

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

COUNTY

ROCK



HEALTH

DEPARTMENT

SERVING THE CITIES OF:

Beloit, Clinton, Edgerton, Evansville,
Orfordville, Footville, Janesville,
Milton, Rural Townships of Rock County

ROCK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 1143
Janesville, WI 53547
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Beloit, WI 53511
364-2010

April 2009

It is with pleasure I present the 2008 Annual Report of Rock County Health Department activities. The annual report is a celebration and acknowledgement of the quality of services and the commitment of staff, providers, and community partners who join together to ensure that Rock County citizens benefit from comprehensive public health practices.

In 2008, the Health Department continued the task of providing high quality services, while facing increasingly dwindling resources. The Health Department provides services to every segment of the population and continues to seek and establish alliances and partnerships to keep pace with the needs of a changing county. As resources decline, we must be creative and efficient to continue to provide for the health and safety needs of Rock County citizens.

In helping us accomplish our mission to make Rock County a healthy and safe place, we are grateful to the Rock County Board of Supervisors, the Rock County Board of Health, and the County Administration for providing us with the ways and means to getting our work accomplished. Without the support of these groups, Rock County citizens would not have access to the quality Public Health services currently available.

As you review the activities presented in this report, should you need or want more information, please feel free to contact Health Department staff. We believe it is our job to serve the county citizens and we take pride in being able to find answers to your questions or to provide information about our services.

Yours in health,

Karen Cain R.N., M.S.
Director/Health Officer
Rock County Health Department

ROCK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

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Rock County Board of Health

Henry Brill – *Chair*

James Joiner – *Vice Chair*

Richard Bostwick

Louis Peer

Dr. Dean Peterson, DVM

Dr. Connie Winter, DDS

Dr. Aaron Best, MD

Judith Wade, WHNP

James Rooney, RPh

Health Department Personnel

HEALTH OFFICER

Dr. Joseph Schurhammer, DVM (*resigned 9/08*)

Karen Cain, RN, MS – Interim Health Officer

OFFICE STAFF

Stephanie Bailey – Administrative Assistant

Erica Brandenburg – Health Aide

Terri Graham – Health Aide

Kimberly Kimball – Health Aide, 0.6 FTE

Jolly Lamb – Clerk/Stenographer III

Carol McComb – Administrative Assistant

Geri Waugh – Account Clerk II

HEALTH EDUCATOR

Lori Lindemann-McMillan

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Karen Cain – Public Health Nursing Director

Janice Braswell – Public Health Nurse

Patricia Coppernoll – Public Health Nurse (*resigned 4/08*)

Deborah Erickson – Public Health Nurse

Serena Jahnke-Berg – Public Health Nurse

Ann Klesic – Public Health Nurse

Jill Lampo, Public Health Nurse

Joel Mallari – Public Health Nurse

Olga Myers – Community Health Nurse

Diane Nelson – Public Health Nursing Supervisor (*resigned 12/08*)

Jessica Petite – Public Health Nurse

Yvonne Rittenhouse – Public Health Nurse

Sancee Siebold – Public Health Nurse

Jennifer Stenger – Public Health Nurse

Amy Stricker – Public Health Nurse

Casey Stubbs – Public Health Nurse

Jennifer Weadge – Public Health Nurse

Anne Weirich – Public Health Nurse

Risa Weisensel – Public Health Nurse

Janet Zoellner – Public Health Nursing Supervisor

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SANITARIANS

Timothy Banwell – Environmental Health Director

Janis Baumann – Registered Sanitarian

Nathan Brandt - Sanitarian

Calli Bright – Environmental Health Technician

Adam Elmer - Sanitarian

Roger Eychaner – Registered Sanitarian

Richard Jacobson – Registered Sanitarian

Jackie Phillips – Registered Sanitarian

Mark Seymour – Registered Sanitarian

Matthew Wesson – Registered Sanitarian

Rick Wietersen – Registered Sanitarian

MEDICAL ADVISOR

William Clanfield, MD

ROCK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Source & Application of Funds

For the Budget Year Ended December 31, 2008

Sources of Funds

PROGRAM REVENUES

Public Health Nursing	\$ 367,057
Environmental Health	<u>519,151</u>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<u>\$ 886,208</u>

