

NEW JERSEY 2018

LOCAL HEALTH REPORT

Montgomery Township Health Department

Serving Montgomery, and the Boroughs of Hopewell, Pennington, and Rocky Hill



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

2261 Route 206

Belle Mead
NEW JERSEY, 08502

908-359-8211 x227

908-359-3222

health@twp.montgomery.nj.us
<https://health.montgomery.nj.us/>

Montgomery Township Health Department

JURISDICTION LEADERSHIP

Sadaf Jafer, Mayor, Montgomery Township

Paul Anzano, Mayor, Hopewell Borough

Joseph Lawver, Mayor, Pennington Borough

Robert Uhrik, Mayor, Rocky Hill Borough/Board of Health Liaison

Catherine Gural, Board of Health Liaison, Montgomery Township

Debra Stuhler, Board of Health Liaison, Hopewell Borough

Glen Griffiths Board of Health Liaison, Pennington Borough

BOARD OF HEALTH LEADERSHIP

Bill Bucci , President, Montgomery Board of Health

Sheila Reynertson, President, Hopewell Borough Board of Health

Steve Papenberg, President, Pennington Board of Health

Ken Rizzi, President, Rocky Hill Board of Health

LHD STAFF / LEADERSHIP

Stephanie Carey, Health Officer

Jennifer Foster, Administrative Assistant

Devangi Patel, Health Educator

Brianna Retsis, Public Health Nurse

Kristen Sargent, Registered Environmental Health Specialist

Evan Stampoulos, Registered Environmental Health Specialist

Jennifer LaStella, Animal Control Officer

Stan Kosinski, Weekend Animal Control Officer

Table Of Contents

• Annual Report Executive Summary

• What Your Local Health Department Does	4
• Meet the Montgomery Township Health Department	5
• Montgomery Township Health Department Service Area	6

• Administration

• Staffing and Human Resources Summary	8
• Annual Financial Summary	8
• Inquiries, Issues, and Complaint Investigations	9
• Emergency Preparedness and Response	10

• Health Services and Outreach

• Health Education and Promotion	12
• Individualized Clinical Services	13
• Communicable Disease Control	14
• School Immunization Record Audits	14

• Animal Care and Management

• Kennels, Pet Shops, and Shelter/Pound Facilities	16
• Animal Control Services	17
• Animal Bites and Rabies Control	17
• Municipal Animal Shelter Operations	18
• Pet Licensing	18
• Rabies Vaccination Clinics	18

• Outdoor Facility Supervision and Inspection

• Youth Camps	20
• Recreational Bathing Facilities	21

• Local Business Supervision and Inspection

• Retail Food Establishment Safety	23
------------------------------------	----

• Environmental Stewardship

• Onsite Wastewater Disposal System Safety	25
• Potable Wells and Drinking Water Safety	26
• Childhood Lead Poisoning Control	26

Quality Improvement Initiatives	27
---------------------------------	----

What Does Your Health Department Do?

Your local public health department protects and improves the health and well-being of your community, as well as the environmental resources upon which we all depend.

Since 1900, the average lifespan of U.S. residents has increased by more than 30 years, with 25 years of this gain attributable to advances in public health, such as:

- Vaccination
- Motor-vehicle safety
- Safer workplaces
- Control of infectious diseases
- Decline in deaths from coronary heart disease and stroke
- Safer and healthier foods
- Healthier mothers and babies
- Family planning
- Fluoridation of drinking water
- Recognition of tobacco use as a health hazard

Today, your local public health agencies continue to promote health and wellness across New Jersey.

Your health department:

- Protects you from health threats. Your health department works to prevent disease outbreaks and makes sure the water you drink, the food you eat, and the air you breathe are all safe. We are also ready to respond to any health emergency — be it an emerging disease or a new environmental hazard.
- Educates you and your neighbors about health issues. Your health department provides you with information that helps you make healthy decisions, like exercising more, eating right, quitting smoking, and washing your hands to protect yourself from communicable diseases. During a public health emergency, we also provide important alerts and warnings to protect your health.
- Provides healthy solutions. Your health department offers the preventive care you need to avoid disease and maintain your health. We provide flu shots for the community and help mothers get prenatal care to give their babies a healthy start. We also help provide children with regular check-ups, immunizations, and good nutrition to help them grow and learn.
- Advances community health. Your health department works with community partners to develop new policies and standards that address existing and emerging challenges to your community's health. We work through research and staff training to maintain expertise and deliver up-to-date, cutting-edge health programs.
- Enforces a range of laws to help keep you safe. From safe food, to sanitary waste disposal, to clean air and drinking water, Environmental Health Specialists assure compliance with rules that protect the entire community from preventable illnesses.

Montgomery Township Health Department Mission Statement

Our purpose is the good health of the people of the communities we serve.

Together we:

- Prevent Disease and Injury
- Promote Healthier Choices
- Protect food, water, and air
- Prepare for Emergencies

We will work together for a safer and healthier community.

Our Values:

- We protect the Health and Safety of those who live, work, and play in the communities we serve.
- We provide professional, timely, and caring response to everyone we serve.

Montgomery Township Organizational Values:

-Respect for Others - Teamwork -Communication - Integrity - Leadership - Customer Service

Public Health 2018 Quick Facts

- 9 Shared Services Agreements
- 8 employees (7 FTEs)
- 347 flu Vaccinations provided
- 37 Clinic visits provided (Zufall Health)
- 271 Retail Food Inspections conducted
- 1351 Pets licensed
- 190 Disease cases investigated
- 82 Environmental health issues investigated

Your Health Department Team

Working together to "Bee" Accredited!



