



MAHONING COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT

2801 Market Street
Youngstown, Ohio 44507-1649
Phone (216) 788-7041
Nursing & Clinics 788-5011
Senior Day Care 782-1749
Solid Waste Program
788-0428

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Matthew A. Stefanak, M.P.H.

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Brian S. Gordon, M.D.

ANNUAL REPORT 1990



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Howard Faison, R.S., C.P.I., Plumbing Inspector

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Yvonne Lewis, Administrative Secretary
Cynthia Luc, Nursing Assistant

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James Patton, Bus Driver
Joyce Naymick, Activities Director

From Your Health Commissioner



I am pleased to present this report of our 1990 activities. This report offers us the perennial opportunity to judge our progress in fulfilling those public health core functions: health needs assessment, policy development, and assurance of health services for our community.

Probably most gratifying for me this last year were our successful efforts to recruit well-educated health professionals - public health nurses and sanitarians - into practice in the Department, a cadre well-prepared to confront the complex public health issues of the 1990's and the new century.

Many events of 1990 deserve special mention, among them:

- **a successful peer review.** The Ohio Department of Health found that our Department meets not only all minimum public health standards for a local health department, but most optimum service standards, too.

- **improved reporting of service delivery.** Townships will receive customized reports of environmental health services on a monthly basis.

- **digitized mapping of Mahoning County's 7,000 private water wells.** This well log database will permit us to develop a continuous groundwater monitoring program for areas where there are potential groundwater pollution sources.

Successes and initiatives like these, as well as what I perceive as a heightened sensitivity to public health problems in the community among the Department's managers and staff, fill me with great optimism for the coming year despite our economic difficulties and the war that has taken me away from home. Samuel Johnson's quotation is written large on my office bulletin board: "Nothing will ever be attempted if all possible objections must be first overcome." As long as this attitude prevails among us, I am confident that your local health department will continue to strive for the goal of attaining conditions in which people can be healthy.

Matthew A. Stefanak, M.P.H.
Mahoning County Health Commissioner

Environmental Health Services

In 1990 the Environmental Division worked very hard to improve communications with the community and public officials we serve. Representatives of the Division attended citizens groups, township and other public meetings to discuss important environmental issues. The recent installation of a new computer system has allowed the Environmental Division to greatly improve our divisional activities reporting to the townships in our jurisdiction.

On April 23, 1990, the Ohio legislature passed House Bill 703. This bill required health departments to conduct a cost analysis for conducting state mandate health programs such as food service operations, mobile home parks, campgrounds, and private water (well) system programs. Upon completion of this cost analysis, H.B. 703 gave health departments the authority to establish license and permit fees based on the actual cost of operating these programs. In the past, the cost of operating these programs has been subsidized from the general fund of the health department, thus greatly limiting the services that could be provided. House Bill 703 greatly changes the mechanism by which health departments receive their funding and will allow the Environmental Division to maintain the quality services that the private industry and public have come to expect.

Mahoning County continues to play a leadership role in the development and implementation of a comprehensive solid waste program. In March of 1990, the Health Department established the Solid Waste Program as a separate program under the Environmental Division to meet the mandates of House Bill 592. Activities for the Solid Waste Program are detailed elsewhere in this annual report.

The Environmental Division will continue to review and update our programs to insure that they reflect our goal of comprehensive public health protection. We will be reviewing and commenting on important pieces of legislation such as rules regulating composting and demolition facilities and a proposed law establishing statewide sewage regulations.

In the upcoming year, we will continue with our



commitment to improve our communications with the community and public officials. The Environmental Division feels that through such efforts, the needs of our communities can best be served.

The following is a brief summary of the environmental activities reported in 1990.

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Total 1990</i>
Restaurant Inspections	982
Grocery Store Inspections	274
Food Inspections at the Canfield Fair	360
Food Related Consultations	268
Mobile Home Park Inspections/Consultations	71
Campground Inspections	12
New Home Lot Evaluations	354
Sewage System Installation and Investigations	701
Sewage System Consultations	1,003
Water Well Test	901
School Environment Inspections and Consultations	62
Swimming Pool/Spa Inspections and Consultations	87
Real Estate Evaluations	238
Complaints Investigated	319
Animal Bite Investigations	263



Solid Waste Program

In March, 1990 the Mahoning County Health Department Solid Waste Program was re-born. Infusion of funding from provisions of H.B. 592 allowed for the hiring of additional personnel, acquisition of equipment and creation of a new office to deal specifically with solid waste and related issues. Programs that had previously been handled as general environmental health concerns now have specific direction and purpose.

New solid waste rules also became effective in March, 1990. Since then, new rules have become effective which regulate infectious waste and transporters of infectious waste. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency continues to work on draft rules concerning disposal of construction and demolition debris and composting operations. As the Ohio EPA approved program in this county, we have the responsibility of administering and enforcing these rules. Our Ohio EPA consultant, David Budd, R.S., continues to provide us with expert consultation and advice.

Some major accomplishments to date include the following:

1. Major increases in the frequency of inspection and surveillance activities.
2. Increase in the frequency of sample collection and analysis. The numbers of parameters that we are now able to sample for has increased.
3. Work has begun on a county-wide groundwater monitoring/mapping program. This will establish a data base for all private water systems in the county.
4. An increase in the frequency of methane monitoring on all sanitary landfill sites.

5. Work with proposed construction/demolition debris facilities and composting operations to provide for environmentally sound management.