GRANT/OTHER REVENUES

Consolidated Contract	\$ 363,585
Federal /State Aid	22,900
Donations	<u>800</u>
<i>SUBTOTAL</i>	<u>\$ 1,273,493</u>

COUNTY TAX LEVY	<u>\$ 2,123,395</u>
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<i>TOTAL SOURCES</i>	<u>\$ 3,396,888</u>
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Application of Funds

SALARIES & BENEFITS	\$ 2,759,918
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OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>\$ 636,970</u>
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<i>TOTAL APPLICATIONS</i>	<u>\$ 3,396,888</u>
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Highlights of 2008 Rock County Health Department Services

1. Department Response to Flooding of 2008 – Health Department staff was involved in a variety of ways throughout the flood and weeks following the flood.
 - Public Health Nurses set up mobile clinics to offer tetanus boosters and hand sanitizers to inadequately protected emergency workers, other flood responders, and citizens whose homes were affected by the flood;
 - Sanitarians assisted residents whose wells were contaminated by flood waters by answering questions and providing testing kits for over 700 well water samples;
 - Staff answered questions regarding mold and other health related questions about consequences of flood water in homes;
 - Clerical staff routed the influx of phone calls, took in and mailed water samples for testing, made written materials regarding water safety available, and set up appointments for people needing tetanus boosters;
 - Staff collaborated with city and township officials in public meetings with businesses and individuals affected by the flooding;
 - Staff cooperated with USPHS workers who came in to assist with obtaining well samples and assisting residents with chlorination of contaminated wells.
2. Prescription Drug Collections - These collections remain a very popular activity for citizens.
 - The department received a grant from the DATCP to help defray the cost of drug collection and disposal.
 - The Department continued to work with acquiring community partners to ensure the sustainability of these collections in future years.
3. Immunization Services – Due to a change in the state immunization law for school aged children, the Health Department saw a 44% increase in people served in immunization clinics.
4. Community Health Needs Assessment- Rock County Health Department has never conducted a County Health Needs Assessment. A committee was convened in October to begin the process.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING DIVISION

Public Health Nursing is the practice of promoting and protecting the health of populations using knowledge from nursing, social, and public health sciences. In Rock County, public health nurses provide services in Health Department sponsored clinics, schools and preschools, in private homes, at coalition meetings, and in businesses.

In 2008, the Public Health Nursing Division worked diligently to meet the Public Health needs of Rock County citizens. An overview of the “numbers” show that Public Health Nursing staff

- made 2605 visits to pregnant or parenting families;
- provided 13246 vaccines to 7894 individuals;
- staffed 118 immunization clinics and 412 family health clinics;
- conducted 192 visits for lead poisoning prevention;
- performed 795 paternity tests
- provided 151hours of school nursing services to 4 Head Start Centers;
- provided 840 hours of school nursing services to 3 county public school districts and 1 private school;
- served on 15 different community committees;
- made contact with 1127 clients with reported communicable diseases;
- conducted 6 screenings for cardiovascular health to 2 area businesses;

The nursing division at the Rock County Health Department is comprised of a dedicated, enthusiastic group of individuals who meet the challenges of public health every day with determination and persistence. Goals are not always achieved; children do not always sit quietly for immunizations; health teaching is not always adhered to.

Recognizing that gains and successes are often small, the staff continues in its effort to make Rock County a healthier and better community. Rock County Health Department is fortunate to have a competent and skilled nursing staff that comes to work everyday, ready to do whatever needs to be done.

