

Salem County Department of Health and Human Services

Division of Environmental Health

856-935-7510 x 8448



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Overall Goals Essential Services

- Investigate and diagnose environmental health hazards which may effect the community
- Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety
- Inform, educate and empower people about health issues

Environmental Mission

- We are dedicated to protecting the health of Salem County communities through planning, inspection, environmental education and enforcement.

Environmental Vision

- Salem County will have a clean, safe and disease-free environment so our citizens can enjoy comfort and general well being in their daily lives.

Programs From 2 State Agencies

- New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDOH) adopts rules and regulations for our Consumer Health Programs
- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) adopts rules and regulations for our Environmental Health Programs.

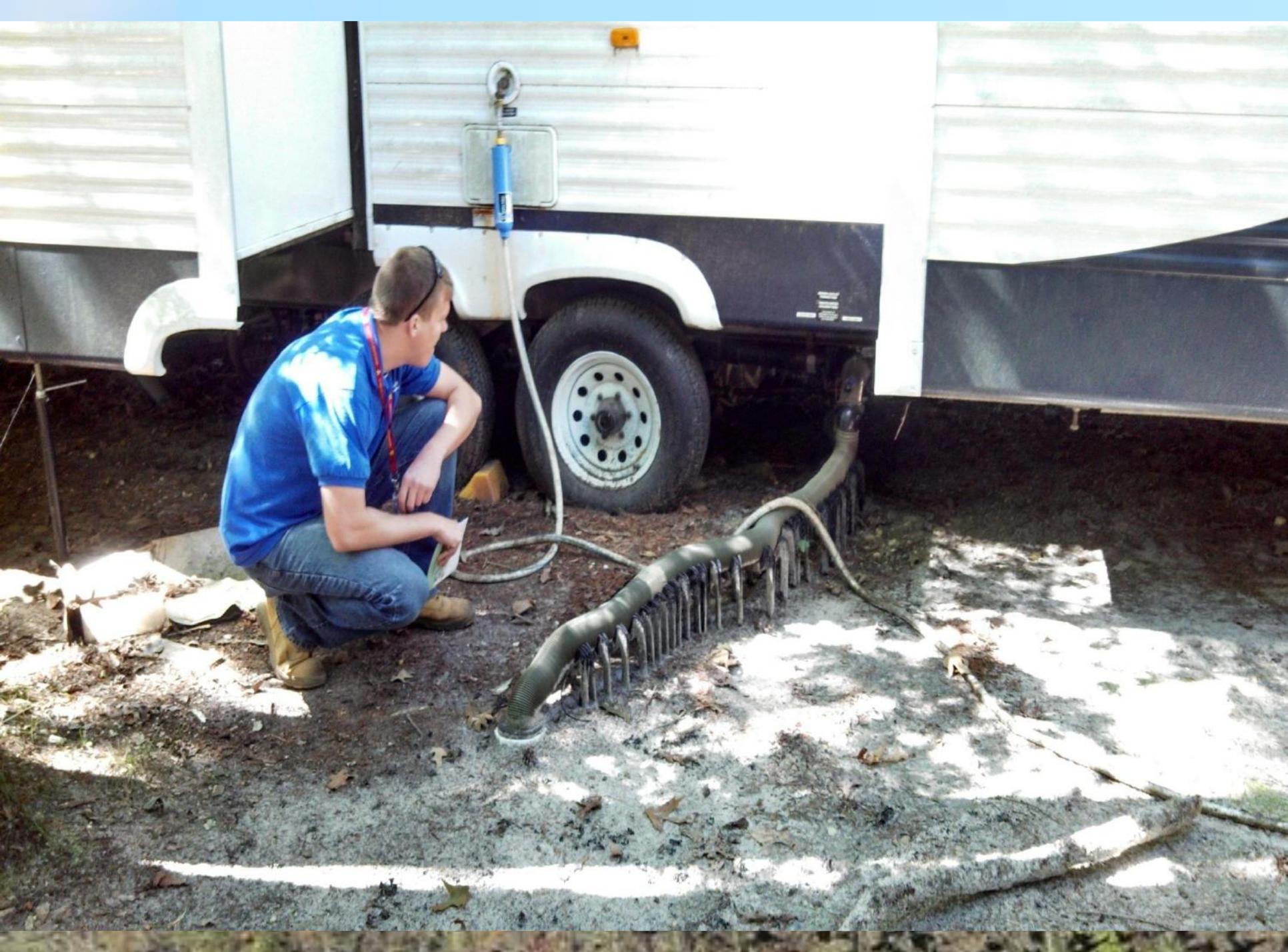
Consumer Health Programs

- **Public Recreational Bathing:**
- Public bathing facilities including lakes, pools and spas are inspected twice per year.
- Inspectors use the Public Recreational Bathing Regulations to determine if these facilities are operating in a safe and sanitary condition.



Consumer Health Programs

- **Campgrounds and Youth Camps:**
- Campgrounds are inspected to determine safe and sanitary operations including water, sewer, trash, swimming, vermin etc.
- Inspectors use the Youth Camp Safety Standards to determine that safe operational practices are in place prior to children attending the camp.



Consumer Health Programs

- **Retail Food Surveillance:**
