



# Annual Report 2012

## City Health Department

1644 Tiffin Avenue, Suite A  
Findlay OH 45840

*Established July 21, 1869 by the Village of Findlay Ohio*



### 1812 - 2012 Bicentennial Celebration for Findlay Ohio

**1812** .....Fort Findlay built along the Blanchard River, named after Colonel James Findlay commanding the Ohio Frontier Army.

**1821** .....Findlay was laid out and the town got its name.

**1849** .....Board of Health temporarily established to deal with the threat of smallpox with vaccine for all the town's people.

**1869** .....Village Council of Findlay established a permanent Board of Health.

**2012** .....The health of Findlay remains a priority. The present day health department provides many more services to area residents since its humble beginnings.

#### Contact us at:

Main Office telephone..... 419-424-7105  
Vital Statistics ..... 419-424-7106  
FAX ..... 419-424-7189  
Clinic / Immunizations ..... 419-424-7441  
Environmental Health ..... 419-424-7188  
Plumbing office ..... 419-424-7420

Email us at: health@findlayohio.com

Web address: www.findlayohio.com

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday  
8:00 am - 5:00 pm

#### 2012 ANNUAL REPORT:

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**“We need to weave disease prevention into the everyday fabric of our lives, including where we live, work, learn and play.”**

*Regina Benjamin, Surgeon General*



Dr. Stephen Mills

#### **From our Health Commissioner:**

Over a century ago, in 1869, the village council of Findlay established a permanent board of health. Since 1900, the average lifespan of persons living in the United States has lengthened by more than 30 years; 25 years of this gain are attributable to advances in public health.

As Findlay celebrated its Bicentennial in 2012 we reflect back on the Findlay of two centuries ago. On any given day, one could be exposed to diseases like smallpox, polio, measles or cholera. There was little knowledge of infection control. Oh how times have changed for the better, largely thanks to our dedicated public health professionals.

Public health has since moved toward a more population or community based approach. We face new threats from the childhood obesity epidemic, bioterrorism and pandemic flu. Despite these new threats your local health department always stands ready to *Prevent, Promote* and *Protect*. According to the Surgeon General, Regina Benjamin, “We need to weave disease prevention into the everyday fabric of our lives, including where we live, work, learn and play.” As we build strategic initiatives with partners, using data from our own community health assessment, we will be insuring a healthier Findlay.

The forecast for public health can be a sunny one if we keep to these core values. Thanks to the entire staff as they strive to lead, not follow, and to our Board of Health members for their wise council. Your Findlay City Health Department is committed to advancing the health and wellbeing of Findlay into its next 200 years.



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Dr. Stephen D. Mills**  
City Health Commissioner



1644 Tiffin Avenue, Suite A  
Findlay OH 45840

*Our temporary office since July 2008 after the August 2007 flood destroyed our previous office.*

**Mission Statement:** To improve individual and community health through comprehensive programs and activities which monitor, prevent, and track disease and injury, promote healthy lifestyles, and reduce environmental risks for people of all ages who visit, live or work in Findlay.

*The Findlay City Health Department is an equal opportunity employer and provider of services*

**FINDLAY CITY BOARD OF HEALTH**

As established by Ohio law, the five member Board of Health is our policy-making body with authority to adopt regulations and establish programs to promote public health in Findlay. The Board meets monthly at 7:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. Health Board meetings are open to the public.


**Staffing Changes:** 2012 saw several staffing changes for the health department. Kurt Schroeder R.S. began his employment with the Environmental Health Division filling the position vacated when Curt Barth left for North Carolina last fall. Kurt is a licensed registered sanitarian with a great public health resume having previously served as Environmental Health Director for the Putnam County Health Department.

In May 2012 Kim Renard RN left her position as Nursing Director after 15 years with the City Health Department. She was replaced as Nursing Director by our staff nurse Taya Hyde RN. Taya brings to the position 9 years of public health experience and an enthusiasm for serving the public. Cassie VanHorn RN was hired in August to fill the empty Public Health Nurse position caused when Taya advanced to Nursing Director. Cassie had previously served as a school nurse with Findlay City Schools and has adapted well to her new role in public health.

By securing an Ohio Department of Health Child and Family Health Services Grant, the Findlay City Health Department was able to add the services of Jennifer Rathburn to fill a new position as Health Educator. Jennifer is charged with working specifically on tackling the issue of childhood obesity. Although this is a tall order Jennifer has embraced the challenge and is already making great strides in implementing strategies identified in the Hancock County Strategic Plan. Time spent on grant activities are charged to the Child and Family Health Services (CFHS) grant.

We are excited to have these new members on our staff and grateful that they chose to be a part of the Findlay City Health Department team!

**Our Staff:**



**Health Commissioner:** Dr. Stephen D. Mills

**Deputy Health Commissioner:** Barbara Wilhelm, R.N.

**Environmental Health Division**

Craig Niese, R.S., Director  
Kurt Schroeder, R.S.  
Don Pierson, R.S.  
Tom Davis, Compliance Officer  
Cheryl Klakamp, Clerk

**Emergency Response/Epidemiology**

Chad Masters, R.S.

