

2017

Annual Report

Kewaunee County

Public Health

Department



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Message from the Director

I am once again pleased to be presenting the 2017 Kewaunee County Public Health Department's Annual Report. This report gives us an opportunity to look back over the year's accomplishments and share them with you. We have a very dedicated, enthusiastic, and compassionate staff who takes pride in their work and in promoting and protecting the health of all Kewaunee County residents.

I would like to thank the Kewaunee County Board of Supervisors, Kewaunee County Board of Health, and our County Administrator for the continued support they have shown our department over the past year. It is with this support and direction that we are able to establish public health policy for this county and continue to move forward. We are a stronger health department because of the cooperation and combined efforts of our staff and community partners.

Within the 2017 annual report, you will see how the Kewaunee County Public Health Department works within the community to carry out the 10 essential services of public health. In 2017 we continued work within the scope of our Community Health Improvement Plan to move the health of Kewaunee County forward. Work groups and agency committees have spent countless hours addressing focus areas, establishing needed services, and initiating work plans. We have seen numerous changes take place including addition drug disposal sites added to the county, a Drug Endangered Child Program initiated within each school district, emotional well-being roundtables bringing light to needed mental health services within the county, and a Memory Café's started to offer support to those with early onset dementia.

Communicable disease follow-up and environmental health concerns regarding changes in ground water quality continue to impact the health department. We strive daily to educate families affected by these issues and offer them the support they need to find necessary resources and assistance. Recognizing the need to work collaboratively to address these health concerns has strengthened many of our local and state partnerships. Prevention is an essential key to public health work. Prevention efforts within the health department focus on, safe sleep awareness, drug and alcohol awareness, car seat safety, as well as the prevention of childhood abuse and neglect. We have made efforts to educate our department on Trauma Informed Care and to be more mindful of the clients and populations we serve. Finally, education is a critical component of public health. Our department will continue to take each opportunity it has to educate our residents on prevention, health promotion and wellness.

*Please review the activities presented in this report and feel free to contact me or my staff with any questions you may have. We believe in the mission of the health department: to promote and protect the health of the citizens of Kewaunee County. We will continue our work, together with community partners, to meet the health needs of Kewaunee County. And we hope you share in our motto...it's important to **Be the Change You Wish to See.***

Sincerely,

*Cindy Kinnard, RN, BSN
Director/Health Officer*

2017 Synopsis

- Served 344 children at the Back-to-School Program.
- The Prenatal Care Coordination Program provided case management services to 8 at-risk mothers throughout the year. A total of 19 visits were made. In addition, 18 home visits were made to first-time mothers within the county.
- A total of 1280 vaccines were administered to 1013 children and adults. Of these 744 flu shots were given.
- 16 radon tests were distributed.
- In partnership with the WIC Program, blood lead screenings were performed on 59 children.
- 41 animal bites were reported. This program helps to control and prevent any serious illness or death that may result from rabies.
- 14 car seats installations were completed.
- Public Health Nurses followed up on 189 reportable communicable diseases.
- Nursing staff provided hearing screening to 551 children, scoliosis screening to 27 children, and vision screening to 953 children throughout the county. 41 children were referred on for medical follow-up.
- 77 Tb skin tests were completed.
- 367 participants were served through the Kewaunee County WIC Program.
- Distributed 15 free private well testing kits as well as numerous pay kits to both local and state laboratories.
- Accepted 58 sharps containers through our sharps disposal program.
- 315 adults received blood pressure screening.
- 85 home visits were made to county residents with health concerns within their home.

Our Mission Statement:

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department will administer those services necessary to protect the health of the citizens of Kewaunee County. Our concern is predominately and primarily with disease prevention and control, including other services that are necessary to ensure the optimal health status of the community.