The following pages illustrate the progress of the staff in meeting the goals and objectives of public health nursing in Rock County.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

Communicable disease control is a state-mandated public health service. Public health nursing services in communicable disease control are focused on 3 major functions:

- prevention of the occurrence of all diseases which can be prevented by immunizations; activities include:
 - providing immunization clinics for childhood and adult vaccines somewhere in the county every day the county is open;
 - providing immunization services to travelers who are going to countries where vaccine preventable diseases may be occurring;
 - monitoring immunization rates;
 - offering consultation services to clients who are in need of immunization information;
 - educating the community and providers about improving immunization rates;
 - maintaining an immunization coalition to promote immunizations.
- controlling the spread of the over 80 state mandated reportable acute and communicable diseases by prompt investigation and community education; activities include:
 - contacting clients diagnosed with communicable diseases to provide education about diseases and preventing the spread to other individuals ;
 - educating contacts to clients with reportable diseases about signs and symptoms, testing, treatment and prevention strategies;
 - consulting with day cares and preschools about communicable disease prevention strategies;
 - updating/consulting community partners about changes in communicable disease reporting and treatment guidelines.
- maintenance of ongoing surveillance of diseases in the community to control or eliminate the source of disease; activities include:
 - reviewing communicable disease logs and information to determine what may be occurring in the county;
 - following up with reports of illnesses and potential outbreaks;
 - maintaining ongoing communication with infection disease practitioners.

Not all reported diseases are ultimately confirmed as cases. Some diseases are reported as probable or suspect, but require immediate follow up to prevent spread. Nonetheless, follow up must be conducted to limit spread.

In 2008, requirements for reporting specific diseases changed. Viral meningitis, genital herpes, and cat scratch fever are no longer reportable. Chicken pox and influenza associated pediatric deaths became reportable diseases.

The chart shows a comparison of the type and number of reportable diseases in 2007 and 2008.

Communicable Disease Report Chart 2007-2008

DISEASE	2007	2008	DISEASE	2007	2008
AIDS/HIV	13	9	Measles	0	*3 (0)
Blastomycosis	2	1	Meningitis (Bacterial)	4	*2 (1)
Campylobacter	42	38	Meningitis (Viral)	7	No longer reportable
Cat Scratch Fever	2	No longer reportable	Mumps	1	0
Chicken pox (Reportable in 2008)	0	43	Pertussis	4	*5 (1)
Cholera	1	0	Possible Mercury Poisoning	1	0
Cryptosporidium	33	39	Salmonella	37	25
E. Coli	5	1	Shigella	25	10
Ehrlichiosis	1	2	Strep A or B	8	3
Encephalitis	1	0	Toxic Shock Syndrome	1	0
Food/Waterborne Outbreaks	2	6	Toxoplasmosis	1	*4 (2)
Giardia	14	12	Tuberculosis	0	0
Haemophilus Influenza	2	1	Active	3	1
Hepatitis A	1	*4 (0)	Atypical	11	8
Hepatitis B	3	*15 (2)	Latent Infection (LTBI)	27	33
Hepatitis C	7	83 (5)	Tularemia	0	1
Histoplasmosis	3	0	West Nile Virus	1	0
Kawasaki Syndrome	1	1	Sexually Transmitted Infections		
Lead Poisoning	32	*45 (20)	Chlamydia	449	554
Legionnaire's Disease	1	0	Gonorrhea	120	90
Listeriosis	0	3	Gonorrhea/Chlamydia Co-infection	52	48
Lyme Disease	13	*37 (16)	Herpes	106	No longer reportable
Malaria	1	0			
			TOTAL	1038	1127

*Number reported (number confirmed). All reported cases must be investigated.

The Public Health Nursing Division strives to meet 9 objectives in the communicable disease program. The objectives and narrative related to the accomplishment of the objectives are described below.

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008, have no incidences of the following vaccine preventable diseases: measles, mumps, rubella, polio, tetanus (any age), hepatitis B (person <26), pertussis (person <7), diphtheria (person <35), haemophilus influenza (person <5).

There were no cases of measles, mumps, rubella, polio, tetanus, hepatitis B (person <26), pertussis (person <7), haemophilus influenza (person <5) reported in 2008.

There were 5 reports of possible pertussis referred for further follow-up. Of these 5 reports, 4 were ruled out and 1 case of pertussis was confirmed. The confirmed case was in a 40-year old whose immunization status was unknown. Twelve (12) contacts were investigated, but there was no further spread.

There was 1 report of possible measles referred for follow up. The case was ruled out.

Objective achieved.

Objective 2

By December 31, 2008, 80% of children who turn 19 months during the years will have received 4 DtaP, 3 polio, 3 Hib, 3 Hepatitis B and 1 MMR vaccinations.

