



HEALTH
Department

Quarter 2 Board of Commissioners' Update

Allegan County Health Department (ACHD)

ACHD Activities during the most recently concluded quarter (2024 Q2)

Hired the Public Health Planning and Preparedness Manager: We are excited and privileged to welcome Grant Ruppert to the leadership team. Grant has been a sanitarian with the health department since 2000 and impressed everyone here with his engagement and dedication to public health. Grant has already submitted multiple reports to the state for our funding requirements.

Acquired Inventory Management Software: For emergency preparedness and response, ACHD recently acquired and began inventorying supplies into Sortly. This is a program that allows us to catalog our inventory in real time and respond to emergencies effectively as we know what supplies are on hand.

The FETCH EH contract has been finalized, and work has started: FETCH EH will be used for Food and Field Programs.

- In March, environmental health staff met with FETCH for training. Staff are currently getting used to the program and will start utilizing the software during Q3.

Public Outreach: personal health staff has been attending many Kindergarten Round-up events to provide services to kiddos about to enter school for the first time. They provide hearing and visions screenings, immunization assessments, and oral health screening with our MCDC partners. We also attended Boomer Bash in June and provided education, hearing and vision screenings, and immunization assessments.

Community Health Improvement Plan Q2 Update: The Community Health Improvement Plan, or CHIP, acts as a unifying roadmap to address the public health challenges that our community faces are that are too large for one person, organization, school, or sector to fix alone. The major areas being addressed Allegan's CHIP are Access to Medical Care, Food Security, Behavioral Health, and Healthy Housing. Each of these area's workgroups meet twice in the last quarter and there is progress in each of the areas with their various initiatives. For the Community Information Exchange, we are in the midst of a pilot was launched from June 1 to July 31 to see how many clients are referred for housing and how many housing services are provided through Community Links.

ACHD Activities Forecast for quarter ahead (2024 Q3)

2025 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) (Planning): ACHD, Allegan County Community Foundation/MACC, and Ascension Borgess Allegan continue to plan out the assessment. We are finalizing questions, sources of secondary data, and processes to improve on since the last cycle.

Accreditation and the Plan of Organization (in progress): Accreditation with the state will take place in September. At that time, accreditors will review our policies and procedures to provide guidance and feedback.



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This feedback will help us align with best practices and create a stronger health department. We anticipate a robust and productive process with the state.

Resource Recovery Program: Allegan County Resource Recovery Program has THREE tire collection events scheduled for Allegan County residents for August 2024. Anyone in the county may participate at any of these events. These events will be on a first come first serve basis until the semi-trailer is full. Residents are limited to 10 passenger tires per household and 4 agricultural/semi tires per household. Tires on rims will be accepted.

These events are listed below:

- Saturday August 3, 2024 9am – 12pm @ Salem Township Transfer Station, 4145 29th St Dorr, MI
- Saturday August 10, 2024 9am – 12pm @ Allegan County Human Services Building, 3255 122nd Ave Allegan, MI
- Tuesday August 27, 2024 9am – 12pm @ City of Otsego Department of Public Works, 243 N Farmer St Otsego, MI

Anticipated Public Health Situations in Year Ahead

Ground Water Study:

- Report from the Ground Water Study workgroup should be ready for distribution in Q3. Will highlight the major findings of the study, areas of protentional risk in the county, and possible actions to be taken in the future.
- Monitoring wells are being planned and drilled to monitor ground water.

Environmental Health Field Team Tick Collection Update – On June 24th the Allegan County Health Department (ACHD) was alerted to a reported Lone Star tick found in Allegan County. These ticks can cause, among other diseases, acquired red meat allergy. ACHD has been educating the public on ways to prevent insect bites through newsletters, social media posts, and responding to public inquiries.