

FY2019 BEVERLY BOARD OF HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT

The mission of the Board of Health and its staff is to serve as a resource intended to prevent, promote, protect and meet the multitude of public health related needs of the community.

The following is a summary of the programs and inspectional activities implemented and conducted by the Board of Health and its staff for the 2018 fiscal year (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019).

BOARD OF HEALTH

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Susan M. Higgins

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Inspector of Animals, Matthew J. Lipinski, Certified ACOAM, NACA

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David Goodwin, Health Inspector
Karen Alpine, Principal Clerk
Teresa Kirsch, RN, BSN, Public Health Nurse

DENTAL CLINIC STAFF

Judy Tanzella, RDH, Dental Clinic Hygienist
Andrea Schuster, Principal Clerk

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Board of Health is responsible for directing and administering a program of environmental health related services for the city and its residents. The Health Department is responsible for enforcing numerous State Sanitary and Environmental Codes as mandated by state law. In addition to the mandated state codes, Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 111, Section 31, provides the Board of Health with the authority to make reasonable health regulations. The Health Department enforces these BOH Regulations as well. In accordance with Chapter 111, Section 31, the Board completed the process of amending the regulations pertaining to the sale of tobacco products. On May 23, 2019, the Board of Health voted to amend its regulations titled *Regulation of the Beverly Board of Health Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products*. The amendments reflect and formalize the Board's policy that considers the entry of a person under the minimum legal sales age (MLSA) of twenty-one (21) into an adult-only retail tobacco establishment to be a separate and distinct violation regardless of whether or not a sale occurred. The amended regulations became effective immediately.

On January 1, 2019, Beverly City Ordinance, Chapter 244 – Solid Waste, Article VI, *Bring Your Own Bag* became effective. The ordinance designated the Health Department as the enforcing authority. The department conducted random site visits of a cross section

of business types and responded to complaints. Businesses found to be in violation were issued written letters of non-compliance.

A variety of inspections are conducted to determine compliance with said codes and regulations. The following is a list of inspectional activities for FY2019:

TYPE	TOTAL #
Plan Reviews/ Compliance visit	252
Food Service Inspections	202
Food Service Re-inspections	139
Food Service Complaints	7
Retail Food Inspections	37
Retail Food Re-inspections	18
Retail Food Complaints	3
Mobile Food Inspections	13
Mobile Food Re-inspections	0
Temporary Food Inspections	45
Housing Inspections	69
Housing Re-inspections	22
Rooming House Inspections	18
Change of Occupancy Inspections	273
Change of Occupancy Re-inspections	5
Lead Paint Determinations	0
Nuisance/Trash Inspections	110
Nuisance/Trash Re-inspections	24
Recreational Camp Inspections	16
Recreational Camp Re-inspections	3
Semi-Public Swimming Pool Inspections	23
Semi-Public Swimming Pool Re-inspections	10
Tanning Facility Inspections	1
Tanning Facility Re-inspections	0
Soil Testing (Title 5)	3
Septic System Construction Inspections	25
Environmental Complaints	3
Court/Administrative Hearings	1
Food Related Hearings	0
Meetings, Seminars and Conferences	204
Beach Sampling (12 weeks)	121
Beach Re-Sampling	6
Animal Complaints	3
Body Art Establishment Inspections	3
Body Art Establishment Re-inspections	0
Body Art Practitioner License Review	0
Vaccination Clinics	9
TB Surveillance	0
Residential Kitchen Inspection	7
Biological Safety Establishment Inspections	6

NUMBER of PERMITS ISSUED FY2019

Change of Occupancy.....	275
Food Related.....	394
Caterers.....	7
Tobacco Sales.....	42
Swimming Pools.....	10
Recreational Camps for Children.....	15
Disposal Construction Installers.....	13
Septic Haulers.....	7
Tanning Facilities.....	1
Dumpster Contractors.....	7
Body Art Establishments.....	1
Body Art Practitioners.....	6
Keeping of Animals.....	22
Biological Safety (formerly rDNA)	6
Funeral Directors.....	1
Motels.....	1
Bathing Beaches	11
TOTAL.....	819

