



## **Galion City Board of Health Environmental Division/HC Monthly Report for September 2023**

### **Food Safety**

Issued letters to all food operators about the upcoming license fee changes for 2024 and invited them to attend the October 10, 2023 for public comment. Completed license review checks at the Oktoberfest and gave all operators instruction about grey/wastewater disposal so that it did not get disposed into the storm sewers (hopefully). The REHS contractor completed a complaint inspection at a licensed FSO and found the complaint to be unjustified.

### **Public Health Nuisances**

There were 5 nuisance complaints during the month of September and I issued one summons to court. The asst. law director informed me that the person pleaded not guilty so he is setting a pre-trial and I may be required in court. He will let me know. Four were solid waste issues. One was a food service operation complaint. Written orders are issued to the homeowners informing them of the violation of the ordinance or regulation and then usually a 10-day reinspection. A second order with no improvement or correction may lead to a summons to court.

### **General Health**

There has been so much to do over the past few weeks that most of our heads are spinning because we need to hire more staff, figure out a budget, complete interviews, reports, full scale exercises, flu clinics, CPST training, etc. All of the staff has been doing a great job amidst the current chaos.

Leanna and I have spent time with the auditor's office to try to gain perspective on the grant budget lines, expenses and revenues to prepare a 2024 budget for GCHD.

The Mosquito program for surveillance has ended for 2023. The surveillance contractor collected a total of 1,201 mosquitoes for the Ohio Department of Health. GCHD still has money to spend in the mosquito control grant that ends April 30<sup>th</sup> 2024.

### **Rabies**

Galion received 4 dog bites in September. Quarantine letters were sent to the dog owners, requesting that they provide proof of rabies vaccination after the 10 days to release the dog from quarantine. I have been working with the Crawford County Dog Warden on some of the cases-very helpful. Rabies is deadly and may be transmitted by raccoons and bats to other wild animals and/or pets in Ohio.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Barnes, REHS  
Director of Environmental Health