**Plumbing Division**

Eric D. Helms, Inspector  
Roxane Shaath, Admin. Assistant

**Nursing Division**

Kim Renard, R.N., Director (resigned May 2012)  
Taya Hyde, R.N.  
Becky Bern, R.N.  
Cassie Van Horn, R.N.  
Dawn Laberde, Clerk

**Health Educator**

Jennifer Rathburn

**Vital Statistics**

Sheryl Yoder, Registrar  
Cheryl Klakamp, Deputy Registrar

**Mayor Lydia L. Mihalik,  
President Ex Officio**  
- Served: 2012 - current



**Gregory W. Cline, R PH,  
President Pro Tempore**  
- Appointed 01/01/1993



**B. Joan Work, RN,  
Health Board Member**  
- Appointed 01/01/1984



**William S. Alge, Jr,  
Health Board Member**  
- Appointed 02/02/1999



**Robert E. McEvoy, MD,  
Health Board Member**  
- Appointed 04/16/1996



**James Niemeyer,  
Health Board Member,  
Licensing Council Representative**  
- Appointed 11/18/2009



### Public Health Champions in 2012 Awards to an Individual and an Organization

It is important to recognize that “public health” extends beyond the doors of the local health department. Since 2008 the Findlay City Board of Health has been recognizing individuals or groups who promote the public health and welfare of our citizens. This past year the Board chose to recognize both an individual and an organization. Stephanie Parsons, Health and Wellness Director at the Findlay YMCA was chosen as individual 2012 Public Health Champion of the Year. Stephanie has played an important role in the community’s Be Healthy Now Program as well as the Childhood Obesity Task Force. She is currently working closely with the Findlay City Health Department on an evidenced based recess program to promote physical activity for children.



**2012 Public Health Champion Individual:**  
*Stephanie Parsons, Y.M.C.A.*



**Marathon Petroleum Corporation** was awarded a 2012 Public Health Champion award as an organization for a variety of activities it participates in. In addition to the Closed POD (see Emergency Response), Marathon also lends the expertise of their Wellness Coordinator, Jeff Tiech to the *Be Healthy Now Program*, promotes wellness activities for its employees, has supported the Community Health Assessment, and directly supports the Feed A Child program, providing nutritious food to area youngsters.

**2012 Public Health Champion Organization:**  
*Marathon Petroleum Corporation*

*The Findlay City Health Department and it’s Board salutes each recipient for helping to make Findlay and Hancock County a great place to live.*

### Findlay Recognized for Efforts In Promoting Wellness



On October 1, 2012 the health department learned that Findlay was among nine cities, one township and four counties honored for promoting good health for their residents by the Ohio Department of Health’s Bureau of Healthy Ohio.

Jennifer Rathburn (*left*) accepted the award on behalf of the Findlay City Health Department at the Ohio Society for Public Health Education Health Educators’ Institute conference on Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> at the Deer Creek Lodge and Conference Center in Mt. Sterling.

Healthy Ohio-Healthy Community awards recognize communities’ outstanding achievements in developing and implementing health-related policies, and providing healthy community environments. The award recognizes communities’ efforts in enabling employees, residents and visitors to make healthy choices including participating in physical activity, eating good, nutritious foods and avoiding tobacco.

**Childhood Obesity** In 2012, the Community Health Assessment Strategic Planning Committee identified Childhood Obesity as an area of focus for our community efforts. Utilizing funds from the ODH Child and Family Health Services Grant, The Findlay City Health Department hired Jennifer Rathburn in July 2012 to work with community stakeholders to address this issue. Jennifer Rathburn and Dr. Mills participated in a panel discussion for a Continuing Medical Education session in September at Blanchard Valley Hospital on the topic of Childhood Obesity. It was quite obvious from the session that the issue of Childhood Obesity is a concerning medical issue for local providers. A Childhood Obesity Task Force was formed in October and has met as a large group four times. The group has formed two sub-committees; one to address prevention and one to address treatment of childhood obesity. The Treatment Committee is actively working at developing a community program for children who are overweight/obese. The Prevention Committee has been working on many aspect of prevention including: a recess-based physical activity program for schools (collaboration between Findlay City Health Department and YMCA), increasing community/school gardening efforts (United Way of Hancock County), creating a community nutrition curriculum that can be presented to all children in Hancock County by OSU Extension, breastfeeding promotion (WIC), complete streets program (Findlay City Health Department, City of Findlay Engineering Department, Hancock Regional Planning and others) and working with physicians to create a standard screening process in Hancock County for childhood obesity.



The Recess-based Physical Activity program began working with Arcadia Schools in November. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades have been the focus. Representatives from the Findlay YMCA and Findlay City Health Department visit lunch recess on Tuesdays/Thursdays to lead organized activities for the children. The program has been very successful with more than half of the children participating. The program will be expanded to Findlay City Schools in January with 5 additional schools that have made initial commitments for participation.



*Officer Dill passing out booster seat information to parents at school pick up time during Child Passenger Safety Week in September 2012.*

**Safe Kids Committee** The Findlay Area Safe Kids Chapter continued its commitment to Child Passenger Safety in 2012. Inspection Stations were held at Fire station #4 the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month from 4-6pm for people to have their car seats inspected to make sure they were installed correctly. Eight local certified car seat technicians provide parents training and education on correct usage of their car seats and safety of children in and around vehicles. For the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2012, over 50% of the car seats checked had some misuse identified.