In FY2019, the department continued to collaborate with other municipalities and organizations to receive grants/awards and to obtain favorable service contracts. Examples include:

GRANTS/AWARDS

- **\$137,231–Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant.** From the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). The grant was awarded to a fifteen-community coalition called *The North Shore – Cape Ann Emergency Preparedness Coalition*. The purpose of the grant is to develop a regional approach to public health emergency preparedness and develop specific public health roles/plans for infectious disease events and other emergencies where public health has a response role.
- **\$13,500 – Medical Reserve Corp (MRC).** Funding to recruit, train and drill medical and non-medical volunteers for the North Shore – Cape Ann Emergency Preparedness Coalition and MA Responds. Volunteers can be utilized at events and in cases of disasters within the fifteen communities that comprise the coalition. There are 831 trained credentialed medical and non-medical volunteers prepared to staff Emergency Dispensing Sites (EDS), Disaster Shelters and to support public health initiatives in our communities.
- **\$125,000 – MDPH North Shore/Cape Ann Tobacco Alcohol Policy Program (NS/CA TAPP).** The grant was awarded to a fifteen-community collaborative. The purpose of the grant is to provide policy promotion, retail inspections and enforcement to all tobacco permit holders within the collaborative communities. The goal of the grant is to maintain a presence in the retail environment coupled with enforcement to decrease accessibility to age restricted products.

A complete round of compliance checks were conducted in the City of Beverly, with compliance rates of 88% achieved. Violators were subject to fines and/or permit suspensions. In addition to compliance checks, one full round of retailer inspections along with pricing surveys were carried out at all retail tobacco merchants.

- **\$0 – Massachusetts Department of Public Health District Incentive Grant (PH-DIG).** Although the grant ended in FY16, the participating communities continue to meet on a regular basis to share best management practices, address common community concerns and investigate/apply for other grant opportunities. The grant was awarded to eight community partners (Beverly, Danvers, Lynn, Marblehead, Nahant, Peabody, Salem and Swampscott) that comprise the *North Shore Shared Public Health Services Program (NSSPHSP)*. The purpose of this grant is to provide financial support for groups of municipalities to enter into formal, long-term agreements to share resources and coordinate activities in order to improve the scope, quality and effectiveness of local public health services for their combined populations. The group worked on best practices and model rodent control regulations/ordinances and began looking at a regional approach to updating/amending Body Art Regulations in FY19.
- **\$100,000 – MDPH - Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative Grant.** The City of Gloucester Health Department/Healthy Gloucester Collaborative, City of Beverly Health Department/Be Healthy Beverly and Town of Danvers/Danvers Cares under the project name *Partnership for Opioid Prevention and Leadership*. The grant was for three years (FY19 is year six of the grant) with potential extensions to 2020 of funding at \$100,000 per year to collaboratively address the issue of opioid misuse/abuse and unintentional deaths and nonfatal hospital events associated with opioid poisonings in these three municipalities. Local activities included the continued operation of a medication disposal drop box in the police station available 24/7/365 and the two, one-day medication take-back programs, distribution of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey data and continued development and capacity building of the Beverly Substance Abuse Prevention Committee (the working group of Be Healthy Beverly). Regional activities included: Police Department Crisis Intervention Partnership/Training (diversion from arrest to treatment); Building Youth Coping Skills (a Life Skills evidence based train-the trainer program for middle school aged youth); Overdose Prevention & Nasal Naloxone State Certified Train-the-Trainer (stakeholders, school nurses); Scope of Pain certified medical provider training was offered to area physicians and outreach to the dental community about the online program.
- **\$100,000 – MDPH – Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative (SAPC) Grant.** The focus of the grant is the prevention and reduction of underage drinking and other drug use in Massachusetts communities through a regional coalition that includes Beverly in conjunction with the City of Gloucester (fiscal agent & programmatic sponsor) and the Towns of Essex, Rockport, Manchester and Ipswich. The grant is for \$100,000 per year for three years with potential renewals, FY19 is year four grant (the grant was renewed in the amount of \$100,000 for FY20). Over the past year the following was accomplished: ongoing capacity building (engaging stakeholders and strengthening partnerships including with schools, police, public health, and community volunteers);

achieved greater consistency regarding data collection and assessment across the region to drive planning and strategies (school-based youth risk behavior surveys); ongoing implementation of evidence-based social/emotional learning curriculum in schools; implementation of alcohol compliance checks with media awareness; and sponsoring of various community awareness, education and training workshops and forums on youth substance use (including harms of marijuana, protective factors/coping skills, and skills-based training for those who work with youth).

