Total Chemical Samples	2364	2291	1899
-Total Chemical Analyses	11351	8513	10,725
Total Analyses:	30226	27486	28372

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 therapy pools and whirlpools. It provides results in 24-28 hours.

Food Testing

See Food Protection Section

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.

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.

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.

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.

The image features a white background with three overlapping, curved bands of color. The top band is yellow, the middle band is light green, and the bottom band is teal. The teal band is the largest and contains the text.

Financial Statements

Eau Claire City-County Health Department				
Revenue and Expense Summary Report				
For year ending December 31, 2016				
	Revised Budget	YTD Actual	Available Budget	PCT Used
Revenues:				
Health Department Revenue				
Taxes	\$1,765,400	\$1,765,400	\$0	100.0%
Intrgov Revenue	\$1,179,200	\$1,107,585	\$71,615	93.9%
Licenses & Permits	\$563,600	\$633,189	(\$69,589)	112.3%
Charges for Services	\$156,000	\$141,095	\$14,905	90.4%
Charges Serv-Intrgov	\$1,543,600	\$1,487,659	\$55,941	96.4%
Misc. Revenue	\$258,200	\$173,090	\$85,110	67.0%
Other Finance Source	\$71,900	\$71,823	\$77	99.9%
Fines & Forfeitures	\$0	\$136	(\$136)	100.0%
Total Health Department Revenue	\$5,537,900	\$5,379,978	\$157,922	97.1%
Expenses:				
Health-Administration				
Personnel	\$602,200	\$597,374	\$4,826	99.2%
Contractual Services	\$181,900	\$174,151	\$7,749	95.7%
Utilities	\$9,400	\$9,078	\$322	96.6%
Fixed Charges	\$48,800	\$46,423	\$2,377	95.1%
Supplies	\$43,100	\$39,538	\$3,562	91.7%
Other Financing Uses	\$30,300	\$30,263	\$37	99.9%
Total Health-Administration	\$915,700	\$896,827	\$18,873	97.9%
Health Education				
Personnel	\$151,900	\$134,490	\$17,410	88.5%
Contractual Services	\$8,200	\$3,582	\$4,618	43.7%
Utilities	\$100	\$41	\$59	41.4%
Supplies	\$1,100	\$68	\$1,032	6.2%
Total Health Education	\$161,300	\$138,181	\$23,119	85.7%
Health Nursing				
Personnel	\$1,409,800	\$1,338,979	\$70,821	95.0%
Contractual Services	\$105,400	\$120,993	(\$15,593)	114.8%
Utilities	\$9,400	\$6,836	\$2,564	72.7%
Fixed Charges	\$200	\$200	\$0	100.0%

Eau Claire City-County Health Department				
Revenue and Expense Summary Report				
For year ending December 31, 2016				
	Revised Budget	YTD Actual	Available Budget	PCT Used
Supplies	\$96,800	\$55,046	\$41,754	56.9%
Total Health Nursing	\$1,621,600	\$1,522,054	\$99,546	93.9%
Health Environmental Health				
Personnel	\$1,165,600	\$1,159,635	\$5,965	99.5%
Contractual Services	\$30,200	\$27,409	\$2,791	90.8%
Utilities	\$8,900	\$8,073	\$827	90.7%
Fixed Charges	\$3,500	\$2,679	\$821	76.5%
Supplies	\$74,800	\$73,593	\$1,207	98.4%
Capital Purchases	\$53,500	\$53,482	\$18	100.0%
Total Health Environmental Health	\$1,336,500	\$1,324,871	\$11,629	99.1%
Health Grant Programs				
Personnel	\$1,232,000	\$1,246,220	(\$14,220)	101.2%
Contractual Services	\$206,200	\$189,713	\$16,487	92.0%
Utilities	\$9,900	\$8,546	\$1,354	86.3%
Fixed Charges	\$0	\$30	(\$30)	100.0%
Supplies	\$54,700	\$57,369	(\$2,669)	104.9%
Total Health Grant Programs	\$1,502,800	\$1,501,878	\$923	99.9%
Total Expenses	\$5,537,900	\$5,383,811	\$154,090	97.2%
Total Revenue Over / (Under) expenses	\$0	(\$3,833)	\$3,832	