10 Essential Services of Public Health:

1. Monitor the health status of populations to identify and solve community health problems.
2. Investigate and diagnose community health problems and health hazards.
3. Inform and educate individuals about health issues.
4. Mobilize public and private sector collaboration and action to identify and solve health problems.
5. Develop policies, plans, and programs that support individual and community health efforts.
6. Enforce statutes and rules that protect health and ensure safety.
7. Link individuals to needed personal health services.
8. Assure a competent public health workforce.
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
10. Provide research to develop insights into innovative solutions for health problems.

Health Department Staff

Director/Health Officer
Cindy Kinnard, RN, BSN

Public Health Nurse / Grant Coordinator
Beth Vandenhouten, RN, BSN

Public Health Nurse/Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
Melissa Patz, RN, BSN

WIC Director/Registered Dietitian
Rachel Bauer, RD, CD, CLS

Clinic Nurse
Merrie Novak, RN

WIC Aide
Marcia Dorner

Public Health Secretary/Immunization Aide
Deanne Schultz

Board of Health

Gerald Paape, Chairperson

Kaye Shillin

Linda Teske

Donna Thomas

Douglas Doell

Kathy Janosky

Julie Janicsek

Julie Thoreson (RN)

Dr. Stephen Shopbell, MD – Medical Advisor

2017 Public Health Budget

Program	Funding Source	Revenue	Expenditures
Public Health	General Tax Levy	\$196,436	\$173,093
WIMCR – Wisconsin Medicaid Cost Reporting	Prenatal Care Coordination	\$1,542	0
Public Health Fees for Service	Radon Test Kits, Hep B Vaccinations, Sharps Collections, Tb Skin Testing	\$2,200	0
Behavioral Health Contracted Service	Public Health Nursing Services	\$11,488	0
Kewaunee County Back-to-School Donations	Private Donations	\$5112	\$2,970 (remaining balance carried over to 2018)
Maternal & Child Health Grant	State Grant Consolidated Contract, General Tax Levy (75% match)	\$14,224	\$14,223
Prevention Grant	State Grant	\$3,888	\$3,888
Vaccine for Children Immunization Grant	State Grant Consolidated Contract	\$6,549	\$6,549
Public Health Preparedness Grant	Federal Grant Homeland Security	\$35,035	\$35,035
Fit Families Grant	Federal Grant Snap-Ed Dollars	\$12,638	\$12,638
WIC: Women, Infants, & Children Grant	Federal Grant	\$69,701	\$69,668
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Grant	State Grant Consolidated Contract	\$1,953	\$1,944
Children & Youth with Special HC Needs	Stipend State Maternal & Child Health Grant	\$1,700	\$1,699
Totals		\$362,466	\$321,707

**Excess funding from state grants is returned to the state of WI or carried over into 2018. Excess funding from general tax levy and revenues from public health nursing services goes back into county funding.*

Maternal and Child Health Programs:

Maternal and Child Health Grant

Maternal and Child Health Promotion consists of a multitude of programs targeting families with young children. The prenatal and postnatal programs aim to help families support their children's healthy growth and development. Research indicates that families participating in these programs have healthier babies, improved parenting skills, have developed positive community relationships, and their children have less behavioral problems.

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department chose to utilize Maternal & Child Health funding to promote safe sleep conscious and breastfeeding friendly childcare centers throughout the county. In addition we promoted the use of the Maternal & Child Hotline through our website, newsletters, and Facebook page.

In addition, public health staff continued to promote the First Breath Program. This program helps pregnant women in Wisconsin quit smoking. It takes place at Prenatal Care Coordination appointments and provides women non-judgmental, one-on-one support to stop smoking. Smoking during pregnancy can lead to life threatening pregnancy complications, pre-term infants, miscarriage, stillbirths, and SIDS.

We continue our partnership in the Kewaunee County Abuse and Neglect workgroup (HOPE) started through the Human Service Department. In 2017 our focus was to further our work encouraging parents and family members to be mindful of trauma informed care. Several trainings entitled Trauma Informed Parenting were offered to parents to bring awareness of trauma informed care. Parent Circles continued as a means to bring parents into a non-judgmental environment to share parenting experiences and success. This support group was offered in each of our communities and was well received.