July 26, 2018, culminated a two-year quality improvement effort at our national **Public Health Accreditation Site Visit**. More than 40 partners gathered to talk about how the Health Department works collaboratively to improve community health.

Many thanks to our partners who made this initiative possible!

Pictured, left to right: Triona Gately, PHAB representative; Stephanie Carey, Health Officer; Evan Stampoulos, Environmental Health Specialist; Monika Baskaran, Intern; Nick Cai, Intern; Devagi Patel, Health Educator /Accreditation Coordinator; Jennifer Foster, Administrative Assistant; Brianna Retsis, Nurse; Jen LaStella, Animal Control, Kristen Sargent, Environmental Health Specialist

Montgomery Township Health Department Service Area

Town Name	Animal Bites & Rabies Control	Childhood Lead Poisoning Control	Communicable Disease Control	Emergency Preparedness and	Health Education & Promotion	Individualized Clinical Services	Inquiries, Issues, Complaints	Kennels, Pet Shops, Shelters	Onsite Wastewater Disposal System	Other Animal Control Services	Potable Wells & Drinking Water	Proprietary Campgrounds	Public Campgrounds	Recreational Bath Facilities	Retail Food Establishment Safety	School Immunity Record Audits	Youth Camps
HOPEWELL BORO	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P			P	P	P	P
MONTGOMERY TWP	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			P	P	P	P
PENNINGTON BORO	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P			P	P	P	P
ROCKY HILL BORO	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P			P	P	P	P
BRANCHBURG			P		P												
PRINCETON					P												

Working Collaboratively to Assess Community Needs

MTHD is highly engaged with both the Greater Mercer Public Health Partnership, and the Healthier Somerset Coalition, to develop each county's Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). The CHNA is a process that uses quantitative and qualitative methods to systematically collect and analyze data to understand health within a specific community. This data is designed to guide community decision-making related to health improvement, by providing a vision for the health of the community and a framework for organizations to utilize in developing services and programs.



Assessing Community Needs: World Café Community Listening Sessions



The Health Department partnered with Greater Mercer Public Health Partnership, Healthier Somerset Coalition, and Greater Somerset Public Health Partnership to sponsor a series of World Café Listening sessions as part of our 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment process. “World Café” is a community engagement tool to gather “soft” data about community values, attitudes, and priorities, to learn, “What is your definition of Health?”

MTHD offers coaching to community organizations who want to use this process to engage their stakeholders. Contact us to schedule your group’s coaching sessions!

Measurably Better Health



L to R: S. Papenberg, Pennington Borough BOH; D. Patel, Health Educator; L. Kotkoski, Hopewell Borough BOH; G. Lambert, Montgomery BOH; S. Carey, Health Officer; M. Couch, Montgomery BOH; P. Scully, Montgomery BOH

The **Accreditation Support Subcommittee** meets quarterly to track progress on our department’s performance objectives and quality improvement initiatives.

The Subcommittee reviews and gives feedback on policies and procedures and makes recommendations to the Boards of Health on adopting these policies.

These volunteers are committed to our principles of **transparency, accountability, and evidence-based practices** to improve our communities’ health.

The Value of National Accreditation

The Value of PHAB Accreditation

Strengthening Health Departments to Better Serve their Communities

96%

Quality Improvement

The percentage of respondents who said accreditation stimulates quality and performance improvement opportunities.¹

74%

Partnerships

The percentage of respondents who said that since becoming accredited, their health department’s relationships with local community stakeholders have improved.¹

83%

Accountability

The percentage of respondents who said accreditation improves accountability to external stakeholders.¹

94%

Strengths/Weaknesses

The percentage of respondents who said accreditation allows the health department to better identify strengths and weaknesses.¹

Workforce

“By far the best [outcome of accreditation] is the validation for staff. They are really proud of accomplishing accreditation, and really proud of doing things the right way.”²

Resources

“The work we have done to become accredited has helped us obtain other grants. Going through our CHA and CHIP goals, having a strategic plan in place, they have probably helped us secure some grants that we may not have obtained if we had not had those.”²

¹ NORC evaluation survey of health departments one year after they were accredited, as of Oct. 2016.
² Responses to interviews/surveys as part of NORC evaluation.

For more information about the Public Health Accreditation Board and the value of PHAB accreditation, please visit <http://www.phaboard.org/accreditation-overview/what-are-the-benefits/>

Staffing & Human Resources Summary

Fiscal Year Summary	2018 data
Number of Individual Employees	8
Number of Individual Contract Staff	0
Number of Individual Volunteers	2
Number of Contract Organizations	3
Total Number of Full-Time Equivalent Human Resources Available	7.5
FTEs of Individual Employees	7
FTEs of Individual Contract Staff	0
FTEs of Individual Volunteers	0.4
FTEs of Contract Organizations	0.1
<i>In-Kind Work of 24 Volunteer Board of Health Members</i>	<i>400 hours</i>

Definitions:

- Employees are individuals who are on the LHD's payroll and paid a set salary or hourly rate. This includes full-time, part-time, and casual/at-will/W-9 staff of the LHD.
- Contract staff are individual contractors or consultants who are not on the LHD's payroll, but who invoice or bill the LHD for services rendered on behalf of the LHD and are paid directly by the LHD as individuals (rather than as companies/organizations).
- Contract organizations are organizations that, under the terms of a contract, provide services on behalf of the LHD in exchange for payment, where the LHD pays the organization rather than directly compensating individual staff of the organization for their services.