SERVICE CONTRACTS

- The Essex County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Network had a long history of negotiating beneficial HHW collection contracts below state contracted pricing. In FY17, the network was unable to secure a contract below that of state contract pricing. Unfortunately, that trend continued into FY19 and the group has since become inactive.
- The City of Beverly continues to be a member of the Northeast Massachusetts Mosquito Control and Wetlands Management District. The district services include, but are not limited to: catch basin treatments (larvaciding), selective ground adulticiding, habitat surveillance and emergency aerial response.

The Board of Health/Health Department offered and sponsored a wide variety of community health, environmental awareness and educational outreach programs in FY2019. Examples include:

COMMUNITY HEALTH

- **Beverly Dental Clinic** – The 2018-2019 school year saw continued changes to the clinic. In September, the clinic opened at its new location within the Health Suite of Beverly High School. Many thanks to Public Services and School Department personnel for making the clinic operational during the summer of 2018. Prior to the move, the clinic changed its operation to a Public Health Dental Hygienist Model. Although the new model no longer provides restorative dental work, it will make the clinic more sustainable for years to come. The Clinic continues its 1910 mandate to provide oral health services to schoolchildren who otherwise would not have access to care. The total patient enrollment in the clinic for FY2019 was 142, an increase from 125 in FY2018. The city no longer qualifies for the Fluoride Mouth Rinse Program Grant. The clinic provides ongoing educational outreach. The clinic total insurance reimbursement for the year is approximately \$12,803. The reimbursement will be used to offset operating costs in FY2020. For a complete summary of clinic activities please see the FY19 Beverly Dental Clinic Annual Report.
- **Annual Seasonal Flu Clinics** – Approximately 245 doses of seasonal flu vaccine were administered at our public and first responder flu clinics in the fall of 2018. The 2018 flu clinics were staffed by a contingent of Public Health Nurses from neighboring North Shore communities as well as several RN-to-BSN students from local colleges. The Health Department was able to give Mass Task Force 1

twenty (20) doses for their volunteers. In addition, the Public Health Nurses of the North Shore held a regional public flu clinic in Danvers at the Liberty Tree Mall in February 2018 in response to the severe influenza season on the North Shore.

The Health Department continues to contract with UMass Medical Center for Healthcare Finance to bill Medicare and private health insurance plans for purchased and state-provided seasonal influenza vaccine reimbursement and/or vaccine administration.

- **Morbidity & Mortality** - There were approximately 401 deaths reported to the Health Department of Beverly residents. This number was derived from a direct count of all death certificates received by the Clerks' Office from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. These figures include deaths at Beverly Hospital as well as facilities in other communities, nursing homes, at home by illness and through accident or suicide. Heart disease, cancer, respiratory ailments and dementia are major contributors to illness and death in the city.
- **Animal Health** - The Animal Inspector quarantined 31 animals for rabies, sent one animals into the state lab for rabies testing and conducted 27 site inspections of where animals are housed.
- **Communicable Disease Surveillance** – In accordance with 105 CMR 300.000: Reportable Diseases, Surveillance, and Isolation and Quarantine Requirements, the Health Department is responsible for investigating suspected and confirmed cases of reportable disease. The following reportable diseases were investigated this fiscal year:

Case Counts for Beverly (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)