The Health Department also continued its participation on the Kewaunee County Child Death Review Team. This team focuses on reviewing the cause of death for any child 18 years of age and under within Kewaunee County. Topics including safe sleep are of great concern and education is provided by all members of the team.

Prenatal Care Coordination Program

The Health Department assures access to medical, social, and educational services for pregnant women who are considered high risk for adverse pregnancy outcomes through our Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC) Program, as well as women who need extra support after delivering their baby. This program also serves all teen pregnancies referred through our school districts within Kewaunee County. Although Prenatal Care Coordination is limited to those who receive Medicaid, the Health Department follows all high risk pregnancies referred to us.

The components of this program include outreach, physical and emotional assessments, care plan development, ongoing care coordination, monitoring, health education and nutrition counseling. In 2017, a total of 8 high risk young women participated in PNCC for a total of 19 visits.

Postpartum Home Visits

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department provides a newborn home visit to first time parents from a public health nurse to assist families after the birth of their infant. Mothers and fathers receive support and education on parenting, child development, and referrals to community resource services. Specific topics covered in the home visit include nutrition, breastfeeding, infant growth and development, brain development, injury prevention, and immunization. Well water test kits are available for parents with a private well. Car seat education and installations are provided by a nationally certified car seat technician. Our public health nurses made 18 visits to families in 2017.

Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

WIC is a special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children. WIC helps income eligible pregnant and breastfeeding women, post-partum women, infants, and children up to five years of age who are at risk due to inadequate nutrition. The program improves pregnancy outcomes by providing support services necessary for full-term pregnancies, making referrals to outside resources as necessary, reducing infant mortality by reducing the incidence of low birth weight (infants under 5 ½ pounds are at greater risk of breathing problems, brain injuries and physical abnormalities) and providing infants and children with a healthy start in life by improving poor or inadequate diets while saving long-term medical costs.

Kewaunee County had a caseload of 251 clients per month; with an overall caseload of 367 clients for the entire year. WIC participants redeemed electronic benefits worth over \$96,746.36 within Kewaunee County to benefit our local grocery stores. The clients are certified by a registered dietitian with the assistance of the WIC aide.

In 2017, the Kewaunee County WIC project continued to offer the Healthy Choices Market on site once per month during the months of July, August, September and October. The farmers market provides an opportunity for our WIC clients to utilize their farmer's market checks without having to make an additional stop. The Healthy Choices Market hosted two local farmers who provided a wide assortment of vegetables throughout the summer and fall months. In addition to only serving WIC clients, this market served seniors, patrons to the human service department, and Kewaunee County employees.

Fit Families Grant

The following are the basic interventions that were chosen by SNAP-Ed officials for the Fit Families Program, a program designed to reduce childhood obesity. Research shows that changing these behaviors helps reduce obesity.

- **Make Every Bite Count:** increase fruits and vegetables to 5- ½ cup servings daily (clinical standard).
- **Move More Watch Less:** increase activity to 60 minutes most days of the week and reduce TV to 2 hours or less per day (clinical standard).
- **Make every Sip Count:** reduce juice to 6 oz or less and limit sugary beverages to once weekly or less (clinical standard).
- **Be a Role Model:** role model behaviors for your children (best practice).

Kewaunee County WIC data shows that 50% of two year old children are either overweight or obese as well as 45.4% of three-year-old children and 29.36% of four-year-old children successively. This data is showing a decreasing obesity rate in 4 year old children since the Fit Families Program was initiated in 2013.