In September, Safe Kids USA celebrated Child Passenger Safety Week. The Findlay Area Safe Kids Chapter secured a \$1,200 grant to provide parents/caregivers education materials and a coffee mug with information about laws for booster seat usage. Ten Findlay City Schools were visited by School Resource Officer Dill, Jennifer Rathburn (Health Educator) and Becky Bern (Public Health Nurse). An additional car seat inspection was also held in September in collaboration with LaRiche Chevrolet. In 2012, 53 car seats were checked at inspection stations, with additional checks being done at Findlay City Health Department on a regular basis.

In 2013, Findlay Area Safe Kids Chapter plans to continue its work on Child Passenger Safety, but do more programming in bike safety and public awareness of texting and driving.

## When a Plan Comes Together, You Get .....

### Mass Fatality Preparedness Trainings

The Findlay City Health Department contacted the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA) to request holding the *FEMA G386: Mass Fatality Management* course here in Findlay. This course is typically held in Columbus and Hamilton County, but this was the first time it was held in northwest Ohio. The 2-day training was offered at the University of Findlay on September 11 – 12<sup>th</sup> and focused on all aspects of mass fatality management including: collaboration with other responding agencies, victim identification, and family assistance. Thirty-five (35) attendees from various counties in northwest Ohio were eligible to receive 14 free hours of continuing education sponsored by Blanchard Valley Hospital towards their professional licenses; which included, fire, law enforcement, EMS, hospital, Red Cross, public health, and academia.



*Above: Instructor Bob Shank, Jr. instructs students during the G386 Mass Fatality Management Course held at the University of Findlay.*

In addition to the FEMA training, the Findlay City Health Department, using Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant funds, contracted with Sunset Resources, Inc. to provide a Mass Fatality – Family Assistance Center training on October 17<sup>th</sup> that focused on the interviewing of family members to aid in identification of the missing/deceased. The 4-hour training dealt with the concept of a Family Assistance Center and how it supports family members of those involved in a mass fatality event. The training culminated with the participants interviewing “family members” played by actors from the Fort Findlay Playhouse and the Arts Partnership of Hancock County. The actors added the realism to the exercise that was not available during the previous year’s exercise, and made for a much richer training experience.

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### National Night Out

In August, the Findlay City Health Department was invited to participate in the annual “National Night Out” that was held at Riverside Park. The event focused on raising the community’s awareness of their surroundings and also how they can better prepare themselves for an emergency. Health Educator, Jennifer Rathburn, and Emergency Response Coordinator, Chad Masters, attended the event and provided emergency preparedness handouts and car seat/booster seat information to interested individuals. The Health Department also purchased preparedness items to give away as door prizes, which included: Mag-Lite flashlights, window/door alarm kits, glow sticks, home light timers, and 9-hour candles. These items were selected to assist community members in assembling their own home response kits to be used during a disaster situation.

*Jennifer Rathburn (center), Health Educator for the Findlay City Health Department, speaks with a parent about car seat/booster seat safety.*

### Health & Preparedness Fair for City and County Employees

On October 19<sup>th</sup>, the Health Department coordinated and conducted the 3rd annual City and County Employee Health & Preparedness Fair at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church. Following 2011’s fair, a survey was sent out to inquire about what other agencies/services would be of interest to the employees, and this was used to determine the exhibitors.



*Barb Wilhelm, Findlay City Health Department, draws a blood sample from county employee, Dale Shaheen, to check his cholesterol, triglyceride, and glucose levels.*

The agencies in attendance were: Blanchard Valley Hospital (free blood glucose testing and bone density screening), Findlay City Health Department (influenza vaccine/cholesterol screening), Hancock County Health Department (blood pressure checks and influenza vaccine), Findlay Police Department, Hancock County Sheriff’s Office, ADAMHS, Century Health, The Family Resource Center, OSU Extension Office (nutrition), Hanco EMS-**new to fair** (first aid demonstrations), Findlay YMCA-**new to fair**, and Miracle Ear-**new to fair** (hearing screening).

The Findlay City Health Department offered a winter weather emergency auto kit and weather radio, purchased with PHEP grant funds, as free door prizes. The Findlay YMCA also sponsored a free year-long membership for an adult and second membership for a family.

The fair was intended to provide attendees with wellness and safety awareness information to assist them in living healthier and more prepared lives.



*Above: Findlay Public Health Nurse Cassie Van Horn administers influenza vaccine to an employee.*



**Volunteers Building Strong, Healthy, and Prepared Communities**

**Medical Reserve Corps**

The national MRC turned 10 years old this year with our local unit in its 4<sup>th</sup> year of existence. Findlay City Health Department employee Chad Masters serves as the local MRC Coordinator. To say the least, the unit was pretty active this year with emergency and non-emergency events:

- Our MRC unit was activated in February when it was requested by the Hancock Red Cross to supply medical coverage at their shelter following the Argyle Apartments Fire. The MRC provided three (3) volunteers for 25 hours, working from February 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>, to ensure that individuals' medical needs were met.
- Thirteen (13) volunteers provided 67 hours of medical coverage at the Red Cross Shelter, as well as the cooling center, following the June 29<sup>th</sup> windstorm. There were 87 people housed at the shelter from June 29 – July 3; many of them with chronic medical conditions.
- Five (5) volunteers accounted for 11 hours of medical coverage at the Judy Cloud Craft Show in October. This event draws thousands of people from surrounding states and several people were treated for minor illnesses/injuries.