Disease Name	Status	Event Counts
Babesiosis	CONFIRMED	1
Brucellosis	SUSPECT	2
Calicivirus/Norovirus	CONFIRMED	1
Campylobacteriosis	CONFIRMED	14
Cryptosporidiosis	CONFIRMED	2
Ehrlichiosis	REVOKED	1
Ehrlichiosis	SUSPECT	1
Giardiasis	CONFIRMED	1
Giardiasis	SUSPECT	1
Group A streptococcus	CONFIRMED	2
Group A streptococcus	REVOKED	1
Group A streptococcus	SUSPECT	1
Group B streptococcus	REVOKED	1
Haemophilus influenzae	REVOKED	1
Hepatitis A	CONFIRMED	3
Hepatitis A	CONTACT	1
Hepatitis A	SUSPECT	1
Hepatitis B	CONFIRMED	1
Hepatitis B	CONTACT	3
Hepatitis B	PROBABLE	3

Hepatitis B	SUSPECT	2
Hepatitis C	CONFIRMED	11
Hepatitis C	REVOKED	12
Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis	CONFIRMED	3
Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis	PROBABLE	1
Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis	REVOKED	2
Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis	SUSPECT	3
Influenza	CONFIRMED	247
Influenza	SUSPECT	19
Invasive bacterial infection (other)	SUSPECT	1
Legionellosis	CONFIRMED	5
Lyme Disease	SUSPECT	40
Measles	CONTACT	1
Measles	REVOKED	1
Mumps	SUSPECT	3
Pertussis (and other Bordetella species)	CONFIRMED	2
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	REVOKED	2
Salmonellosis	CONFIRMED	6
Shiga toxin producing organism	PROBABLE	1
Shigellosis	CONFIRMED	2
Streptococcus pneumoniae	CONFIRMED	2
TB-LTBI	CONFIRMED	29
TB-LTBI	SUSPECT	1
Varicella	PROBABLE	2
Varicella	REVOKED	3
Varicella	SUSPECT	1
Vibrio species	CONFIRMED	1
Zika Virus Infection	REVOKED	1
Total Events/Cases		446

The above cases do not include the numerous non-laboratory confirmed illness complaints requiring investigation and follow-up. Note that although some cases may be categorized as suspect, revoked or probable, most reportable diseases require an investigation by the local board of health. There were no cases of active tuberculosis (TB) in the city during this fiscal year, however, the department is occasionally expected to assist with latent cases within the city. Such cases are usually associated with new arrivals to the United States. In addition, all animal bites reported to the city must be investigated to determine whether post-exposure rabies prophylaxis is recommended. The Public Health Nurse investigated incidents of reported animal bites as well as numerous complaints of bites or scratches.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

- **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event** – The April 20, 2019 event was very successful, accepting hazardous waste from 320 vehicles, an increase from 203 last year. Beverly and Salem continued their reciprocity agreement this year allowing each other's residents the option of attending either and/or both events. In the fall, approximately 15 Beverly residents attended Salem's event and 47 Salem residents attended Beverly's spring event. Also collected were propane

tanks, 56 automobile tires and car batteries. The net cost of the event to the city was \$11,710.74

- **Mercury Recovery Program** – Mercury thermometers may be exchanged for digital thermometers and other mercury containing products (i.e. thermostats, button batteries, etc.) may be dropped off for recycling. The following mercury containing products were collected this year: 4,580 linear feet of bulbs, 900 CFLs and 247 U-Shaped, circular and miscellaneous bulbs.
- **Medication Take Back Program** – Two collections occurred in FY2019, October 27, 2018 and April 27, 2019. Both collections occurred at the North Beverly CVS. The October event disposed of 423 pounds of unwanted/unused medications and had 63 participants. The April event collected 356 pounds of unwanted/unused medications and had 104 participants. The placement of a medication disposal drop box at the Police Station continues to provide residents with the opportunity to dispose of their unwanted medications on a regular 24/7/365 basis. Lahey/Beverly Hospital also has a medication drop box in the lobby available 24/7/365.