In 2008, the immunization rate for the listed vaccines for children who turned 19 months during the year was 45%. This rate is most likely lower than the actual immunization rate. At present, the best way to evaluate immunization rates is through analysis of children entered into the Wisconsin Immunization Registry. Not all providers enter immunizations into WIR, so the Health Department works at promoting WIR use more consistently with all providers so the immunization status of Rock County children will be known.

Objective not achieved.

Rock County Health Department offers immunization services somewhere in the county almost everyday of the year the county is open. Childhood vaccines are offered in each community in the county on a rotating schedule every 2 months. In addition to the 3 times per week clinic at both Health Department offices, a weekly clinic is held in Janesville at Faith Lutheran church.

Of particular interest in 2008, were the following:

1. mandatory tetanus boosters and varicella vaccine for students in grades 6, 9, and 12 was implemented. As a result, the Health Department saw a significant increase in immunizations. Tetanus boosters with the newly formulated Tdap increased by 500%. Varicella vaccines increased by 300%. Clinics were held in each school district to try to facilitate access for the school population. Unfortunately, the clinics were not well attended and the fall clinics at the Health Department resulted in long waiting periods.
2. a stronger emphasis on influenza vaccines for children, which resulted in a 36% increase in children under the age of 18 receiving influenza vaccine.

Adult vaccines are also provided as needed and typically fall into 3 categories: influenza, pneumonia, and vaccines needed for international travel.

The chart shows the number of people served at each of the scheduled clinics and the number and type of vaccines administered in 2008.

2008 Clinic and Vaccine Usage Chart

Immunization Clinic Usage	Client Count	Vaccine Type	Vaccine Count
Beloit Township Clinic	79	Dtap	399
Clinton Clinic	120	Dtap, Polio, & Hepatitis B – combined	169
Edgerton Clinic	90	Dtap, Polio, & Hib – combined	50
Evansville Clinic	20	Hepatitis A – Adult	241
Faith Lutheran Church Clinic	706	Hepatitis A – Pediatric	297
Health Department North Office	2993	Hepatitis A & Hepatitis B – combined	84
Health Department South Office	1428	Hepatitis B – Adult	173
Milton Clinic	41	Hepatitis B – Pediatric	119
Orfordville Clinic	59	HIB	223
Hedberg Library	167	HPV	746
School Clinics	441	IG	3
Other Community Clinics	1750	Influenza	3678
		Influenza FluMist	57
		Meningococcal	900
Total	7894	MMR	489
		Pneumococcal – Adult	103
		Pneumococcal – Pediatric (Prevnar)	397
		Polio	379
		Rotavirus	134
		TB skin tests	315
		Td	59
		Tdap	2424
		Typhoid – Injectable	85
		Typhoid – Oral	148
		Varicella	1443
		Yellow Fever	112
		Zostavax	19
		Total	13246

Objective 3

By December 31, 2008, a public health nurse will contact 95% of all residents with acute and/or communicable diseases (non-STI) that are reported to the Rock County Health Department.

Early contact and follow-up is essential to identifying the resource of infection and the prevention of the spread of the disease to other individuals.

In 2008, there were 435 communicable diseases (other than STI's) that were reported to the Health Department. The Health Department was able to make contact with 416 (95.6%) of them. Of the 435 diseases reported, 284 were confirmed cases and 151 reports were ruled out.

Objective achieved.

Objective 4

By December 31, 2008, 80% of persons followed for treatment of active tuberculosis or latent tuberculosis infection will complete the prescribed medication therapy.

In 2008, the Health Department received 54 referrals on people who were suspected of having tuberculosis infection. There was 1 case of confirmed tuberculosis, but it was not pulmonary. Of the 54 cases referred:

- 1 case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The client was adequately treated;
- 8 cases were determined to be atypical tuberculosis;
- 3 cases were not tb infections, but pneumonia and/or other respiratory problems;
- 8 moved out of the county before follow-up was started;
- 25 were diagnosed with latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) and treated.

Thirty-four (76%) of the clients diagnosed with active tuberculosis or LTBI completed the prescribed therapy.

Objective not achieved.

