



Galion City Board of Health Environmental Division/HC Monthly Report for November 2023

Food Safety

The Ohio Department of Health has graciously agreed to postpone the food program survey until February 2024. I explained the predicament that we have been working through and they were very understanding. I have been doing the vending location inspections that are required once per year. The contract REHS is working to complete most of the first inspections by the end of the year.

Public Health Nuisances

There were 4 nuisance complaints during the month of November. Written orders are issued to the homeowners informing them of the violation of the ordinance or regulation and then usually a 10-day reinspection; however, complaints are not being followed up in a timely matter because of staffing issues. A second order with no improvement or correction may lead to a summons to court.

General Health

Body Art renewals and inspections were completed in November; neither facility had outstanding violations. Both facilities plan to renew for 2024.

The Ohio Department of Health performed a survey of the environmental health recreation programs (campgrounds, public swimming pools, etc.) on November 16th. The survey went well, and for the field inspection, I inspected the swimming pool at the Sleep Inn. I noted the violations that I observed and the REHS from the ODH also did an inspection to compare notes with mine. The final report may be completed by ODH in January, 2024.

For the mosquito control grant, I asked the Willig Tire to accept scrap tires from the public at no charge on Saturday, November 11th from 9:00am to noon. The grant covers the cost of this collection. They collected 46 PTE's and billed us \$184.00. This is a good way to remove prime breeding sites for mosquitoes from the community. The grant will allow for more collections in 2024.

The staff at GCHD is spectacular and so is our Board of Health.

Rabies

Galion received 5 dog bite reports in November. A Quarantine letter was sent to the dog owner, requesting that they provide proof of rabies vaccination after the 10 days to release the dog from quarantine. 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, Interim Health Commissioner, Director of Environmental Health