Lahey/Beverly Hospital and Police Department continue to provide a sharps kiosk in the hospital/police station lobbies for residents to dispose of their sharps on a 24/7/365 basis. The Health Department provides sharps containers at the Senior Center and City Hall for interested residents so that they may safely store their sharps prior to disposal.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

- **Choke Saver Training** – In conjunction with Northeast Regional Ambulance, the department sponsored six anti-choking trainings for food service personnel. Twenty individuals took advantage of the cost effective compliance training close to home.
- **Oral Health Education** – Our annual Dental Health Education program was presented to all first graders in Beverly Public Schools. Because grade five is now housed at the Beverly Middle School, the program was unable to be presented as it has been in the past. Plans are underway to include fourth graders next year. This program continues to promote good oral health habits to all children.
- **Emergency Preparedness Coalition Volunteer Trainings** – Training topics for medical and non-medical volunteers. Trainings held this year included: emergency dispensing site functional drills, regional disaster sheltering functional drills, shelter manager course, drive through emergency dispensing site full scale drill, first aid, CPR with AED, n95 mask fit-testing and psychological first aid.
- **Health Fairs and Special Events** – The Public Health Nurse provides educational outreach at various events throughout the year. Examples have included: Employee Benefits Fair, Senior Day at the Park at Lynch Park, and various public events during Beverly Homecoming. In addition, the Public Health Nurse attended and provided information at several drug abuse awareness forums for the public including the successful parent information night with Dr. Ruth Potee and the Hidden in Plain Sight display at Beverly Middle School on

September 25, 2018. Numerous seasonal topics and links are promoted throughout the year on the department's website.

- **North Shore Mother Home Visiting Partnership (NSMVP)** - The Public Health Nurse in collaboration with the public health nurses from Peabody, Gloucester, Hamilton, Newburyport and Salem continues to offer a one-time, free home visit to new mothers and/or caretakers of infants up to a year old. During the visit, the nurse may assess the health of the mother and /or newborn and provide health and newborn information as well as information about various services in the families' respective community.

The Director of Public Health and the Public Health Nurse serve on a number of municipal and community committees and regional coalitions. Examples of which are: Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative, Be Healthy Beverly, Drug Free Communities Grant, Emergency Medical Services Committee, Regional Youth Provider Network, Local Emergency Planning Committee, Hazardous Waste Oversight Committee, Beverly Community Council, North Shore - Cape Ann Tobacco Alcohol Policy Program, Essex County Household Collection Network, North Shore – Cape Ann Emergency Preparedness Coalition, School Wellness Committee, North Shore Postpartum Depression Task Force, Mayor's Drug Task Force, Seniors at Risk Task Force, Public Safety & Health High Risk Work Group (HUB) and various regional grant related steering committees.

The Board of Health charges fees for various permits and services. The following is a list of associated fees collected during FY2019:

Housing Inspections (275).....	\$ 13,300.00
Food, Milk, Frozen Dessert, Retail, Mobile, Temp.	36,649.00
Caterers (7).....	1,350.00
Tobacco Sales Permits (42).....	3,150.00
Beach Permits (11).....	100.00
Swimming Pools (10).....	1,500.00
Summer Recreational Camps (15)	1,100.00
Soil Tests, Title V, & Plan Reviews.....	3,500.00
Installers (13)/Haulers (7).....	2,000.00
Tanning Salons (1).....	250.00
Dumpsters (7).....	175.00
Body Art (1) establishments, (6) Practitioners.....	900.00
Animal Keeping (22).....	1,350.00
Biological Safety (formerly rDNA) (6).....	1,250.00
Motel (1).....	100.00
Funeral Directors (1).....	75.00
Other / Miscellaneous.....	<u>0.00</u>
 The TOTAL fees collected.....	 \$66,779.00

As we enter fiscal year 2020, the Board of Health and the Health Department will continue to conduct compliance inspections, investigate complaints and promote policies and programs to protect public health and the environment. We will continue to work with other municipalities and private organizations to obtain beneficial grant awards and cost effective service contracts.

On behalf of the Board and its staff, I wish to thank Mayor Cahill and the City Council for their support of our public health efforts throughout the year and for their anticipated assistance and support in fiscal year 2020.

Respectfully submitted,
For The Board of Health

William T. Burke III, RS, CHO
Director of Public Health