2018 Annual Financial Summary

Fiscal Year Summary	
Total revenue	\$564,600
Revenue from Municipalities	\$447,411
Revenue from Counties	\$2000
Revenue from the State Department of Health	0
Revenue from other State Agencies	0
Revenue from grants (other than State of NJ)	\$19,500
Revenue from service and licensing fees	\$94,439
Revenue from fines for health & safety violations	\$1,250
Financial donations received	0
% of revenue from Fees and Fines	17%
Total expenditures for 01-01-2018 through 12-31-2018	\$564,600
Budget for next fiscal year	\$575,000
Per capita expenditures <i>excluding Capital, Overhead, and Benefits</i>	
<i>Public Health</i>	\$17.14
<i>Animal Control</i>	3.04

Inquiries, Issues, and Complaint Investigations: Improving Community Quality of Life, Health, and Safety

Local health departments assist residents in the resolution of quality of life questions and concerns, as well as conducting investigations to prevent and correct (“abate”) conditions or uses of a properties that interfere with neighbors’ use or enjoyment of their own properties or endanger life, health or safety.

For more information, contact NAME/PROGRAM at PHONE NUMBER or EMAIL

Key Facts & Activities	2018 data
Number of contacts handled	1477
Number of cases investigated	82
Number of cases that required enforcement action (including, but not limited to, fines, notices of violation, and court summonses)	48
Percent of cases that required enforcement actions	58.54

82 Complaints in 2018 include:

- 6 Retail Food violations
- 7 Septic System failures
- 5 housing complaints
- 2 Hazardous Materials incidents
- 3 Air Pollution Complaints
- 2 Standing Water/Mosquito issues
- 26 High Grass complaints
- 20 Garbage and Debris issues

The data on this page applies to: Hopewell Boro, Montgomery Twp, Pennington Boro Rocky Hill Boro.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

- Local health departments monitor the community for infectious or communicable diseases, public health nursing and case investigation & disease outbreak prevention and mitigation, health education/ risk communication, partnerships with traditional and non-traditional emergency responders and the community-at-large, and environmental contamination mitigation post-event (natural or manmade disasters).

Montgomery Township Health Department has an updated continuity of operations plan

Montgomery Township Health Department has updated plans to respond to the following types of emergencies that involve:

- retail food safety
- the public water supply
- multi-family housing
- food-borne disease outbreaks
- infectious disease outbreaks
- hazardous material spills
- raw sewage spills
- isolation and quarantine to prevent the spread of dangerous illnesses
- major natural disasters
- potential bioterrorism exposures

Montgomery Township Health Department's response plans include extra precautions and preparations to protect populations at greatest health risk in emergencies.

The data on this page applies to: Hopewell Boro, Montgomery Twp, Pennington Boro, Rocky Hill Boro.

Advocating for Safer Streets



Somerset County's Pedestrian Improvement Project on Route 601 between Blawenburg and Montgomery High School yielded significant safety improvements for students and for all pedestrians. The new sidewalks, crossings, and bridge expansion were a top priority for local officials and the Montgomery school board.

The attractive multi-use path and sidewalk has been constructed on the east side of County Route 601. The path and sidewalk goes from the high school south to the bridge over Rock Brook, and on to the village of Blawenburg.

The Health Department worked with SAVE and the Healthier Somerset Coalition and advocated to Somerset County Freeholders in support of the pathway that was a priority for the Township,

Investing in Wellness is ROI *Return on Investment*

In 2018, Central Jersey Health Insurance Fund awarded Montgomery Health Department a \$9,000 grant to build its Employee Wellness Program.

Over half the Municipality's employees participated in the program, including biometric screenings, health coaching, and nutrition and physical activity program.

The Township saw a reduction of \$200,000 in its 2018 claims—**a return on investment of over 20 to one.**

Wellness works!



Hopewell Borough's "Vote and Vax" day fights the flu



Hopewell Borough Mayor Paul Anzano reminds you that a flu shot is your best protection against the illness

On Election Day, it's time to get out and vote—and get your flu shot!

Hopewell Borough has been a proud supporter of the Vote and Vax initiative to improve flu vaccination rates, since 2010 for a healthier democracy and a healthier neighborhood.

Health Education and Promotion

Health Education occurs throughout all local health department programs, with a focus on providing education and health promotion services that help the public make informed decisions about their health. Health education programs and activities help the community achieve a healthier lifestyle and promote healthy behaviors.

Health Educators are conveners and leaders of community coalitions to assess the health of our neighborhoods, and develop collaborative strategies to improve health where we live, work, and play.

Key Facts & Activities	2018 data
number of single-session educational events	39
number of multi-session educational events	12
	4
Total number of educational events	55
Distribution of Health Education information:	
• outreach to local schools	YES
• outreach to local health providers	YES
• outreach to local businesses	YES
• outreach to local faith-based organizations	YES
• outreach to local childcare providers	YES
• outreach to other local organizations	YES
• posting information to the LHD website	YES
• updated information on the LHD website	YES
• sharing information via a municipal, county, or LHD email distribution list	YES
• sharing information on social media tools like Twitter & Facebook	YES
• Press releases in local print newspapers/newsletters	YES
• Press releases through local online newspapers/newsletters	YES

The data on this page applies to: Hopewell Boro, Montgomery Twp, Pennington Boro, Rocky Hill Boro.