Kewaunee County had 28 children complete the Fit Families Program in 2017. Data shows a 40.7% increase in children eating greater than or equal to 4 servings of fruits and vegetables per day after one year of being enrolled in Fit Families. There was a 44.5% increase in children who engaged in greater than or equal to 60 minutes of activity daily, and a 7.4% reduction in kids who watch two or more hours of television daily. The amount of children who drank less than 6 oz of juice daily increased from 40.7% at enrollment to 81.5% after one year of being on the program. In addition, 100% of the children enrolled, reduced sugary beverages to less than or equal to 1 serving per week.

Fit Families encourages parents to role model healthy behaviors to their children. This has been found to be one of the best ways to bring about positive change in families.

School Health

The Kewaunee County Health Department provides screenings for students in public and private schools. Hearing, vision and scoliosis screenings are offered to each school in Kewaunee County. The initial screenings are coordinated through the schools and children are screened by volunteers. Any abnormal findings are then rechecked and referred for further follow up by the public health nurse. Hearing is checked in grades K-3, and vision is checked in grades K – 8. The following chart shows the number of children screened in the 2017-2018 school year.

2017-2018 Kewaunee County School Health Screenings		
	Screened	Referred
Vision	953	25
Hearing	551	16
Scoliosis	27	0

Prevention

Fluoride Varnish Program

In Wisconsin, fees paid to dentists by state health programs such as BadgerCare are the fifth-lowest in the country. Lack of dental insurance (public or private) is one of the major barriers to obtaining care. In addition, the level of reimbursement for services, particularly for state-funded insurance programs, is also a barrier for providers to participate in these programs because of insufficient financial incentives and reimbursements. In Kewaunee County, there are no dental providers who are currently accepting new BadgerCare patients.

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department has a fluoride dental varnish program. The program is promoted through the WIC clinic, through mailings to new parents, and at community programs. Each year we partner with the Literacy Partners of Kewaunee County to offer the Kewaunee County Back to School Program. At this program, low-income children can pick-up new school supplies and shoes for the beginning of the upcoming school year. Each child, as well as adult, that participates in the program leaves with a dental hygiene package containing a toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, and timer. In addition, fluoride varnishes are made available by the Health Department to any child lacking dental resources. In 2017, 344 children were served by the Back to School Program. Dental varnishes were done at the event.

In 2017, the Health Department continued to partner with Bridging Brighter Smiles out of southeastern Wisconsin to provide dental services within public school systems. All children are eligible for services. No one is turned away. They offer dental cleanings, sealants, and varnishes to any child regardless of their dental insurance status. For children on state insurance, Bridging Brighter Smiles will bill BadgerCare. For children with no health insurance they provide a sliding scale fee option or community care option. All three public school districts within Kewaunee County took part in the dental service program. Private school children were welcome to come to the public school for dental services too.

Children Served by Bridging Brighter Smiles in the 2016-2017 School Yr:

Students Enrolled	338
Cleanings Provided	557
Fluoride Varnish Applications	849
Sealants Placed (per number of teeth)	1028
Charitable Care Provided	\$1,413.00

Prevention Grant

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department chose to focus their prevention grant efforts on environmental health outreach in relation to well water testing and contamination. In addition to notifying all neighbors within a one-half mile radius of a contaminated well, the Health Department expanded our means of notification by partnering with Kewaunee County Emergency Management to utilize Code Red. Code Red is an emergency notification system that can send either phone or text alerts to all residents within a specified GIS area who have signed up for alert notification. Throughout the year we encouraged individuals to sign up for Code Red through our website, social media pages and direct outreach.

In addition, the Health Department increased outreach to local well owners on the importance of annual well testing. Each well owner received a letter encouraging them to test their well. Also within that mailing was information on changes in water quality, being alert to weather events that may affect their water quality, and how to bleach their well if needed. Outreach was done through our office as well as at Algoma Night Out, Farm Technology Days, the Kewaunee County Fair, the Adult Health Fair, and through our website and social media pages.

Additional funding provided through the Prevention Grant was used to continue the process of reviewing agency policies and procedures. There is a strong push from the state to strengthen agency infrastructure. Several agency policies and procedures were reviewed and rewritten to better suit our current needs.