Objective 5

By December 31, 2008, 80% of children less than 6 years of age, with a capillary blood lead level ≥ 10 mcg/dl, will complete a confirmatory venous blood lead test.

Capillary lead testing is a screening tool to identify children who might be at risk for lead poisoning.

In 2008, 45 children were referred to the Health Department with a capillary lead test ≥ 10 mcg/dl. Of these 34 referrals, 28 (62%) children received confirmatory tests.

Objective not achieved.

Objective 6

By December 31, 2008, 40% of families who have a 6-month old child and live in housing with a potential for lead paint, will obtain information on childhood blood lead poisoning from a public health nurse.

Six hundred and thirty-eight (638) families were identified as living in high-risk housing. Public health nurses were able to make contact with 280 (43.8%) of the families. One hundred and fifty-seven (157) received a home visit, the preferred method of providing education.

Objective achieved.

Objective 7

By December 31, 2008, at least 80% of children, less than 6 years of age, with a blood lead reading ≥ 10 mcg/dl, will meet CDC criteria for record closure.

Of the 69 children whose records were closed in 2008, 53 (76.8%) met the criteria for closure. Of the 16 who did not meet the criteria, 9 were unable to be located and 7 refused a public health nurse follow-up. Of the 60 clients nurses were able to locate, 88% met the criteria for closure.

Objective partially achieved.

Objective 8

By December 31, 2008, 75% of identified contacts to a reported case of gonorrhea or chlamydia, who live in the Rock county Health Department jurisdiction, will be tested and/or treated.

The number of reported STI's in 2008 (692) increased 13% and the number of contacts per case (0.42) increased 45%. Contact tracing is an important aspect of controlling the spread of STI's. Fifty-eight percent (58%) of the contacts to STI's were tested and/or treated.

Objective not achieved.

Objective 9

By December 31, 2008, at least 80% of persons referred to Rock County Health Department for Partner Services (PS) will receive information about testing and follow-up.

In 2008, there were 14 clients who were referred for Partner Services and all 14 (100%) received information about testing and follow-up.

In 2008, Rock County Health Department entered into a cooperative agreement with the State and 3 surrounding counties to begin a regional PS program. Walworth, Green and Lafayette counties receive very few PS referrals. Since a high skill level needs to be maintained to provide these services, the State approached Rock County to enlist Rock County Health Department staff to provide PS services in these counties. With appropriate reimbursement and agreement from all parties, Rock County Health Department staff began providing PS services in 3 additional jurisdictions. Overall, there was a decrease in referrals from 17 in 2007 to 14 in 2008.

Objective achieved.

MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH

The goals of Maternal/Child Health Services are to

- promote positive health behaviors and reduce the risks associated with reproductive health of mothers and families;
- promote the growth, development, and optimal functioning of infants, children, and youth; and
- prevent injury and premature disability.

Services to Maternal/Child Health families are conducted in 2 settings: the public health office or in the client's home. Not all families who are referred for services are interested in receiving them. In 2008, the Health Department received referrals on 771 pregnant or parenting women or families with other needs who could benefit from public health nursing services. Of these referrals, 477 (61.%) accepted services.

Public Health Nurses strive to meet 7 objectives in Maternal Child Health Services. The objectives and narrative related to the accomplishment of the objectives are described below.

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008, the infant mortality rate for families served antepartally by the Rock County Health Department will be zero (0).

Rock County Health Department followed 206 families antepartally. There was one (1) infant death.

Objective not achieved.

Objective 2

By December 31, 2008, at least 20% of closed antepartal clients who smoke will stop smoking during their pregnancy.

Smoking during pregnancy puts a woman at higher risk for having a low birth weight baby, a stillborn baby, or a newborn with other health conditions. Quit smoking resources are available through the Health Department's access to the First Breath Program.

In 2008, 83 women stated they smoked prior to becoming pregnant. During their pregnancy, 20 (24%) stopped smoking and another 45 (54%) decreased the amount they smoked.

Objective achieved.

Objective 3

By December 31, 2008, 85% of women served 2 months or longer after the birth of an infant will complete a postpartum visit to their doctor.