Individual Clinical Services

• As part of our mission to assure that all people have access to essential health services, local health departments provide a variety of individual, clinical services such as screenings and checkups, referrals to appropriate medical care, and primary medical care and follow-up.

Key Facts & Activities	2018 data
Number of clinic-based medical visits provided	37
Number of individuals (unduplicated) who received care at health department clinics	37
Number of referrals to medical follow-up, support programs, and/or accessible medical services	278
Number of children immunized to protect them from dangerous and deadly preventable diseases	30
Number of adults (age 18 and up) immunized to protect them from dangerous and deadly preventable diseases	317
Total number of immunizations provided by the LHD	347
Total number of health screenings provided by the LHD	441
Number of children screened for dangerous levels of lead in their blood	1
Number of individuals screened for cancer	22
Number of individuals screened for Hepatitis B	0
Number of individuals screened for Sexually Transmitted Infections (other than HIV/AIDS)	35
Number of individuals screened for HIV/AIDS	26
Number of individuals screened for Cardiovascular Disease	76
Number of individuals screened for Hypertension	205
Number of individuals screened for Diabetes	76
Number of individuals screened for Tuberculosis	0
Number of individuals screened for Vision	0
Number of individuals screened for Hearing	0

The data on this page applies to: Hopewell Boro, Montgomery Twp, Pennington Boro, Rocky Hill Boro.

Communicable Disease Control

The Health Department investigates communicable diseases and outbreaks to look for causes and intervene to keep illnesses from spreading.

In 2018, MTHD investigated **190 cases** of Communicable Disease

- 50% Tick Borne diseases
- 5% Food-borne illnesses
- 1 % Mosquito Borne illnesses
- 17% Hepatitis B and C
- 17% Influenza and Pneumonia
- 3 % Vaccine Preventable illnesses

In 2018, our jurisdiction showed a small but consistent increase in the proportion reported cases of illnesses that can be prevented by vaccines. While some of this increase can be attributed to improved reporting, the Health Department wants to assure that everyone gets the vaccines they need on time.

- ***The flu shot is your best defense against the flu !*** The CDC recommends everyone over 6 months of age get vaccinated every fall. The Health Department offers convenient clinics for both adults and school-aged children to make sure you can get your flu shot.
- We want to ***make Hepatitis B a thing of the past.*** People born after January 1, 1990 had to get the vaccine to attend school in New Jersey. If you haven't yet been vaccinated, talk with your doctor about vaccination and screening.

Vaccines save lives!

School Immunization Record Audits

The Health Department reviews immunization records of children within schools and childcare facilities each year to make sure everyone is protected from preventable diseases.

Key Facts & Activities	2018 data
Number of Childcare / Pre-K facilities	11
Number of Childcare / Pre-K facilities audited by the health department	11
Number of Kindergarten facilities	3
Number of Kindergarten facilities audited by the health department	3
Number of Grade 1 facilities	3
Number of Grade 1 facilities audited by the health department	3
Number of Grade 6 facilities	6
Number of Grade 6 facilities audited by the health department	6
Number of High School facilities	3
Number of High School facilities whose transfer school records were audited by the health department	3

The data on this page applies to (Hopewell Boro, Montgomery Twp, Pennington Boro, Rocky Hill Boro)

Animal Care and Management

Educating our neighbors on responsible pet ownership



Love Us? LICENSE US!



Why is it important to license your pet?

1. **To safeguard public health**
Every licensed pet has been vaccinated against rabies. This protects your pets, children and neighbors against this deadly disease! **When the license tag is visible, you know that animal has been vaccinated!**
2. **To help your pet get home**
If your pet gets lost, your pet can be returned more quickly and sometimes without a trip to the shelter! If it is impounded and taken to the shelter, it is safer there than it would be roaming the streets in harm's way. A license tag can be easily traced to the animal's owner with a phone call. A license tag is your pet's ticket home.
3. **To help us to enforce laws on responsible pet ownership**
If we can track pet ownership, then we know where to focus our services and education efforts.
4. **To support the shelter and adoption of unwanted pets**
Your yearly license fee helps support sheltering for strays and unwanted pets. It also pays for our leash-free dog park, animal control services and community education.
5. **It's the law!** Dogs and Cats must be licensed and vaccinated against rabies.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

MONTGOMERY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Animal Control

Also Serving: Hopewell Borough ♦ Pennington Borough ♦ Rocky Hill Borough

(908)359-8211x247

Animal Control Quick Facts 2018

- 1100 calls for service
- Over 500 investigations (*Nuisance, bite, or stray*) initiated
- Over 120 animals brought to SAVE's shelter

Public Health, Personal Stories



Animal Control Officers Jennifer LaStella and Stan Kosinski provide service to our residents 7 days a week

Kennels, Pet Shops, and Shelter / Pound Facilities

• Local health departments inspect kennels, pet shops, shelters, and pounds to ensure that these facilities are operating in compliance with sanitation, safety, and animal welfare rules.

Key Facts & Activities	2018 data
Number of licensed pet shop facilities	0
Number of licensed kennel facilities	1
Number of licensed shelter/pound facilities	1
Number of pre-operational inspections conducted at Shelter/Pound facilities	0
Number of routine inspections conducted at Kennels	1
Number of routine inspections conducted at Shelter/Pound facilities	1
Number of routine re-inspections conducted at Kennels	1
Number of routine re-inspections conducted at Shelter/Pound facilities	1
Number of non-routine emergency & complaint-related inspections conducted at Kennels	0
Number of non-routine emergency & complaint-related inspections conducted at Shelter/Pound facilities	0

The data on this page applies to: Hopewell Boro, Montgomery Twp, Pennington Boro, Rocky Hill Boro.