Car Seat Program

Kewaunee County Public Health Department does offer certified car seat inspections. The public health nurse has been certified since 2008 as a Child Passenger Seat (CPS) technician by Safe Kids Worldwide and has achieved completion of the National Standardized CPS Training Program. To maintain certification, the technician must take part in five car seat check events each year, be witnessed on installing five different style seats by a certified instructor, provide four hours of public instruction each year on car seat safety and complete the required 6 CEU credits needed every two years. Our CPS technician partners with the Center for Childhood Safety in Green Bay and other CPS technicians throughout Northeast WI to provide services throughout the greater-Green Bay area.

Car seat inspections are offered to anyone who calls and requests one, as well as every first time parent. Seat inspections are done both at first time parent home visits and at our office. The average car seat inspection process takes 30-45 minutes per seat. In 2017, Kewaunee County Public Health Department provided 32 car seat inspections between our office and home visits provided to new parents.

Rural Safety Day

Kewaunee County Public Health began collaboration with Kewaunee County UW Extension in 1996 to offer a special event focused on rural safety and injury prevention. This event is called Rural Safety Day. We receive a \$500 grant from the Wisconsin Rural Health Initiative. The Kewaunee County Farm Bureau matches these funds with an additional \$500. The Kewaunee County Dairy Promotion provides milk and ice cream to all participants at the event. Our partners donate their time for the day to educate the kids. They include: Wisconsin Public Service, Green Bay YMCA, Brown County Park and Rec. Dept., Kewaunee County Parks and Promotion Department, Kewaunee County Sheriff's Dept., WI Agri-Bility, local veterinarians, Kewaunee Fire Department, Luxemburg Fire Department, Luxemburg Rescue, Luxemburg Motor Company, Pagel's Ponderosa, Kewaunee County Preparedness, Violence Intervention Project, and WI DNR.

Fifteen learning stations are set up throughout our livestock buildings at the Kewaunee County Fairgrounds. Approximately 250 children from nine area public and private schools are in attendance. The children are divided into groups of approximately 20-25 students. They rotate through learning stations every 15 minutes. The learning stations include:

- Large Animal Safety
- Small Animal Safety
- Tractor Safety
- Lawn Mower Safety
- Farmstead Safety
- Agri-Bility / Disability
- Fire Safety
- Electrical Safety
- ATV Safety
- Water Safety
- Preparedness / Family
Emergency Safety
- Safety in the Woods
- Bike Safety
- Car Passenger / Seat Belt Safety
- Sun Safety

Every child in attendance receives a safety booklet highlighting each of the lessons they learned about that day. Teachers spend time with their students to complete the evaluation and to reinforce the prevention lessons they have learned over the following week in their classroom. Evaluations have shown an increase in students' knowledge.

All presenters and organizations that help plan or participate in the event have a vested interest in educating our children on safety measures and the success of the program.

Adult Health Promotion

Communicable Disease Control

According to Wisconsin State Statute, surveillance, investigation, and follow-up of all Category I, II, or III communicable diseases are mandated responsibilities of a local health department. Public health nurses spend significant staff time conducting these investigations.

Communicable Diseases Reported & Confirmed in 2017

Disease	Reported	Confirmed / Probable / Suspect
Arboviral Illness, Powassan	1	0
Arboviral Illness, West Nile	1	1
Arboviral Illness, Zika	6	0
Blastomycosis	2	2
Campylobacteriosis	14	14
Chlamydia	36	36
Coccidioidomycosis	1	1
Cryptosporidium	2	2
E Coli – Shiga Toxin STEC	3	3
E Coli – Enteropathogenic EPEC	7	7
Giardiasis	3	2
Gonorrhea	3	3
Group Strep A	10	3
Group Strep B	11	1
Haemophilus Influenza	1	0
Hantavirus, Old World	7	3
Hepatitis B - chronic	4	1
Hepatitis C	12	8
Histoplasmosis	1	1
Influenza - hospitalized	18	17
Legionellosis	1	1
Lyme's Disease	21	13
Mycobacterial Disease / non-TB	2	2
N. Meningitidis	1	0
Non-cholera Vibriosis	1	1
Pertussis	4	2
Salmonellosis	3	3
Streptococcal Pneumoniae	2	2
Syphilis	3	0
Toxoplasmosis	1	1
Tuberculosis - latent	2	2
Varicella	5	3
Total	189	135