The Hancock County MRC also collaborated with other local partners to allow volunteers to attend trainings and participate in exercises to further their response knowledge:

- **Shelter Course**.....Ten (10) volunteers attended a 6-hour Shelter Simulation course in March that was hosted by the Hancock County Chapter of the Red Cross, whereby participants learned about the setup process of an emergency shelter and how they will function within the shelter. Participants were eligible to receive continuing education hours toward their professional licenses sponsored by Blanchard Valley Hospital.
- **POD** .....University of Findlay Pharmacy student members of the MRC participated in a Closed Point of Dispensing (POD) exercise at Marathon Petroleum Corporation in October. Marathon purchased seasonal influenza vaccine for its employees and the MRC coordinated the pharmacy students to administer the vaccine. The students administered vaccine to approximately 350 employees over 4.5 hours, and the exercise was a success in understanding the company's capabilities of operating a Closed POD during a real-world event.



**POD** (Point of Dispensing) at Marathon Petroleum Corporation in October 2012. A Marathon employee registers another employee's spouse to receive the influenza vaccine and reviews the registration of a participant. Right; A University of Findlay Pharmacy student consults with a Marathon employee.

Our unit again earned the competitive \$5,000 Capacity Building Award from the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO) to further the cause of recruiting volunteers and preparing medical volunteers for emergency response. The MRC unit also used the funding to purchase equipment and other supplies to improve response and to be utilized during events:

- The MRC purchased a 6x12 ft. enclosed response trailer that can be mobilized with medical supplies when necessary.
- Funding used to pay for MRC billboards on East Main Cross St. and Western Ave. in Findlay from July – August to recruit new volunteers.
- MRC funds paid for continuing education hours for mental health professionals relative to the FEMA Mass Fatality Management course in September.

**2012 MRC Grant Funds for:**

*Left: New response trailer*

*Right: Billboards for recruiting new volunteers*



- 190 Immunization Clinics
  - 5,639 Vaccines Given
  - 2,290 Total Patients
  - 1,091 Seasonal Influenza Vaccines
- 46 HIV Tests
  - 14 Hepatitis C Screenings (1 referred)
  - 184 Communicable Disease Investigations
  - 42 Blood Pressure Screenings
- 102 Car Seat Inspections
  - 29 Head Lice Screenings
  - 44 Baby Buckle Car Seats Distributed
  - 180 Tuberculosis Testing (1 referred)



**Ohio Department of Health Billable's Project:** In 2010 the Billable Project was started with a focus of increasing reimbursement to Ohio's local health departments from third-party payers. In 2011 Dawn Laberdee, made great strides in contracting and credentialing with numerous insurance companies in preparation for the start of this program. We were able to start billing health insurance companies for the vaccine antigens and the administration fee in January 2012. Taya Hyde, RN was notified in July that the Findlay City Health Department had been selected to participate in the Ohio Department of Health's pilot project for this program. In December we were able to order vaccine from ODH for the pilot and we anticipate full billing of covered vaccines starting in January 2013. The Findlay City Health Department will still continue to supply immunizations for the uninsured and/or under-insured and no one will be denied vaccines due to the inability to pay.

### Hepatitis C Testing

Through a program offered by the Ohio Department of Health, the Findlay City Health Department started offering free Hepatitis C testing to eligible adults.

**The criteria for Hepatitis C testing include:**

1. History of sex with a known HCV positive partner.
2. History of non-occupational exposure to blood.
3. History of sharing straws when snorting drugs.
4. History of blood transfusion/organ transplant.
5. History of occupational exposure to blood.
6. History of non-professional tattoo.
7. History of injection drug use.
8. HIV positive.



The Hepatitis C test is currently being performed by a finger stick blood test that is sent to the participating lab. The results are then sent back to the health department. The nursing department then notifies the client of the results and provides them with any referrals that may be needed. We were able to offer this service at the One Matters event where 13 people received counseling and testing.



**Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps.** BCMh links families of children with special health care needs to a network of quality providers and helps families obtain payment for the services their children need. In Findlay for 2012: **202 Active BCMh cases**

**Community Education** The nursing department actively participated in numerous education activities. At the City Mission/Hope House topics of discussion included communicable and infectious disease and immunizations. The nursing staff attended various health fairs around the community. Some of these included the Marathon Health and Wellness Fair, Community Health Day at the Hancock County Fair and the Transitions Fair at Findlay High School. RN's Becky Bern, Cassie Van Horn and Barb Wilhelm also provided flu shots and cholesterol screenings at the health fair for city and county employees and Taya Hyde joined them to provide services at the IMatters event both held in October.

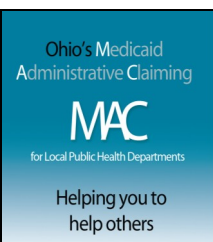
**New Screening Opportunity** Cardiovascular disease continues to be one of the major causes of death in Findlay and Hancock County. The Findlay City Health Department now has a new tool to help in screening for one of the common risk factors for disease; high cholesterol. Cholesterol is a waxy, fat-like substance that your body needs. But, when you have too much in your blood, it can build up on the walls of your arteries. This can lead to heart disease and stroke. There are no symptoms of high cholesterol and many people have never had their cholesterol checked, so they don't know they're at risk. This past summer, thanks to grant dollars that were available, the health department purchased a Cholestech LDX blood testing system to allow us to offer reliable and accurate screening for cholesterol, tryglycerides and blood sugar with a simple prick of the finger. The health dept. had a chance to try out their new system at the October employee health fair by screening 34 city and county employees. **- Do you know your numbers?**



**Cholesterol Testing**

**Bikes, Books and Badges Bike Rodeo May 2012** Organized by Brian Dill, School Resource Officer of Findlay City Police Dept., the City Health Dept. participated in the Bikes, Books and Badges Bike Rodeo. Children attending the event were educated on bicycle safety and could register their bike with the City Police Dept. Participating children were able to register to win a new bike and other prizes related to bicycle safety. Nurses from the health dept. were distributing free bike helmets and educating children and their parents on the proper use and importance of the helmets. Approximately 40 children attended this event and 32 helmets were distributed.

**Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC)** A decision was made early in the year for the Findlay City Health Department to begin participating in MAC or Medicaid Administrative Claiming. This program provides reimbursement to local health departments for administrative activities that directly support efforts to identify and enroll eligible clients into Medicaid and to reduce gaps in Medicaid services. By assisting low income Ohioans in enrolling in Medicaid and accessing appropriate Medicaid-covered services, the Findlay City Health Department can be reimbursed through MAC, for these activities.



**Some examples of MAC include:** -Medicaid Outreach -Referral and Coordination -Program Planning

Within the health department we currently have six employees that actively participate in MAC. These employees include one Deputy Health Commissioner, three Registered Nurses, one Health Educator and one Immunization Clerk. For the 2012 year, we have participated in four time study weeks in the months of March, May, August and November. We have been reimbursed a total of \$15,896 for our activities and efforts.

Vital Statistics	2012	2007	2002
<b>Births In Findlay:</b>			
Male	635	608	524
Female	613	536	476
Total Births:	1,248	1,144	1,000
<b>Deaths In Findlay:</b>			
Male	305	214	178
Female	327	233	243
Total Deaths:	632	447	421
<b>Certificates Issued:</b>			
Birth	3,054	3,974	4,331
Death	2,659	2,123	2,204
Total Issued:	5,713	6,097	6,535

**2012 Births:**

**1,248**



**Beginning in December of 2010**, statewide electronic issuance of birth certificates has made it much more convenient for customers to obtain their records.

Issuance of non-Findlay birth certificates increased:  
- 2012: 466 - 2011: 295

The number of individuals born in Findlay but obtaining birth certificates elsewhere is not known but the overall total number of certified birth certificates issued from this office has risen slightly from last year's count.

**Death Records:** The Ohio Department of Health continues to input all Ohio death records into the State database and is projecting a similar central issuance capability for certified copies of death certificates in 2014.

**In 2012: 23 Acknowledgement of Paternity Affidavits filed.** This office continues filing affidavits for both birth and death certificates when corrections or amendments need to be made. Also, the Findlay City Health Department maintains the contractual agreement with Policy Studies, Inc. between the Ohio Dept. of Health and Ohio Job and Family Services signed in 1998, whereby, paternity determination is legally established between unmarried mothers and fathers (bypassing DNA testing) when they come in to this office and sign the Acknowledgement of Paternity Affidavit per ORC Section 3111.31. The affidavit is signed by both parents, notarized and forwarded to ODH where it is kept on file and a new certificate is generated adding the father's information. Per contract, for every paternity acknowledgment executed, this office receives \$20 from Policy Studies Inc. which goes into the city's general fund. -Our office executed 23 affidavits in 2012.

**The number of deaths in Findlay continues on a gradual rise** and as current baby boomers age we will likely see this trend continue. In addition, in September of 2012, St. Catherine's Manor moved its facility from outside the city limits to the building previously occupied by Fox Run Manor Nursing Home located at 2101 Greendale Avenue. Prior to this move all deaths occurring at St. Catherine's were filed at the Hancock County Health Department. Meanwhile, Fox Run Manor moved in to a brand new facility at 11745 TR 145 which remains within the city limits and therefore the responsibility of the Findlay City Health Department.

**Child Fatality Review:** This year Findlay recorded 7 deaths among individuals over the age of 100. Although we celebrate the fact that lifespans have increased over the years we still take each death seriously and are especially concerned when lives are cut short too soon.

- In 2012 we also saw 7 deaths among individuals under the age of 20.

In 2000 the Ohio General Assembly established the: **Ohio Child Fatality Review Program** as a way to better understand why young children die. The law mandates that Child Fatality Review Boards be established in each county. The review boards are comprised of community leaders from many different disciplines. This group meets to review the causes of death for all Hancock County children under the age of 18. The mission of the Child Fatality Review Board is to reduce the incidence of preventable child deaths in Hancock County. This is accomplished by identifying those deaths that could have been prevented and identifying strategies that would help prevent the next such death from happening.

↓ **Once again deaths due to unintentional drug overdose remained a cause for concern in 2012; 5 Drug or Combined Drug Toxicity listed as cause of death.**

We remain committed to fighting the problem of drug abuse in our community. Deputy Health Commissioner Barbara Wilhelm co-chairs the Medical Subcommittee of the Hancock County Prescription Drug Abuse Task Force and Environmental Health Director Craig Niese serves on the Drug Collection Subcommittee.

**Tobacco use contribute to death**

Physicians have been required to complete this information on death certificates since 2008.