Three hundred and seven (307) women were followed for 2 months after the birth of their infant. Of these 307 women, 282 (91%) completed a postpartum visit to their medical doctor.

Objective achieved.

Objective 4

By December 31, 2008, 80% of infant health records, served more than 2 months, will be current with immunizations at the time of record closure.

Three hundred and seven (307) infants were served 2 months or longer. Of these, 268 (87%) were up to date with immunizations at the time services were discontinued.

Objective achieved.

Objective 5

By December 31, 2008, 80% of children in the Head Start Program will have received a physical examination.

Rock County Health Department provides school nursing services to 4 Head Start Centers in the county. There were 274 children enrolled in the centers. Of these children, 255 (93%) were up to date with their physical examinations. Nurses help families access medical care for physicals if parent are unable to get their child seen.

Objective achieved.

Objective 6

By December 31, 2008, 100% of all medically needy students in school districts served by the Rock County Health Department will have a plan of care in place to assure accurate and safe care is being provided.

The Health Department provides services to 1 private school, St. Paul's Lutheran School and 3 public school districts in the county: Evansville, Edgerton and Parkview. Health care plans direct school staff how to care for children who have medical needs that may affect learning in the school environment. In many school districts there are 15 - 20 % of the students who have some kind of health concern, of which 2 – 5% require a detailed health plan. Development, dissemination and training related to a health care plan are important functions of school nurses.

In the school year 2007-2008, there were 102 health plans in place for students with chronic health needs requiring special instructions. This is up 14% from the previous school year.

Objective achieved.

ADULT HEALTH

The goals of adult health services are to reduce and/or eliminate risks associated with chronic and communicable diseases, prevent premature disability and/or death, and promote positive health outcomes and optimal levels of functioning.

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008, 75% of participants referred for further medical care with an elevated cholesterol or blood pressure reading will seek and obtain necessary medical care.

The Health Department provides occupational screening and health education at 2 area businesses. One hundred and nineteen (119) employees from these businesses participated in the wellness screenings offered by the employer. One (1) was referred for further follow up and saw the physician.

Objective achieved.

FAMILY HEALTH CLINIC

The Family Health Clinic provides services that transverse the Communicable Disease Control Program, Maternal/Child Health Program, and Adult Health Program. The services of these clinics identify clients and families who may need extended services through one of these program areas. The goal of the Family Health Clinic is to make available to Rock County citizens low-cost nursing clinic services that provide health assessment, health information and appropriate referrals.

Objective1

By December 31, 2008, 100% of clients assessed in the Family Health Clinic, will receive the services for which they accessed the clinic.

Services are offered in the clinic site as well as by telephone resource and referral. As can be seen in the chart below, many of the services provided are related to immunizations, but other services are also offered. Of note, is the 37% increase in services provided. All clients who access services through this clinic are served.

Objective achieved.

2007-2008 Family Health Clinic Usage Chart

	2007	2008
Immunizations	2802	4421
International Travel Services	432	473
Telephone Calls	597	596
Cholesterol Screening	1	0
Blood Pressure Monitoring	2	0
Vision/Hearing Screening	27	50
Blood Drawing/Lead	5	0
Health Concerns	5	62
TB Skin Testing	436	315
Pregnancy Testing	7	7
TOTAL	4314	5924

HEALTH EDUCATION

The goal of health education programming is to motivate a person or groups to act on learned information in order to keep the person healthier by avoiding actions that are harmful and/or taking actions that are beneficial for one's health and well being.

Health Department staff is involved with community committees and coalitions aimed at improving the health of groups of individuals or populations. Committees and coalitions on which the Health Department serves include:

- African-American Infant Mortality Coalition
- Child Death Review Team
- Birth to Three Committee
- Elder Abuse Interdisciplinary Team
- Community Service Coordination Committee
- Immunization Outreach Committee
- Youth to Youth Coalition
- Rock County Healthy Living Coalition
- Breastfeeding Coalition
- Healthy Birth Outcomes- Evidenced Based Practices Outreach
- Rock County Incentive Committee
- Mentoring Project
- Long Term Support
- Economic Support Coalition
- Project Linus
- Partners in Prevention
- Latino Health Fair Committee
- Prenatal Care Coordination Committee
- Hazardous Assessment Team
- Circles of Sister Doula Project
- Wisconsin Public Health Association-Public Health Nursing Section
- Wisconsin Nurse Association – Environmental Health Section
- Janesville School District Safety Committee
- Pandemic Influenza Planning
- Milton School District Pandemic Planning

The Health Education Division strives to meet 3 objectives aimed at community education or existing program enhancement.