Animal Bites and Rabies Control

The Health Department investigates incidents where there was possible human or domestic animal exposure to rabies, including

- Lab testing of suspected rabid animals
- Exposure evaluation for people and their pets
- Monitoring of dogs and cats that bite humans or other animals

Key Facts & Activities	2018 data
Number of incidents where an animal bit a human	16
Number of incidents where a rabid or suspected-rabid animal bit a domestic animal (pet / livestock)	10
Number of unimmunized domestic animals that were confined for rabies observation after biting a person or another animal	2

The data on this page applies to: Hopewell Boro, Montgomery Twp Pennington Boro Rocky Hill Boro.

Animal Control Services

To protect individuals and their domestic animals, Animal Control Officers are responsible for collecting and impounding lost pets, stray domestic animals, and sick, injured, or dangerous animals. Montgomery's health department supervises Animal Control Officers to prevent the spread of rabies and to ensure that anyone potentially exposed to rabies receives prompt treatment.

Montgomery Township Health Department provides animal control services to the following

Hopewell Boro

Montgomery Twp

Pennington Boro

Rocky Hill Boro

Animal Sheltering Services

Montgomery Township Health and Animal Control is proud to partner with SAVE-A Friend to Homeless Animals to care for our lost and homeless animals.

The SAVE facility on Route 601 provides both temporary sheltering and full adoption services for animals found in our service area.



Municipal Animal Shelter Operations

In Cooperation with SAVE-A Friend to Homeless Animals

Montgomery Township Health Department provides a contractual animal shelter on behalf of the following:

Hopewell Boro

Montgomery Twp

Pennington Boro

Rocky Hill Boro

Pet Licensing

All municipalities in New Jersey are responsible for licensing domestic dogs, to ensure that dogs and the people they interact with are protected from rabies. Pet licensing programs also help to quickly reunite lost pets with their owners. In many municipalities, cats are also licensed to protect pets and community members from rabies.

Key Facts & Activities	2018 data
Number of dog licenses issued	1225
Number of cat licenses issued	126

The data on this page applies to: Montgomery Twp.

Rabies Vaccination Clinics

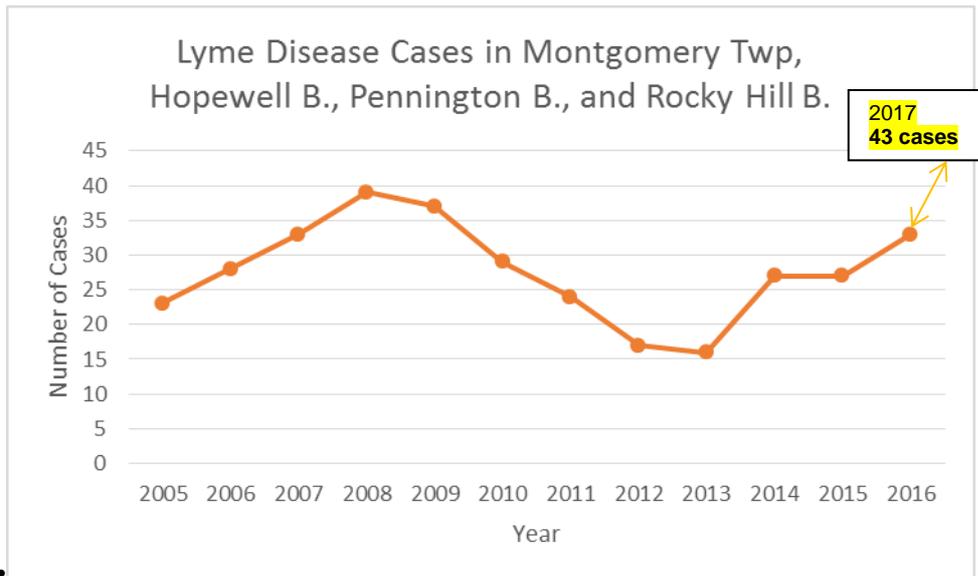
MTHD sponsors pet vaccination clinics to make it easy for residents to vaccinate their pets against rabies. The rabies shot protects pets that may come into contact with wildlife **and** the people who own pets.

Protect your pet! Protect your community! Vaccinate and license your cats and dogs!

Key Facts & Activities	2018 data
Number of rabies vaccination clinics conducted by the health department	4
Number of pets vaccinated by the health department	233
Average number of pets vaccinated per clinic	58.25

The data on this page applies to: Hopewell Boro, Montgomery Twp, Pennington Boro, Rocky Hill Boro.

Lyme Disease: What does the data say?



Lyme disease is the most common reportable disease in New Jersey. Data from the NJ Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System shows that the number of Lyme cases in the MTHD jurisdiction has doubled since 2012, hitting a record high of 43 laboratory confirmed cases in 2017.

What's driving these trends?

- With a better understanding of Lyme Disease, more doctors are testing sooner in patients who report joint pain (and get a correct diagnosis sooner—that's the good news!)
- Warmer temperatures make Lyme disease "season" longer, and more ticks may survive the winter
- Wetter weather also contributes the growth of ticks, and supports the vector animals the ticks live on.
- Hiking and playing outdoors is good for overall health, but precautions against tick bites are needed.

Fight the bite! Wear insect repellent and cover arms and legs when playing outdoors. Keep grass cut short, and take time to do a tick check when returning inside.