Did tobacco use contribute to death	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Yes	75	71	93	103	90
No	354	259	352	314	301
Unknown	184	260	109	131	169
Probably	19	25	39	27	29

**2012 Findlay Causes of Death**

Cancer	169
Cardiovascular Disease	128
Lung/Respiratory Disease	59
Alzheimers/Dementia	32
Pneumonia	22
Renal Disease	28
Cerebral Vascular Disease	40
Cirrhosis	11
Hypertension	9
Diabetes	11
Prematurity	2
Other	97
* Accidental	15
Suicide	4
Homicide	0
Pending	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>632</b>

\* Accidental deaths can be further broken down to include:

- 5 Combined Drug Toxicity
- 5 Due to Falls
- 2 Motor Vehicle Accidents
- 3 Other

**632 Deaths in Findlay in 2012**

450 deaths over 70 years of age...71.2% of all deaths  
119 deaths over 90 years of age...18.8% of all deaths  
7 deaths over 100 years of age....0.01% of all deaths  
7 deaths under 20 years of age....0.01% of all deaths

*The doors are open ...*



*3 new Findlay schools*



*New Cory-Rawson K-8 school*



*New Wendy's in Bluffton*

**In 2012 there were:** - 354 Plumbing permits, commercial and residential, filed in Findlay or on City water/sewer services.  
- 9 Hancock County commercial plumbing permits filed.

**3 New City Schools:** In addition construction was completed at the end of 2012 for the 2 new middle schools; Glenwood and Donnell. And also finished for Millstream Career & Technology Center, which all began in 2011. We strive to do requested plumbing inspections "on demand" to keep the contractors on schedule. From start to finish for each school there were 20+ inspections, numerous consultations with architects and contractors and on-site job plan reviews with the plumbers.

**Hancock County Commercial Plumbing Inspections:** Our plumbing office inspects commercial plumbing work done in Hancock County in addition to plumbing done in the City of Findlay and/or on city water/ sewer. There were 9 County Commercial permits filed in 2012; a new church in Jenera, a new concession building for Village of Arlington's park. In Bluffton a new Wendy's restaurant and a Grob addition added to the county wide commercial plumbing inspections. Also, the 2011 plumbing permit's work continues at the Cory Rawson School District's new K-8 school building to be attached by an indoor corridor to the existing high school building.

**Plumbing permits**

**filed for the**

**City of Findlay**

**In 2012: 354**  
**In 2011: 356**  
**In 2010: 313**  
**In 2009: 263**



**Backflow Prevention:** This program helps protect the environment and safeguards the potable water system for all the citizens of Findlay. Backflow refers to the unintentional reversal of flow in a potable water system that may result in contamination or pollution to the system. Annual tests are required on any backflow devices on Findlay City water as mandated by the EPA's Clean Water Act. These devices offer protection against back-siphoning and back-pressure to the city water supply.

**Annual Testing:** Commercial water accounts and lawn sprinkler accounts all need annual backflow testing. Tests and information letters are mailed out to the water customers and given 30 days to have these tests completed once a year. To ensure that services are provided by qualified professionals, persons who test or repair backflow prevention assemblies or perform cross connection survey inspections are certified by the Division of Industrial Compliance. Certificates are issued only after an applicant has completed the required training course and successfully passed a written examination as well as a practical exam through the State of Ohio.

**Cutting Costs for City of Findlay:** Eric Helms, Plumbing Inspector is certified as a backflow instructor / tester. During 2012, Eric saved the City approximately \$4,000 by testing 71 devices, rebuilding 12 of these backflow devices and installing 2 new devices for the City of Findlay at Fire Stations, Water Distribution, Water Treatment Plant, Water Pollution Control, City Parks, The Cube, Street Dept., Airport, Cemetery and the Municipal Building. Spending over 90+ hours through the year to provide this service to other City Departments.

**Purple Pipes** Millstream & Glenwood Schools are now using collected rainwater for a non-potable water supply for toilets and urinals only. These water lines need to be clearly marked "non-potable" in bright purple. This collected rain water is not treated for any bacteria and cannot be used for any potable water use. Connected to this rain water system, there is a secondary City water line noted as "RAIN" this account has a backflow device and gets tested annually to confirm there is no cross-contamination. (picture at right)

**Replacement Hot Water Heater Installation Inspections:** The Plumbing Inspector visits local retail stores that sell water heaters, checking to see that they are providing homeowners with a water heater permit application upon purchasing a water heater in their store. This is done to help homeowners with questions about installation and to get an inspection upon completion to ensure compliance with State safety codes. These permit forms also list approved installation guidelines. Signs indicating the need for permits and inspections are posted at local stores selling water heaters. Permit forms are also available on our web site.



*Eric Helms, Plumbing Inspector tests backflow devices at Traffic shop.*



*Purple pipes in Mechanical chase area of new Findlay City school.*

**The Plumbing office of the City Health Department:** is available for any questions or concerns at telephone: **419.424.7420** or by email at: [plumbing@findlayohio.com](mailto:plumbing@findlayohio.com). Updated copies of permits, our fee schedule, blank backflow test forms and registration forms with information are maintained on our City website found at: [www.findlayohio.com](http://www.findlayohio.com), select health, select forms.

*Visit the Ohio Dept. of Commerce web-site to become a State licensed contractor at: [www.com.state.oh.us](http://www.com.state.oh.us) or call the Ohio Dept. of Development 1st Stop Business Connection at: 800-248-4040 for a free business info-kit.*



**Environmental Health Past, Present, Future**



**The beginnings of environmental health** can be traced back to John Snow and his investigation linking the 1854 Cholera outbreak in England to contaminated drinking water. Early settlers in Findlay were subject to many diseases such as cholera and malaria which took a heavy toll on life. Environmental health practices in the early days of Findlay focused on basic sanitation issues such as rodent control, proper sewage disposal, and clean drinking water to prevent the spread of disease.