- Facilities serving food to the public are inspected under Chapter 24 of the State Sanitary Code to determine safe food handling procedures, safe food sources, and sanitary food preparation and storage.
- Plan reviews and pre-operational inspections are done for all new facilities.
- Inspectors respond to citizen complaints against retail food establishments.
- Food Handlers educational classes are given free of charge to any food service worker.



Consumer Health Programs

- **Rabies and Zoonosis Control:**
- Inspections focus on the control of diseases that can be passed from animals to humans.
- Regulations for the Sanitary Operations of Kennels, Pet Shops, Shelters and Pounds are used to determine safe and sanitary housing and handling of animals.
- To control the spread of Rabies, follow-up of reported animal bites is done. Quarantine notices and health information is provided to the owners & bite victims.
- Supplies are provided to each Municipality for their annual Rabies Clinic.
- Inspectors respond to complaints of dead / ill birds for West Nile Virus Surveillance.



Consumer Health Programs

- **Public Health Nuisance Complaints:**
- Inspectors respond to citizen complaints concerning general health nuisance conditions affecting the public.
- Notice of Violation documents may be issued as a result of the investigation findings.
- Some cases may be taken to Court.



Consumer Health Programs

- **Childhood Lead Poisoning**
- Partner with Nursing who receives medical reports of Children with elevated blood lead levels.
- An environmental assessment using a specialized lead detection machine is performed at the child's home.
- Parents are given educational information.
- Orders to remove any lead paint are issued.
- Follow-up inspections are done and the child is monitored by a Nurse Case Manager.
- Enforcement of violations is through the courts.