To view the entire report, visit our website <https://health.montgomery.nj.us/> "Measurably Better Health"

Public Health Quick Facts

Did you know?

In 2018, MTHD received a grant from The Center for Sharing Public Health Services to build capacity in Public Health Nursing services. MTHD partnered with Branchburg Township Health Department to build capacity in communicable disease investigation, immunization audits, and emergency response.

Public Health, Personal Stories



*Registered Environmental Health Specialists
Evan Stampoulos and Kristen Sargent are responsible for assuring that food is safe to eat, water is safe for drinking and swimming; and wastewater disposal is sanitary—for everyone's good health!*

Youth Camps

• Local health departments enforce safety and sanitation standards for the operation of youth camps in order to protect the health and safety of children who attend these programs.

Key Facts & Activities	2018 data
Number of pre-operational inspections conducted	4
Number of routine, operational inspections conducted	3
Number of routine, operational re-inspections conducted	0
Number of emergency & complaint-related inspections and investigations conducted	0

New E-Cigarette Vendor Licensing Rules Work to Reduce Youth Access to Nicotine Products

2018 saw the launch of a revitalized Age of Sale Education and Enforcement program in Montgomery and in Pennington Borough. Vendors must be licensed and inspected, and demonstrate procedures are in place to prevent sales to young people under age 21.

PREVENT THE ILLEGAL SALE OF TOBACCO & ELECTRONIC SMOKING PRODUCTS TO UNDERAGE YOUTH



LOOK

Look directly at each and every person attempting to purchase a tobacco or electronic smoking product



SEE

See what the person looks like in detail. Do not guess someone's age. Request ID from all customers purchasing tobacco or electronic smoking products.



CHECK ID

Check ID and birth date on the ID. If the person is under the age of 21, or if doubt exists about the age or ID, or if the person refuses to show ID, refuse the sale.

Thank You For Not Selling Tobacco Or Electronic Smoking Products To Underage Youth and Helping Keep Our Community's Youth Safe!



Montgomery Township Health Department
Also serving the Boroughs of
Hopewell ♦ Pennington ♦ Rocky Hill
(908) 359-8211 www.health.montgomery.nj.us



Recreational Bathing Facilities

• Local health departments conduct safety and sanitation inspections of public recreational bathing facilities (including swimming pools, lakes, rivers, streams, tidal bays, and ocean swimming facilities) to reduce the spread of communicable diseases and protect consumers who use these facilities from avoidable harm and danger.

For more information, contact NAME/PROGRAM at PHONE NUMBER or EMAIL

Key Facts & Activities	2018 data
Number of licensed public recreational bathing facilities	
Number of licensed year-round facilities	4
Number of licensed seasonal facilities	8
Number of public recreational bathing features of each type:	
Swimming / wading pools	12
Hot tubs / spas	2
Number of pre-operational inspections of bathing facilities of:	
Year-round facilities	0
Seasonal facilities	0
Number of routine inspections of bathing facilities of:	
Year-round facilities	4
Seasonal facilities	8
Number of routine re-inspections of bathing facilities of:	
Year-round facilities	0
Seasonal facilities	0
Number of non-routine emergency & complaint-related inspections of:	
Year-round facilities	0
Seasonal facilities	0
Number of individual features closed for health and safety violations, by type:	
Swimming / wading pools	5
Hot tubs / spas	0
Number of public recreational bathing facilities closed for health and safety violations:	
Year-round facilities	0
Seasonal facilities	0

The data on this page applies to: Hopewell Boro, Montgomery Twpennington Boro, Rock Hill Boro.

Retail Food Safety Inspections



Our new report, *“Retail Food Regulatory Compliance: Evaluating Patterns and Trends in Complaints, Enforcement, and Abatement”* seeks to identify recurring issues and areas for improvement in retail food facilities. Major findings from the report (covering 2016-18) include:

- The most common cause of a “Conditionally Satisfactory” rating is equipment failure. Inspectors should work with operators to identify aging equipment and develop a replacement schedule before a critical failure occurs.
- The most common cause of a consumer complaint was of foodborne illness related to an establishment. While these illnesses are seldom laboratory confirmed, a thorough complaint inspection can identify suspect food handling practices and require corrective actions by the establishment.
 - Lack of employee handwashing is the second most common cause of customer complaints. Handwashing can be demonstrated and reinforced during the inspection process.
 - Language/ literacy in food service workers can be a barrier to safe food handling. Increasing the availability of bilingual or illustrated food safety materials may help address these barriers.

- To see the full report, visit our website: <https://health.montgomery.nj.us/> “Measurably Better Health”

Retail Food Establishment Safety

• Local health departments inspect and regulate restaurants, grocery stores, and other retail food facilities to ensure compliance with safety and sanitation rules. Local health departments also investigate and control disease outbreaks linked to retail food facilities.