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008, the Health Educator will conduct 5 group educational programs and assist the Nursing staff to develop educational materials for 4 health fairs, the Maternal Child Health Program and the Head Start Program.

During 2008, the health educator conducted the following health education programs:

Steppin On – Steppin On is a 7-week program aimed at reducing falls among the elderly. 2 programs were offered, one in Janesville and one in Beloit.

Strong Women – Strong Women is a 12-week strength and balance exercise program aimed at middle-aged women.

Other activities in which the health educator participated include:

- Presented at the School District of Beloit in May 2008. The audience consisted of approximately 40 teen parents, and the topic of the presentation was an overview of health department services.
- Coordinated a health fair at the Rock County Job Center for Rock County's employees in June. Over 30 vendors participated.
- Presented on the topic of "fall prevention" at the Beloit Senior fair in October.

The health educator also provided displays and materials for the following:

- Immunization awareness in January at both the north and south offices of the health department.
- Health department services information and health education materials to the Rock County 4-H Fair.
- Tobacco Heritage Days in Edgerton in July.
- An outreach program of First Breath, a MCH program of the department.

Objective achieved

Objective 2

By December 31, 2008, the Health Educator will submit 60 press releases/staff interviews on relevant health topics to local media.

The health educator wrote and submitted 28 press releases to the local media on pertinent public health issues. She also gave several radio and newspaper interviews on the Rock County Drug Discount Card over the course of the year. In addition, she assisted health department staff with press release formulation and dissemination, and worked on "pitching ideas" to the media for feature stories.

Objective partially achieved.

Objective 3

By December 31, 2008, the Health Educator will increase grants/linked donations by 100% over the previous year.

Mini grants assist the Health Department staff to offer incentives, materials and supplies that cannot be purchased with existing funds. The following mini grants were obtained:

First Breath Disparities Mini-Grant	\$1,830.00
American Dental Association Grant	\$2,500.00
Child Death Review Grant	\$5,000.00
Dean Health System Grant	\$2,000.00
Wisconsin Clean Sweep Grant (assisted)	\$10,000.00

Objective achieved.

BIOTERRORISM PREPAREDNESS

The goal of this program is to protect the citizens of Rock County from unnecessary morbidity and mortality due to a terrorist act or natural disaster. This is accomplished by establishing coordinated response plans, well-trained staff, and working cooperatively with other first responder groups and volunteers.

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008, the Health Department staff will participate in an exercise that will test the section's preparedness plan.

The staff at the Health Department participated in the emergency response to the flooding in Rock County in June. Environmental Health staff worked with citizens needing assistance with well water contamination and testing and assistance with safe return to evacuated homes. Nursing staff set up mobile clinics to provide tetanus vaccine to unprotected workers and citizens affected by the flooding. Clerical staff responded to hundreds of phone calls from citizens needing information or referral to appropriate resources.

Objective achieved

Objective 2

By December 31, 2008, at least 2 Health Department staff members will complete a training module specific to epidemiology.

Staff was unable to complete a training module on epidemiology.

Objective not achieved.

Objective 3

By December 31, 2008 the Health Department staff will begin to initiate an active surveillance system with health care providers in Rock County.

The Health Department worked with 2 school districts to begin a surveillance system related to student absences. One school district sends weekly reports to the Health Department regarding numbers of student absences. From these reports, a baseline of expected or usual absences was obtained. Another school district expressed an interest, but did not begin the process.