**As basic sanitation practices improved** over the years other environmental factors that we once considered safe were found to have significant health impacts. Asbestos, lead paint and mercury were commonly used before their adverse health effects were completely understood. Emerging diseases such as west Nile virus are the result of constantly mutating viruses and bacteria and also the global economy we now live in. As we look to the future the threat of bioterrorism along with the safety of our food supply are major issues that will need to be addressed by our environmental health professionals. As the field of environmental health continues to change over the years, the staff of the environmental division remain ready to protect the health and safety of the residents of Findlay.

**In 2012, more than 273 public health nuisance complaints** within the city limits of Findlay were investigated by the Environmental Health staff.

**Public health nuisance investigations** are one of the largest programs handled by Environmental Health staff. It is one of the many unfunded, yet mandated programs that sanitarians conduct on a daily basis. Complaints such as housing issues, sewage problems, solid waste nuisances, standing water issues, and insect and rodent problems are reported to the Environmental Health staff on a regular basis. Sanitarians investigate these complaints and ensure they are properly abated to protect the public health of Findlay residents.



*Picture at right; typical nuisance complaint*



**Community Outreach** In 2012 the Environmental Health Division provided many educational opportunities for the residents of Findlay. At the City Mission presentations were made by environmental health staff on important public health issues such as the risks of tattoos and body piercing, dealing with bedbugs and lice, and proper food safety. Members of the environmental staff continued to participate with the Prescription Drug and Mercury Collections and provided information on these collections at the National Night Out event at Riverside Park. These collections have provided the public with a safe way to properly dispose of expired medications and mercury. Environmental health staff also continued to perform several poison safety presentations for kids attending Safety Town at Jacobs Elementary to provide kids with a fun and interactive way of learning about poison safety.

*Left: Craig Niese, Environmental Health Director for the Findlay City Health Department, speaks with a parent and child about the proper way to store and dispose of expired medication at National Night Out.*

**Don't Let the Bedbugs Bite!**

In 2012, Environmental Health sanitarians continued to receive an increasing number of bedbug related questions and complaints. Several educational sessions were provided by staff members to those concerned on how to deal with this increasing problem. Bedbugs are reddish-brown, oval shaped, parasitic insects that feed in the same way a mosquito or tick does by searching out a blood meal from an unsuspecting animal or human host. Fortunately, bedbugs do not transmit any known diseases although their bites can be very irritating to the individuals bitten. Bedbugs are hitchhiker pests in that they do not usually travel long distances on their own. Bedbugs will attach themselves or lay eggs on clothing and furniture and travel to new dwellings when these items are moved. Once a dwelling is infested with bedbugs they are very difficult to remove and usually requires the assistance of a licensed pesticide applicator.



*Bed bugs; Hitchhiker pests*



*Dark spots on seam of mattress*

**Bed Bug Prevention**

- Check for signs of bedbugs on bedding and furniture when staying away from home. (Dark spots on seams of mattresses, blood spots on mattresses or sheets, visible bed bugs.)
- Thoroughly inspect used furniture or bedding for signs of bed bugs before bringing into your home .
- Launder and dry any clothing that may have been exposed to bed bugs on high heat.

## Environmental Health Activities in 2012

FOOD PROGRAM	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Food Service Operations</b>					
Inspections	674	445	636	642	592
Critical control point inspections	336	208	319	310	258
<b>License Issued:</b>					
Food Service Operations	216	216	218	217	216
Retail Food Establishments	79	79	79	75	79
Mobile Food Service	26	31	31	24	22
Mobile RFE	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary Food Service	58	76	76	65	84
Temporary RFE	2	2	2	2	2
<b>Retail Food Establishments</b>					
Inspections	187	125	135	143	136
Process review	5	3	7	8	11
<b>Food Vending Machines</b>					
Inspections	40	41	39	27	10
Locations Licensed	76	71	66	71	64

NUISANCE PROGRAM	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Garbage &amp; Refuse</b>					
Reported	215	159	177	237	184
Inspections	448	441	255	404	442
<b>Animal Related</b>					
Reported	6	9	13	14	18
Inspections	10	9	16	14	25
<b>Sewage</b>					
Reported	2	4	1	6	3
Inspections	3	5	2	8	4
<b>Other</b>					
Reported	4	2	1	3	0
Inspections	22	4	2	2	0
<b>Housing</b>					
Reported	61	69	34	68	39
Inspections	104	90	40	76	58
<b>Insect &amp; Rodent</b>					
Reported	24	7	15	19	29
Inspections	32	10	15	20	37

RECREATION PROGRAM	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Manufactured Home Parks</b>					
Inspections	12	12	14	14	10
Parks Licensed	10	10	10	10	10
<b>Temporary Recreational Vehicle Parks</b>					
Inspections	1	1	1	3	5
Parks Licensed	1	1	1	3	5
<b>Public Spas</b>					
Inspections	69	50	26	19	74
Spas Licensed	10	11	11	11	11
<b>Public Swimming Pools</b>					
Inspections	145	109	72	35	126
Pools Licensed	35	34	34	34	33