In addition to communicable disease follow-up, our staff maintains weekly correspondence with our three public school districts to monitor illness rates within the schools. These illness rates are reported each Friday and plotted on an absenteeism graph per school. This allows our nursing staff to watch for peaks or spikes in influenza, or gastrointestinal illnesses that are spreading throughout the county.

Outbreaks Reported

Four suspect outbreaks were reported from two local health care institutions.

One was identified as a norovirus outbreak. 21 residents and 13 staff became infected with the agent. Staff worked with the area nursing home to identify the causative agents by collecting the necessary specimens, creating line lists, and providing education on how to stop the spread of the agent.

The other three were suspect respiratory outbreaks. Causative agent in the first was identified as Human Metapneumovirus. 14 residents were affected. The causative agent in the second outbreak was undetermined but 14 residents did have pneumonia. And the third outbreak was identified as RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus). 9 residents became infected with the virus. In each of these three cases staff worked with the area nursing home to identify the causative agents by collecting the necessary specimens, creating line lists, and providing education on how to stop the spread of the agent.

Blood Pressure Clinics

Adult blood pressure clinics are offered throughout Kewaunee County at low-income housing, meal sites, foot care clinics and our office. The clinic nurses screened 315 individuals for blood pressure throughout the county (Kewaunee, Algoma, Dyckesville, Luxemburg and Casco) as well as provided this service to all Behavioral Health clients prior to their medical visit. In addition, individual appointments are also accepted. We provide education to all clients on maintaining a healthy lifestyle, adding exercise into their daily routine, and making healthy nutrition choices.

Animal Bites

Investigation of reported animal bites is conducted to assure that serious illness or death from exposure to animal or human transmission of rabies will be prevented. This program is designed to coordinate an effective rabies control procedure between Kewaunee County Public Health Department, law enforcement, veterinarians, physicians, and our townships and municipalities.

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Animal Bites					
Total # Reported to Kewaunee County Health Department	45	38	48	49	41
Dog	30	23	30	26	29
Cat	9	8	11	19	7
Bat	5	5	5	3	1
Raccoon	1	0	1	0	2
Cow	0	2	0	0	1
Squirrel	0	0	1	0	0
Rabbit	0	0	0	1	0
Fox	0	0	0	0	1

Immunization Program

Public health departments are allowed to vaccinate individuals who are on BadgerCare, are uninsured, underinsured, Native American or Native Alaskan. As a health department, our objective is to vaccinate as many children as we can within our guidelines and to track all children less than 2 years of age who reside within our county or utilize our vaccination services and send notices to parents of children that are behind schedule. Booster doses are given to prevent immunity from waning. The immunization rates will be monitored to assure compliance with immunization schedules.

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department continues to offer three community-based vaccination clinics per month as well as by individual appointments. Vaccination services are also offered in the school settings to assist in meeting state requirements for sixth grade entrance. In 2017 mass influenza clinics were offered in all three public school districts and Tdap and meningitis vaccines was offered to all 5th graders. 568 doses of influenza vaccine, 82 doses of meningococcal and 61 doses of Tdap were distributed in the school setting.

