

BOARD OF HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT – 2015

STAFF

Director of Public Health – James M. White, Jr.
Sr. Environmental Health Specialist – Michael K. Boudreau
Environmental Health Agent – Jane M. Anderson
Public Health Nurse – Leila J. Mercer
Executive Assistant – Jean M. Cotter
Animal Inspector – Keith A. Tosi

Communicable and reportable diseases reported in 2015:

Anaplasmosis (HGA)	3	Lyme Disease	72
Babesiosis	4	Meningitis (Viral)	1
Campylobacteriosis	10	Norovirus	7
Enterovirus	2	Salmonellosis	4
Group A Strep Invasive	1	Shiga Toxin –E Coli	1
Group B Strep Invasive	6	Varicella (Chicken Pox)	3
S. pneumonia	3	Influenza (Lab Confirm)	
Hepatitis A	0	Type A	54
Hepatitis B	6	Type B	17
Hepatitis C	31		
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		TOTAL:	246

The Immunization Program continues to expand due in large part to subsidized vaccines purchased through our Revolving Account Fund (\$30,000 in 2015). Pediatric and adult immunizations totaled 146 and 165, respectively, totaling 154 more doses than in 2014. In addition, 1385 doses of flu vaccine were administered during our annual flu clinics.

The Public Health Nurse reported a slight increase in office visits and walk-ins, excluding flu clinics, over the previous year for various screenings, evaluations and vaccinations totaling 528; conducted 74 home and field visits for contagion or community health assessments which resulted in 38 referrals to private physicians and/or state agencies.

The Public Health Nurse serves as the administrator of the 150 volunteer members of the Natick Medical Reserve Corp.

The environmental staff conducted 806 inspections on 395 food establishments of all types and an additional 3246 various inspections, investigations, plan reviews and consultations relevant to environmental sanitation were conducted combining for a total of 4051 inspectional staff services for 2015.

The department issued 1574 various permits and deposited a total of \$209,853.02 into the town treasury for fees collected in 2015.

The Board of Health adopted two revised regulations relevant to tobacco control. One limiting youth access to tobacco products and raising the minimum age to purchase to 21 years, the second addressing tobacco product use in work and public places. Copies are available on the website.

We teamed up with the Natick Police Department to provide a prescription pill kiosk drop-off box in the lobby of the police station for 24/7 disposal of unwanted drugs. This is an effort to reduce the availability of surplus addictive drugs potentially ending up in the possession of those to whom they are not intended.

Our septic system maintenance program entered phase two by mailing almost 700 notices to homeowners that are behind the 3 year recommended pump out schedule. Included was a homeowner's maintenance guide.

The upcoming years are looking brighter as the much needed Sanitarian position will be reinstated in 2016 after seven unfunded years.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald J. Breda, PE, Chairman

Ian Wong, MSPH, Vice Chairman

Peter A. Delli Colli, DMD, Clerk

Alan G. Cole, MD, Physician to the Board

James M. White, CPH, RS/REHS, Director of Public Health