OTHER PROGRAMS	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Mosquito Control</b>					
Adulticiding hours	27	12.5	9.5	4	6
<b>Schools</b>					
Inspections	19	19	15	17	29
<b>Tattoo &amp; Body Piercing Regulation</b>					
Inspections	12	10	6	8	6
Licenses Issued	6	6	9	6	8
<b>Smoke-free Work Place Enforcement</b>					
Investigations	33	13	8	7	7

RABIES CONTROL	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Animal bites reported</b>					
Dog	49	67	70	78	94
Cat	16	30	23	14	20
Other	2	3	3	3	3
<b>Rabies Specimens</b>					
Positive	0	0	1	0	0
Negative	1	6	4	4	2

### Retail Tobacco Enforcement

All Retail Tobacco Vendor license fees were received for 2012. 152 compliance checks of tobacco sales to minors were conducted in 2012 and vendors had a failure rate of 2.5%, the lowest number since the start of the program. The Health Commissioner held 4 hearings for the vendors that had tobacco sales to minors.

Retail Tobacco	2009	2010	2011	2012
Compliance checks	150	150	100	152
Hearings	20	19	5	4
License issued	62	53	51	50



**Smoking cessation**  
information may be found at:  
**Tobacco Quit Line**  
Web-site: [smokefree.gov](http://smokefree.gov)

For questions on environmental health issues  
please contact the department at 419-424-7188

**2012 HEALTH DEPARTMENT RECEIPTS**

Environmental Health	\$ 104,089.07
Retail Tobacco	5,900.00
Clinic	277,213.32
Plumbing	96,750.00
Vital Statistics	145,254.00
State Subsidies	8,467.59
Miscellaneous	1,386.50
Grant reimbursements	<u>109,561.25</u>
Total Receipts	748,621.73
Total General Fund	446,030.24
<b>CITY HEALTH DEPT</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,194,651.97</u></b>

**CITY OF FINDLAY**  
population: 41,202

**2012 Cost of Public Health to the City's General Revenue Fund**

**\$ 446,030.24**

12 full time employees &  
4 part time staff

Providing Public Health Services

2012 cost < **21 ¢**  
per person per week

**2012 HEALTH DEPARTMENT EXPENSES**

Salaries & Benefits	\$ 967,484.02
State Fees; Vital Statistics	76,608.44
Vaccines / EH chemicals	32,396.31
State Fees; Environ Health	12,147.00
Computer Services	23,935.43
Operating Costs	16,322.05
Miscellaneous, R&M, supplies	11,511.16
Insurance; car, liability	4,288.92
Flood insurance; 428 WMC	1,872.02
Vaccine supplies	1,580.25
Personal Development	4,881.37
Leases - Land & Bldg	<u>41,625.00</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,194,651.97</u></b>

**GRANT ACTIVITIES**

**2012 Grant Receipts**

ODH Public Health Emergency Preparedness Funds: (PHEP)	\$ 82,183.35
Medical Reserve Corps	5,100.00
Safe Kids	3,253.10
ODH Reproductive Health Grant	9,500.00
ODH Child and Family Health Services Grant	28,018.21
2011 Health Assessment Project	7,500.00
ODH Immunization Action Grant	<u>2,000.00</u>
	\$ 137,554.66

**2012 Grant Expenses**

ODH PHEP	\$ 96,605.89
Medical Reserve Corps	5,414.01
Safe Kids	3,274.40
ODH Reproductive Health Grant	35,500.00
ODH Child & Family Health Services Grant	40,871.83
2011 Health Assessment Project	10,451.49
ODH Immunization Action Grant	<u>2,000.00</u>
	\$ 194,117.62

\*Grant projects are kept in special project accounts and carry over from one calendar year to the next. Therefore **Grant Revenue** and **Grant Expense** may not equal as fiscal grant years do not necessarily match calendar years. Last year's grant receipts exceeded grant expenses.

**ODH PHEP Grant** During 2012, \$3,200 of the PHEP money was forwarded to the Hancock County Health Department for their participation in general emergency response and pandemic planning, training, and grant related activities. The remaining ODH PHEP grant funds were used by the Findlay City Health Department to offset employee wages and mileage when working on grant related activities, office and medical supplies, pager service, pager stipend for 24/7 response capabilities, MARCS radio fee, training and meeting expenses and educational materials.

**Medical Reserve Corps Grant** and donations amounted to \$5,100 and were used to continue development of a volunteer medical corps. Monies were used for educational and office supplies, first aid supplies, training costs, Medical Reserve Corps volunteer shirts, advertising and a new response trailer to haul supplies.

**Safe Kids**, which is a continuing project with Findlay City Health Department acting as lead agency, utilized grant dollars for specific educational activities to promote safety for children, including paying for educational materials, bike helmets and car seat training.

**The ODH Child and Family Health Services Grant** was received for the second year and this award allowed us to hire a facilitator to help us examine the results of the health assessment and identify our top areas of concern and formulate a strategic plan to address these priority areas. In addition we were able to utilize funds to hire a health educator to focus on the identified priority of childhood obesity.

**The Immunization Action Grant** dollars were the result of a regional ODH grant received by the Putnam County Health Department and passed to us through the Hancock County Health Department. This grant allows our department to offset the cost of staff time for conducting reminder and recall activities aimed at improving our immunization rate for many childhood vaccines.

Work was completed on the Health Assessment and the Health Assessment Project was closed out. The Reproductive Health Grant was used to reimburse staff time spent on grant activities and this Grant was closed as well.