	Total Immunizations	Total Children and Adults Served
2012	1816	895
2013	821	501
2014	582	416
2015	1143	904
2016	1102	910
2017	1280	1013

Educational Sessions

Kewaunee County Public Health Department provides information that allows people to make healthy decisions every day like increasing physical activity, eating right, smoking cessation or simply washing hands to prevent the spread disease. The public health nurse and registered dietitian provide these information programs in schools, in homes, clinics and on our website. Educational sessions are provided to various community groups upon request.

- Blood-borne Pathogens
- Communicable Disease / Influenza
- Eating for the Aging
- First Aid
- Food Demonstrations
- Hand Washing
- Puberty
- Physical Activity / Proper Nutrition

Preparedness

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides yearly grant funding to local health departments in order to increase our capacity to plan for, respond to, and recover from public health threats and emergencies that may impact our community.

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department focused on the following capabilities:

- **Community Preparedness** – The ability of communities to prepare for, withstand, and recover from public health incidents.
- **Community Recovery** – The ability to collaborate with community partners to plan and advocate for the rebuilding of public health, medical, and mental/behavioral health systems to pre-incident levels.

- **Medical Surge** – The ability to provide adequate medical evaluation and care during events that exceed the limits of the normal medical infrastructure of the community.
- **Volunteer Management** – The ability to coordinate the identification, recruitment, registration, credential verification, training, and engagement of volunteers to support the health department’s response to incidents.
- **Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions** – The ability to recommend to the applicable lead agency (if not public health) and implement, if applicable, strategies for disease, injury, and exposure control.

Initiatives to eliminate identified gaps based on the targeted capabilities included the following:

- Participation in the Department of Public Health facilitated Health Care Coalition regional exercise for Mass Casualty Response.
- Participation in scheduled Department of Public Health facilitated webinars and meetings.
- The Kewaunee County Hazard Vulnerability Risk Assessment plan was reviewed and updated with input from Kewaunee Emergency Management. This assessment was then forwarded on to the Northeast Regional Health Care Coalition to facilitate the development of the Northeast Regional Risk Assessment. The tool identified Kewaunee County’s highest risks for potential hazards to help guide future planning. Identified hazards for Kewaunee County include pandemic influenza, cyber attack, drought, severe thunderstorms, extreme temperatures, power outage, and blizzards/ice storms.
- Staff was trained in Mass Dispensing/Clinic and Strategic National Stockpile capabilities.
- Staff participated in WI-Trac, WEAVR, and RAVE training to prepare for coordinated response during public health related emergencies.
- In attempt to exercise and assess operational abilities of the mass clinic (dispensing) plan, staff coordinated a mass immunization functional exercise with schools throughout Kewaunee County for influenza in Fall 2017 and Tdap and meningococcal in Spring 2017. During the exercise 568 influenza vaccines were administered to children under the age of 18 while 61 Tdap vaccines were administered to 5th graders, and 82 meningococcal vaccines were administered to any willing student over the age of 10.

- A staff member has maintained training in the Wisconsin Emergency Assistance Volunteer Registry (WEAVR) program in order to recruit and manage willing volunteers to fill specific roles during a public health emergency.
- The department is currently in the process of reviewing and revising the format and content of the public health emergency plans in order to improve the capability and efficiency of responding to public health incidents.
- Staff continued to meet FEMA training requirements by participating in the ICS and NIMS courses.

Environmental Health Services

Beach Testing

The Kewaunee County Public Health Department coordinates with WI DNR and UW Oshkosh, as well as the cities of Kewaunee and Algoma to provide monitoring of water quality at two of our Lake Michigan beaches. The program was implemented under the Federal Beach Act of 2000, an amendment of the Clean Water Act. The beaches that are monitored are Kewaunee City Beach (at Selner Park), and Crescent Beach in Algoma.

The monitoring takes place twice weekly between Memorial Day and Labor Day. The program monitors for the presence of Escherichia coli (E. coli). If E. coli levels are found to be >235cfu/100mL an advisory is posted. If levels are found to exceed 1000cfu/100ml, a beach closure is posted. Advisories and closures are posted at the beach as well as on the WI Beach Monitoring website.

