

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH - 2011

STAFF

Director of Public Health – James M. White, Jr., B.A, C. P. H., RS/REHS
Senior Environmental Health Specialist – Michael K. Boudreau, M.P.A., R.S.
Environmental Health Agent – Jane M. Anderson, M.P.H., REHS/RS
Public Health Nurse – Leila J. Mercer, R.N., B.S.N
Executive Assistant – Pamela K. Morgan, B.A.
P/T Department Assistant – Jean M. Cotter
Animal Inspector – Keith A. Tosi

The following communicable and reportable diseases were reported to the Board of Health during 2011:

Babesiosis	3	Lyme Disease	54
Campylobacter	6	Meningitis (Viral)	1
Dengue Fever	1	Mumps	2
E.coli 0157:H7	1	Norovirus	1
Ehrlichiosis	1	Salmonella	3
Group A Strep Invasive	2	Shigella	1
Group B Strep Invasive	2	Varicella (Chicken Pox)	8
S.pneumoniae	7	Influenza (Lab Confirmed)	
Hepatitis B	7	Type A	4
Hepatitis C	24		

TOTAL: 128

Home visits made for contagion and other related matters totaled 93. Mantoux skin tests for tuberculosis totaled 31. There were 4 positive reactions identified and 5 referrals to private physicians. The Tuberculosis Control Program numbers of active cases requiring monitoring, investigations, home or office visits, referrals and department workload has doubled from the previous year.

At our weekly Blood Pressure Clinics, 270 residents participated, with 10 referrals to private physicians. Additional office visits included Lead Screening, walk in patients, communicable disease screening and community health assessments totaling 92 visits resulting in an additional 24 referrals to private physicians or state agencies.

There were 13 separate Flu Clinics held in the Fall following state and federal government guidelines with a total of 1533 seasonal flu vaccines administered by the Board of Health. In addition to the flu vaccine, the Board of Health administered 213 doses of various vaccines through our immunization program such as Hepatitis A & B, tetanus, MMR, pneumonia, shingles, Td, Tdap, etc., bringing the combined total to 1746 of individual doses administered by the department.

Fees collected by the Board of Health Department in calendar year 2011 for various licenses, permits, fees and inspections totaled \$188,561.91. This total includes \$13,752.84 in Medicare reimbursement from our flu clinics that was deposited into the

newly established Immunization Revolving Fund. In addition, another \$450 was collected by the Town Clerk for non-criminal fines issued by the Board of Health for code violations.

A total of 1098 inspections were conducted for 405 food establishments of all types, including restaurants, markets, bakeries, caterers, clubs, schools, canteen trucks, fairs, hospital, nursing homes and residential kitchens. Additionally, 3071 inspections, complaint investigations, progress inspections, plan reviews and field consultations were carried out by the Board of Health staff relative to environmental sanitation, housing, nursing homes, sewerage, drainage, swimming pools, day camps, livestock, hazardous materials and other public health matters for a combined total of 4169, which represents an increase of over 400 from the previous year. This department received, investigated and/or reviewed 134 food related recalls, 171 complaints, 30 Title V inspection reports and 569 septic system pump outs in 2011. Various permits and licenses issued by the Board of Health totaled 1420 in 2011.

The Board of Health was also an active participant in the Town's response to both Hurricane Irene and the October 30th Nor'easter snow storm. We aided by supplying Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers to man the overnight comfort station set up in the library for residents left without power from the storm's aftermath. The Board of Health continues to provide administrative guidance to our 148 member MRC volunteer program; their complete annual report can be found elsewhere in this booklet.

A new program worth noting, a Junior MRC volunteer program for high school age students was formed in Natick this past April and currently has 8 members. This is the only active Junior MRC in Massachusetts at this time.

On April 30, 2011, we held our 25th annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day at the DPW facilities located at 75 West Street. Both the new location and attendance were a success as we serviced 205 vehicles generating over \$7000 of properly disposed waste during the event. In subsequent years, the Board of Health must also supply proper means of disposing used syringes as the new state sharps regulations go into effect on July 1, 2012.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank both, Dr. Anthony Cosimini, DVM and Dr. Edward Zullo, DVM for their years of service to the Board of Health as Animal Inspectors. Dr. Cosimini served in that capacity for 6 years while Dr. Zullo retired after serving the Town of Natick as our Animal Inspector for the past 64 years. We appreciate everything you did for this department and the professionalism you brought to the position. We wish you all the best in the years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter A Delli Colli, D.M.D., Chairman
Donald J. Breda, P.E., Vice Chairman
Ian L. Wong, M.S.P.H., Clerk
Alan G. Cole, M.D., Physician to the Board
James M. White, Jr. RS/REHS, Director of Public Health