For more information, contact NAME/PROGRAM at PHONE NUMBER or EMAIL

Key Facts & Activities	2018 data
Number of licensed food establishments:	
Risk Level 1 - Establishments that conduct minimal food preparation and minimal handling of potentially hazardous foods	25
Risk Level 2 - Establishments that conduct limited food preparation and heat/cool potentially hazardous foods	87
Risk Level 3 - Establishments that conduct complex food preparation and heat/cool potentially hazardous foods	34
Mobile food establishments	5
Temporary - Establishments operating for no more than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a single event or celebration	68
Other - Establishments that conduct ONLY specialized	6
Number of specialized processes overseen by the health department	6
Number of retail food establishment plan reviews conducted	2
Number of pre-operational retail food establishment inspections conducted	12
Number of routine inspections for the following types of retail food establishments:	
Risk Level 1 - Establishments that conduct minimal food preparation and minimal handling of potentially hazardous foods	19
Risk Level 2 - Establishments that conduct limited food preparation and heat/cool potentially hazardous foods	96
Risk Level 3 - Establishments that conduct complex food preparation and heat/cool potentially hazardous foods	66
mobile food establishments	5
Temporary - Establishments operating for no more than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a single event or celebration	66
Other - Establishments that conduct ONLY specialized processes such as canning	9
Number of routine re-inspections for the following types of establishments:	
Risk Level 1 - Establishments that conduct minimal food preparation and minimal handling of potentially hazardous foods	0
Risk Level 2 - Establishments that conduct limited food preparation and heat/cool potentially hazardous foods	2
Risk Level 3 - Establishments that conduct complex food preparation and heat/cool potentially hazardous foods	0
Mobile food establishments	0
Temporary - Establishments operating for no more than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a single event or celebration	0
Other - Establishments that conduct ONLY specialized processes such as canning	0
Number of non-routine emergency & complaint-related investigations/inspections:	
Investigations	6
	0
Inspections (other than routine inspections)	2
Number of establishments on which the health department had to take one or more enforcement actions	5

The data on this page applies to: Hopewell Boro, Montgomery Twp, Pennington Boro, Rocky Hill Boro.

Environmental Stewardship



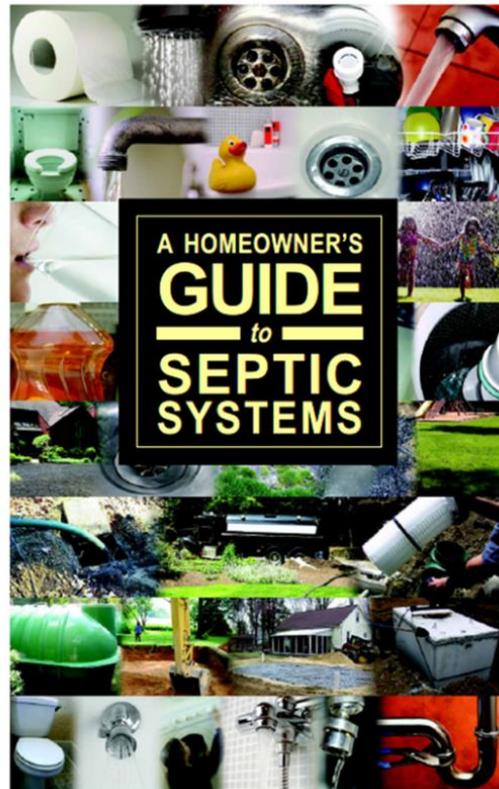
Alternative Wastewater Treatment for Cleaner Water

MTHD supports a comprehensive program of On-Site Wastewater Management to protect the environment. Our oversight starts with initial soils evaluation, on to system design, through installation and monitoring of long-term maintenance. This oversight helps reduce the need for costly repairs, and extends the life of the system.

Regular maintenance saves money and the environment!

Protect your septic system!

Download the *Homeowner's Guide to Septic Systems* at www.health.montgomery.nj.us
Or call the Health Department for your copy



Onsite Wastewater Disposal Systems Safety

Local health departments conduct education, permitting, and inspections of low-volume residential and commercial onsite wastewater treatment systems (e.g., septic systems) to ensure that systems are designed, constructed, and maintained properly, thus improving New Jersey's water quality and protecting human health and the environment.

Key Facts & Activities	2018 data
Number of system construction permits issued for final authorization to proceed with installations of new systems	5
Number of system construction permits issued for final authorization to proceed with repairs to existing system	62
Number of system construction permits issued for final authorization to proceed with alterations to existing systems that don't expand the capacity of the system	29
Number of system construction permits issued for final authorization to proceed with alterations to existing systems to expand the capacity of the system	3
Number of system construction permits issued for installation, repair, or alteration of advanced wastewater pretreatment systems	8
Number of system construction permits issued for installation, repair, or alteration of commercial facility systems	0
number of systems in this municipality	2200
Are required system construction inspections performed by the health department?	Yes, the health department performs these inspections. Third-party certifiers also perform some of these inspections.
Number of unduplicated noncompliant systems identified	44
Number of reality transfer system inspection reports reviewed	71
Number of systems identified as noncompliant as a result of review of reality transfer system inspection reports	41
Does the health department have a septic management program in place?	Yes, Montgomery is covered by septic management
Number of septic management program inspection reports reviewed by the health department	661
Number of system investigations conducted by the health department	5

The data on this page applies to: Montgomery Twp.

Potable Wells and Drinking Water Safety

• The Health Department assures that new wells are installed to protect drinking water safety. The Health Department guides private well owners as to the safety of their water supply, how to comply with Safe Drinking Water standards, and how to address problems with their water.

The Health Department also monitors water quality in restaurants and commercial facilities served by well water.

Key Facts & Activities	2018 data
Does the health department collect potable well water samples?	NO
Does the health department analyze potable well water samples?	NO
Number of potable well inspections conducted	9
Number of unduplicated potable wells inspected	9
Number of potable well investigations where the health department determined well water to be hazardous to humans	0
Number of potable well investigations conducted	0
Number of potable well certificates of compliance issued	0
Number of public water system complaints received	1

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control

There is ***no safe level of lead exposure*** for children. Recognizing that fact, the State of New Jersey is working to ***tighten lead safety standards and increase screening*** of young children.