In 2017 our beaches continued to utilize a beach flagging system to alert citizens of elevated bacteria levels in the lake. A green flag indicates that there is not currently an advisory or closure, a yellow flag indicates levels have reached a cautionary level (higher risk of illness exists), and a red flag indicates bacteria levels are considered high (warning...do not swim...serious risk for illness exists).

Kewaunee County Beach Report 2017

Beach Name	Number of Samples	# of Advisories	# of Closures	% Exceedances	Average <i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)
City of Kewaunee Beach	29	1	0	0.034	55.97
Crescent Beach	39	2	1	0.076	115.57

% of exceedances is based on the number of beach days under advisory or closure.

Childhood Lead Testing

There is no safe level of lead in the human body. Even very low levels of lead exposure can cause permanent brain damage and negatively affect health throughout the child's life, especially those between six months and six years of age. Experts now use a reference level of 5 micrograms per deciliter to identify children with elevated blood lead levels. The new lower value means that more children will likely be identified as having lead exposure allowing parents, doctors, public health officials and communities to take action earlier to reduce the child's future exposure to lead.

In Kewaunee County, children with a lead level of 5 or greater are provided with follow-up and consultation by a Public Health Nurse. 59 capillary blood lead checks were done with no new children identified as having a lead level between 5 and 10 ug/dL. No children were reported as having been lead poisoned (greater than 10 ug/dL).

Water Quality

The quality of drinking water in Kewaunee County remains a leading concern for our health department. Because of our unique geology and soils, there are extreme challenges to protecting the groundwater within our county. Our upper layer of bedrock can be easily dissolved by water. This is referred to as "karst" bedrock. Soil is important for filtering contaminants out of groundwater, but in areas where karst bedrock is present, we lack the depth of soil needed to properly filter the groundwater. Red River, Lincoln, Casco and Luxemburg townships are most affected by karst bedrock.

Contamination of wells is a major concern for our rural residents. As a health department, we encourage all well owners to test their wells annually; and whenever a change in color, odor, or taste is noted. The Health Department has well testing kits available to private well owners. In addition, free testing kits are offered to first-time parents of newborns, WIC families, and low-income families. Education is offered on various topics including annual well testing, options for improving your well water, high nitrates and blue baby syndrome.

Throughout 2017, our Health Department continued work on recommendations set forth by a short-term solution workgroup formulated by the WI DNR which focused on finding assistance for individuals with contaminated wells. Outreach was a primary focus. In July, staff provided education and answered questions regarding well testing at all three days of the 2018 Farm Technology days hosted within Kewaunee County. In addition outreach was also done at Algoma Night Out, and the Adult Health Fair. Focus was placed on educating farm staff of the importance of good hand hygiene when working on a farm or with farm animals.

Two contamination incidents were followed up on with letters sent out to neighbors within a one-half mile radius alerting them of the possibility of contamination.

Education was provided to those in the affected area within 24 hours of notification. Resources were shared with the families affected by the contamination as well.

Health Hazard Investigation

In 2017, environmental health responsibilities also included the investigation of ten residences and placarding of two new human health hazard sites. In addition, one placarded site carried over from 2016. Extensive time was spent with each of these property owners educating them on the need to clean and maintain their property to avoid health issues secondary to their current living conditions. In excess of 35 home visits were made to these properties to assist in rectifying the current hazard situation. These services were done through collaboration with Kewaunee County Human Services, Law Enforcement, and Kewaunee County Corporation Counsel.

Behavioral Health Services

In 2017, the Health Department continued to contract nursing services with the Kewaunee County Department of Human Services to assist with medication management for the Behavioral Health Unit. Nurses are responsible for assisting behavioral health clients at the start of their clinic visit, reviewing current medications lists, and manage the prescription ordering / refill processes. In addition the nurses manage the medication stocks currently held within the unit.