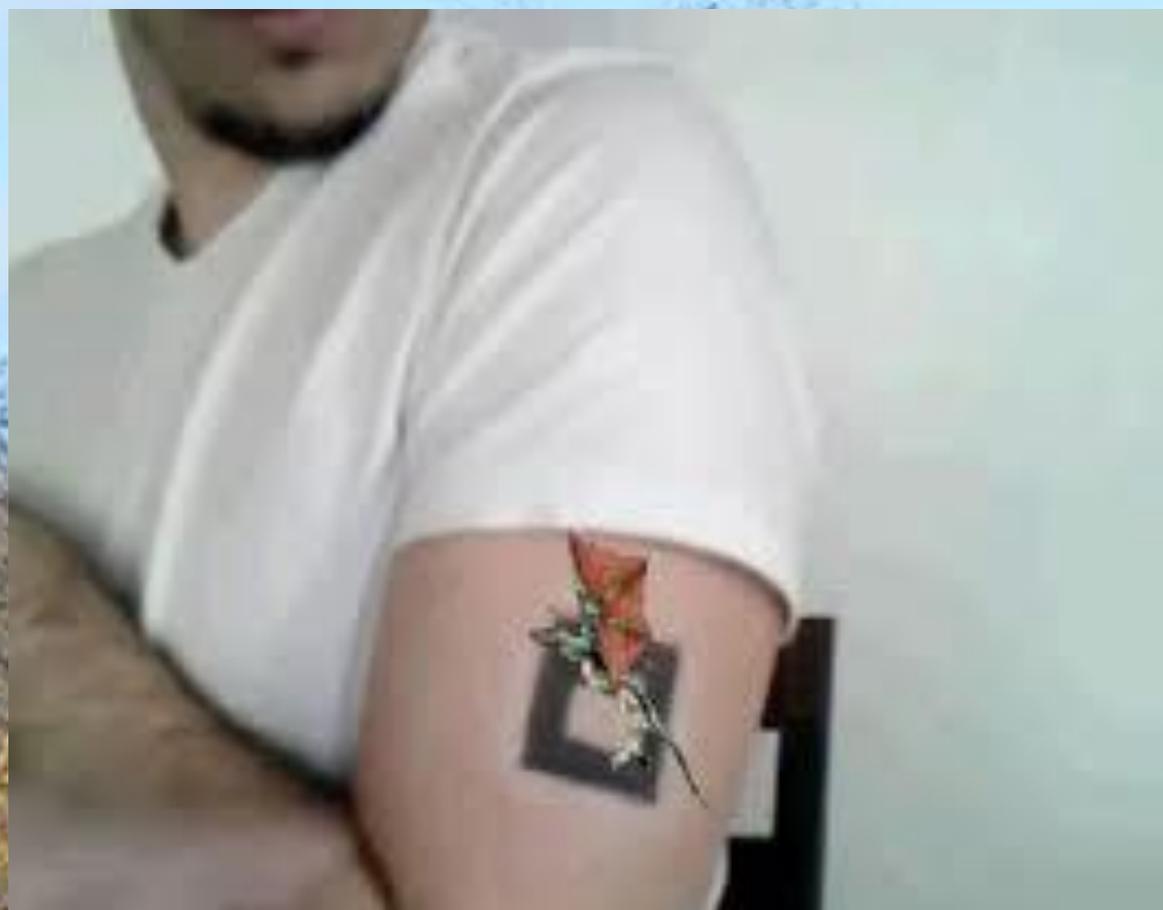
Consumer Health Programs

- **Right-to-Know**
- Hazardous Substances surveys for Public and Private businesses are on file at the Health Department
- Employees may confidentially contact the Health Department for information contained in these surveys.
- Outreach activities are conducted to educate public employers in the Right to Know regulations, assist them in submitting RTK surveys and maintaining central files.
- Inspections of private facilities are conducted for the NJDEP to determine the facility status and ensure that they submit the RTK survey if required.



Consumer Health Programs

- **Body Art Facilities**
- Facilities that perform body piercing (excluding ear lobes), cosmetic tinting and tattoos are licensed annually and inspected by our inspectors.
- Strict safety standards are in place due to the possibility of blood born pathogen diseases.



Environmental Health Programs

- **Air Pollution Control:**
- Inspections of dry cleaners, large boilers and generators are performed in order to determine compliance with the operations of their permitted equipment.
- Diesel idling surveillance is performed to discover compliance with vehicle idling regulations.
- Inspectors respond to citizen complaints concerning possible air pollution, open burning and odors.
- Enforcement of violations is done through penalty assessments.



Environmental Health Programs

- **Solid Waste Control:**
- Inspections are performed at solid waste facilities including landfills, convenience centers, recycling centers, compost facilities and farmland mulch sites to determine compliance with the Solid Waste Management Act.
- Solid waste containers and trucks hauling solid waste are checked to ensure that they are registered, not leaking and disposing of waste properly.
- Investigation of citizen complaints concerning solid waste issues, illegal dumping, and hauler routes is done.
- Enforcement is done through penalty assessment and court actions.