6. Complaint/conflict resolution. Some forty-three (43) complaints were logged and addressed in 1990.

Much work lies ahead in emerging programs. Concerns are becoming more specific and will require a more technical response. With the support of all concerned, we can meet the challenge.



Plumbing Division

The year 1990 was one of many changes for the Plumbing Division. Robert Boda retired in March of 1990 and Howard Faison replaced him in September of 1990.

Regulations requiring the licensing and inspections of commercial sewage systems continues to be an ongoing project throughout the county. The Plumbing Division is conducting inspections on all commercial sewage systems up to the capacity of 25,000 gallons per day.

New commercial sites are evaluated by the county and the state EPA on a monthly basis with joint on-site inspections. These inspections include the consideration of the suitability of soils for the on-lot dissipation of treated waste water and how the proposed treatment system fits into the general plan of sanitary sewers for the area. If feasible, a system is designed to fit the needs of the proposed project. Detailed plans are submitted by a professional engineer and when approved by EPA the project may begin.

The total number of plumbing inspections for 1990 was 1,775; 185 semi-public investigations were conducted and EPA evaluations site numbered 78. Total revenue for the Plumbing Division was \$92,0904.00.

Nursing Division

The Nursing Division continues in its efforts to meet the health needs of the community. Child Health, Prenatal, and WIC Clinics, as well as Adult Immunizations, Adult Day Care, School Health, and Communicable Disease follow-up are some of the services provided by the nursing division staff.

Continuing education to maintain and improve the skills of all staff members is very important. The division in conjunction with MSAHEN, sponsored the Fifth Annual Maternal and Child Health Conference in May with approximately 225 professionals from throughout the state in attendance. Planning such a large conference demands much dedication and hard work from those staff members on the planning committee.

Flu clinics for the elderly and persons considered to be at risk medically were held throughout the county; 2,467 people were immunized and 241 immunizations were given to persons needing immunizations for foreign travel. Although this program serves only a small number of people, it is needed in the community. If these services were not available locally, those persons needing immunizations would be required to travel to Akron or Cleveland since some of the vaccine materials are not available to private physicians.

School and home visits continue to be given high nursing priority. The Public Health Nurses visit schools in their assigned areas at least once each month.

Screenings for scoliosis, as well as vision and hearing, are done by the nursing staff. The kindergarten Wellness Program continues to be a popular program in Mahoning County schools. Students totalling 4,608 in 72 schools took part in the program.

The Senior Day Care Center is in its eighteenth year of funding by the District XI Area Agency on Aging. This is a very valuable service to senior citizens and their families. Many of the participants would be unable to live at home without this type of service. There are currently 67 active participants ranging in age from 75 to 97. The Mahoning County Health Department is the only health department in the state of Ohio to have such a program.



The nursing division prides itself on priority services to people on the entire age continuum - beginning before birth with prenatal services, then to childhood and early adulthood through Child Health Clinics, services to children with medical handicaps, school health, home visits to the general population, and senior day care services. Listed below is a partial list of services provided by the nursing staff.

Prenatal Care Visits	1,083
Child Health Visits	1,490
BCMH Visits	105
WIC Clinic Clients	2,109
School Health	207
Vision Screening	1,105
Hearing Screening	975
Scoliosis Screening	903
Immunizations	4,304
Client Visits To Senior Day Care	3,852

The Nursing Division continues in its attempt to meet the health needs of the population that it has responsibility to serve.

Mahoning County Health Department Financial Report 1990

Revenues	General Fund	Health Promotion	Child & Family Health	Aging	New Dimension	Total
Balance	96,879	'97	-----	-----	-----	96,976
Local Taxation	376,717	-----	-----	-----	-----	376,717
State Subsidy	51,155	-----	-----	-----	-----	51,155
Environmental Health Fees	304,837	-----	-----	-----	-----	304,837
Plumbing Fees/Contract	92,166	-----	-----	-----	-----	92,166
Personal Health Services	47,496	-----	-----	-----	-----	47,496
State & Federal Funds	-----	37,167	508,413	37,847	24,171	607,598
Solid Waste / Project Income	474,607	-----	59,072	-----	-----	533,679
Matching Grant Share	-----	-----	66,119	43,545	2,362	112,026
Total Revenues	1,443,857	37,264	633,604	81,392	26,533	2,222,650
Expenditures						
Salaries	430,589	28,157	215,204	45,245	8,856	728,051
Health Care/Benefits	164,816	7,686	67,696	15,836	2,397	258,431
Supplies/Printing/Etc.	34,199	4,184	19,874	3,578	4,612	66,447
Professional Services/Contracts	68,206	5,375	184,904	11,349	7,212	277,046
Seminar/Dues/Travel	43,332	1,737	9,004	521	1,042	55,636
County Charges/Telephone	46,659	-----	-----	587	-----	47,246
Equipment/Repair/Maintenance	131,769	-----	-----	4,276	1,422	137,467
Other/Matching Grant Share	199,073	-----	-----	-----	-----	199,073
Refunds/Remittance	12,347	-----	-----	-----	-----	12,347
Solid Waste Capital Fund	239,902	-----	-----	-----	-----	239,902
Total Expenditures	1,370,892	47,139	496,682	81,392	25,541	2,021,646
Balance (Deficit)	72,965	(9,875)	136,922	---0---	992	201,004

Health Department Clinic Sites