Montgomery Township Health Department is working with other Health Departments in Mercer and Somerset Counties to build our lead response capacity, and educate policymakers on the resources required to support these essential investigations. We have increased inspector training and nursing capacity to meet the emerging need.

Key Facts & Activities	2018 data
Was service provided for the entire year?	YES

The data on this page applies to: Hopewell Boro, Montgomery Twp Pennington Boro Rocky Hill Boro.

Improving Outcomes with Continuous Quality Improvement

As part of our Public Health Accreditation efforts, MTHD is committed to **Transparency, Accountability, and doing *What Works* to improve health.**

The MTHD Quality Improvement process is overseen by a monitoring team made up of representatives from all four Boards of Health. Health Department staff develop QI projects and measures to address gaps identified in our Performance Management system, Strategic Plan, and Community Health Assessments. Quarterly QI reviews keep the team on track for improved accountability and feedback

For 2018, the Quality Improvement team focused on three key areas for improvement efforts:

- Establishing an Age of Sale Enforcement Process to reduce youth access to nicotine;
- Implementing new processes to improve workforce development and career paths; and
- Improve marketing of Chronic Disease educational programs to increase physician referrals

2018 results are described in the following story boards:

Establish Age of Sale Enforcement to Reduce Youth Access to Nicotine Products Montgomery Township Health Department, NJ

AIM STATEMENT

Establish Age of Sale Enforcement to Reduce Youth Access to Nicotine Products by January 2019

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Developed preliminary list of vendors (MT and PB)
- Developed and sent introductory letter to vendors with application
- Prepared vendor education packet and signage (with staff sign off sheet per ordinance/SOP)
- Order/Print Age of Sale signage + We Card Calendars
- Identify lessons learned from legacy TASE program
- Signage compliance checks and educational inspection
- Age of sale buying inspections



KEY OUTCOMES

- Increased ticketing of users at user level
- Pushback from WaWa for modifying Age of Seller
- Developed vendor education material in English and Spanish
- Identified lessons learned from legacy TASE program

STEPS TAKEN FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Modified age of seller in ordinance
- Identified problem vendors
- Share information with the Regional Tobacco Collaborative

NEXT STEPS

- Identify a 18-20 year old participant (camp counselor?)
- Training for school district staff regarding vaping
- Partner with the Morris Somerset Regional Tobacco Collaborative



Montgomery Township Health Department
Also serving the Boroughs of
Hopewell ♦ Pennington ♦ Rocky Hill



Address Gaps in Workforce Development Practices Identified in the Workforce Development Plan Montgomery Township Health Department, NJ

AIM STATEMENT

Address Gaps in Workforce Development Practices Identified in the Montgomery Township Health Department Workforce Development Plan (2017 Actions)

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Implement new performance evaluation template with development goals
- Launch full time nursing position
- Review and select sample competency-based performance review tools (Gaining Ground cohort)
- Provide tool to Union and HR for review and concurrence
- Beta test tool with staff and request feedback
- Adopt updated job description
- Develop SOP for how to do promotion-in-place
- Provide PDP tool to Union and HR for review and concurrence

NEXT STEPS

- Implement career ladder positions
- Clarify roles and responsibilities
- Evaluate need for database management/cloud application skills and social media skills to meet emerging business needs

KEY OUTCOMES

- Modified performance development and review tools from Gaining Ground with input from Monmouth Regional Health Commission
- Concurrence received from Union and HR
- Performance reviews completed and feedback used in 2018
- Implemented Professional Development Plans
- Develop career leader job descriptions

STEPS TAKEN FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Meeting with staff to discuss Public Health competencies and how to embed in job descriptions
- New tool used to link staff training to specific objectives in Strategic Plan and Workforce Development Plan
- Review progress on Workforce Development Plan implementation



Montgomery Township Health Department
Also serving the Boroughs of
Hopewell ♦ Pennington ♦ Rocky Hill



Identifying Barriers to Successful Implementation of Evidence-Based Chronic Disease Prevention Programs Based on Ishikawa Fishbone Analysis for Quality Improvement

Yonatan Gershon, Rutgers University

Devangi Patel, MPH, CHES, Montgomery Twp. Health Department

In Partnership with Princeton Health Department and the Greater Mercer Public Health Partnership

April 25, 2018



Purpose

To eliminate barriers to successful implementation of Stanford University's Chronic Disease Self-Management Programs: CDSMP, DST, and CST.

Significance

- ❑ Self-management education courses have proven effective for people with chronic conditions.
- ❑ From 2013-2017 there were 80 workshops implemented in Mercer County. Of 889 attendees, 24% did not complete their course.
- ❑ Eliminating barriers to participation will improve quality of life.

Methods/Approach

- ❑ A group of 20 facilitators was convened to assess the barriers.
- ❑ The Fishbone diagram was used to identify barriers to program implementation

Ishikawa Fishbone Analysis

Outcomes/Results

Suggested actions:

- ❑ A marketing campaign
- ❑ Flyer with master schedule
- ❑ Online resource sharing
- ❑ Data tracking system
- ❑ Trainings for facilitators
- ❑ Trainings for providers

Evaluation/Conclusion

- ❑ Better communications among facilitators, attendees, & providers.
- ❑ Avoid data "siloing."

Acknowledgements

I'd like to thank Devangi Patel, my preceptor, Ann Marie Hill, Tamara Swedberg and the GMPHP for their guidance throughout this internship.