**Environmental Health Monthly Report**

## March 2013

Accreditation

Ms. Zmuda successfully completed the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Online Orientation Series. Review of PHAB domains, standards, and measures is ongoing. Ms. Crossland and Ms. Zmuda hope to participate in an Accreditation Learning Community experience in April.

Communicable Disease

The following information is in response to recent questions about the environmental health (EH) role in communicable disease investigations. All animal bites and reports of suspected foodborne or waterborne illness are referred to EH; gastrointestinal illnesses of unknown cause are generally referred to EH. Investigations often rely on EH content expertise and in some cases involve a licensed food facility where investigation must be done by a licensed sanitarian. Outbreak response as a whole is multi-disciplinary. Health Department staff is involved in specimen testing under epidemiologist direction, but is not involved in medical treatment decisions or implementation. Ms. Zmuda is one of four Ohio Disease Reporting System (ODRS) users in the office, and is the only National Outbreak Reporting System (NORS) user.

**Credentials**

Registered Sanitarian, State of Ohio (November 1, 2000) – professional examination content includes epidemiology; microbiological, chemical, and physical agents of disease; risk assessment; sampling and testing

ServSafe Food Protection Manager Certification (March 21, 2006) – foodborne illness is a major topic

**Training**

E is for Epi (10 hrs), 2008

Investigation of Foodborne Disease Outbreaks, 2009

co-sponsored workshop with Ohio Department of Health

Field Epidemiology (17½ hrs) & Infectious Disease Epidemiology (17½ hrs), Summer Program 2012

**Outbreak Response (Galion City Health Department)**

Crestline wedding, 2004 – confirmed *Clostridium perfringens* and *Salmonella roterburg*, foodborne, 57 ill

Crestline family, 2008 – confirmed *Clostridium botulinum* (botulism), foodborne, 5 ill including 1 death

Galion FSO Christmas party, 2009 – undetermined causative agent, probable foodborne, 26 ill

Crestline family, 2011 – confirmed Norovirus, suspected foodborne, 3 ill

Galion business, 2012 – confirmed Norovirus, undetermined mode of transmission, 3 ill

Galion long term care facility, 2013 – confirmed Norovirus, undetermined mode of transmission, 35 ill

Food Safety

•Follow-up inspections were conducted at food facilities to determine progress on violations cited during February inspections.

•Ms. Zmuda presented food safety information to twenty food employees at a Galion City Schools in-service on March 22.

Public Health Nuisances

There is approximately a 10% increase in nuisance cases year-to-date over 2012. This is due to cases being opened without a complaint when egregious violations are discovered. Generally speaking, city-wide compliance with premise sanitation ordinances is poor.