Environmental Health Programs

- **Hazardous Materials:**
- Inspectors respond to reports of spilled and/or improperly disposed hazardous materials. Investigation of these reports determines if material is properly cleaned-up and orders clean-up if not.
- A Sub-contract is maintained with Salem Emergency Services Volunteer Hazardous Materials Response Team. 2 of our current staff (Matt & Sean) are volunteers on the Team.
- Enforcement of violations is done through a referral to NJ Department of Environmental Protection





Environmental Health Programs

- **Safe Drinking Water:**
- Inspections of facilities, other than municipal water supply systems, which provide water to the public are done. Inspections determine safe well location and proper well water testing.
- Inspections determine safe well location, sufficient water system maintenance, and proper well water testing.
- Enforcement of violations is done through penalty assessments.



Environmental Health Programs

- **Water Pollution Control:**
- Inspectors respond to citizen complaints concerning ground and surface water pollution including overflowing septic systems and illegal discharges.
- Enforcement is done through penalty assessment and court action.



Environmental Health Programs

- **Noise Pollution Control:**
- Inspectors respond to citizen noise complaints concerning commercial / industrial noise pollution.
- Calibrated noise meters are used to take certified noise readings.
- Enforcement is done through penalty assessment and court actions.



Environmental Health Programs

- **Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems:**
- Inspectors review applications and issue permits for Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems (septic systems).
- Permits are reviewed in accordance with the State Standards for proper design, installation and maintenance. A properly functioning septic system protects ground water and prevents exposure to disease causing agents.
- Inspectors also perform field inspections of installations.
- Inspectors respond to citizen complaints of overflowing septic systems.
- Enforcement is done through court actions.



Environmental Health Programs

- **Well Permits and Private Well Testing Act Program (PWTA):**
- Well permit applications are reviewed to determine compliance with the State Standards for Construction.
- Inspectors also perform field inspections of these installations.
- All new private wells and homes with private wells involved in Real Estate Transactions must have their well water tested in accordance with the NJ Private Well Testing Act.
- The Health Department receives notification of wells that do not pass Safe Drinking Water Standards.
- Neighborhood notification is done when some Primary Drinking Water Contaminants are found. Health information on the well water contaminants is left with residents. Press releases are also done for other notifications.
- All residents are encouraged to have their own well tested, but this is not mandatory.



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Environmental Health Programs

- **Pesticides**

- Landscapers are checked in the Spring to assure that they are licensed and properly applying pesticides.
- School IPM (Integrated Pest Management) inspections and outreach is done to assure minimal pesticide use in the schools and around children.
- Inspectors respond to citizen complaints.



2013 Accomplishments

- In 2013, the Environmental Division hired new staff which allowed us to serve the public more effectively.
- We were able to reduce our septic plan review times from 45 days to less than 10 days. The Division continues to provide outreach to the public and other interested parties on the state septic regulation changes that took effect in 2012.
- 2013 was the second full year Salem County participated as a founding member of the Southern New Jersey Mobile Food Task Force. The Environmental Division has effectively approved and inspected mobile food vendors who serve potentially hazardous foods to the public at events within the county. This has significantly reduced the potential for a large scale food borne outbreak to happen within the county.
- We offered 4 FREE Safe Food Handling classes to the workers of retail food establishments within the County.
- Performed an Environmental outreach program to the Salem County School Buildings and Grounds Association.
- Environmental staff were guest judges at the Oldman's Township School Science fair.

2013 Accomplishments

- Investigated close to 250 Public Health Nuisance Complaints
- Performed approximately 350 CEHA Grant inspections
- Conducted approximately 475 Retail Food Establishment Inspections.

Staff participated as team members in the various CQI groups.

- Staff participated as team members of various flu clinics and preparedness drills.
- Held scheduled division meetings as needed.

2014 Division Goals

- Continue to use our environmental database and streamline programs in order to serve the public efficiently and in a timely manner.
- Have all CEHA inspectors trained in and utilizing NJEMS, the State DEP database.
- Continue to host outreach programs
- Creation of a food safety council in Salem County to address food safety throughout the county.

Thank you from the dedicated staff of the Salem County Division of Environmental Health



Questions?