Objective partially achieved.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

SUMMARY FOR 2008

This year Rock County experienced the worst flood in recorded history during the months of June and July. Torrential rains during the first week of June caused the summer flooding, however this was the third flood of 2008:

- A February ice dam on the Rock River resulted in localized flooding in the Town of Rock
- Spring runoff from heavy snowfalls caused major flooding in April

Citizens were assisted with well water sampling, and water damage concerns with wells and septic system. Clean up instructions, mold removal, fish consumption and use of garden produce from flood impacted fields were some of the flood related information provided. Staff assisted local municipalities in developing flood response plans and assisting in property inspections. Over 700 private well samples from flood impacted properties were sent to the State Lab of Hygiene for coliform bacteria analysis. The health department secured the assistance from a technical team from the US Public Health Service who assisted citizens with well chlorination, well water sampling and providing individuals information on flood related issues.

Collection of unwanted pharmaceutical products has been an activity for the last three years. A new approach this year had the Health department teaming up with the cities of Beloit and Janesville as well as other county agencies combining resources for the collection and disposal of this waste. Coordinating a State Grant and local financial resources, eight collection events collected 973 pounds of pharmaceutical waste, more than twice collected in 2007 and three times that collected in 2006. These statistics demonstrate the support from the community to continue this service.

The Rock County Health Department issues permits to a variety of public facilities (restaurants, retail food establishments, motels, swimming pools, campgrounds etc.). Growth in the number of permits has steadily increased from 559 in 1998 to 1,032 in 2008. During this time, the I-90 corridor has witnessed an increase in commercial development in the communities of Beloit, Janesville and Edgerton. Growth has also occurred in other areas of the county. Routine inspection of public facilities by health department staff identifies and reduces and/or eliminates potential public health risks that can impact the citizens and visitors in Rock County.

This is the second year of a HUD grant for the removal of lead based paint from residential housing. A coordinated effort with the City of Beloit, the City of Janesville and Rock County Planning Department, provides an opportunity for property owners of pre-1950 housing to eliminate childhood lead paint poisoning risks from their homes. The role of the health department is to direct property owners to the HUD grant. This year 98 properties were assessed for lead paint risks compared to 64 properties in 2006 and 77 properties in 2007. The increase is attributed to the awareness of our services in the City of Beloit and more assessments associated with the birth certificate program. The birth certificate program identifies infants born in neighborhoods with aging housing and visits are scheduled to inform parents of childhood lead paint poisoning risks and locate potential lead sources in the home.

FOOD PROTECTION AND PUBLIC LODGING PROGRAM

Description of Service

The Food Protection and Public Lodging Program prevent foodborne disease outbreaks among citizens who frequent public food establishments. The program also protects the public health and safety of citizens who stay at public lodging facilities.

To ensure the safety of county residents, as well as visitors to the area, restaurants, retail food establishments, and public lodging facilities must comply with the Rock County Public Health Ordinance as well as Wisconsin Administrative Codes HFS196-Restaurants, ATCP 75-Retail Food Establishments, and HFS195 Hotels, Motels, and Tourist Rooming Houses. Also, all businesses that fall under the jurisdiction of the program are issued annual operating permits. Finally, health department Sanitarians provide code enforcement and education to business owners and operators through inspection and investigation of these public facilities.

Program staff prevents health problems within food and lodging establishments by conducting annual inspections of each licensed operation. Inspections monitor satisfactory levels of sanitation within restaurants. Staff ensures adequate protection of food in each operation. Special attention is paid to how food is stored, prepared, displayed, and served. Maintaining stringent health standards within lodging facilities is equally important. While inspecting public lodging facilities, health department employees check for cleanliness, structural conditions and fire hazards.

The Food and Public Lodging Program follow the Food Establishment Foodborne Illness Risk Management Plan consisting of quality assurance objectives: 1) Set an acceptable level of public health protection and foodborne illness risk management level for food establishments. 2) Provide food establishment and sanitation enforcement standards that involve written order issuance, citation issuance, and temporary closing of the facility. 3) Provide inspection prioritization of food establishment operators to improve compliance scores and maintain acceptable levels of sanitation to prevent foodborne illnesses in the community.

An additional facet of the Program is the production of an informative quarterly newsletter. Mailed to all facilities, the newsletter highlights current public health issues. In addition, each newsletter explains a different part of the code. As an incentive to maintain high standards within their businesses, facilities without high-risk violations on their last routine inspection are listed.

A Food Safety Advisory Committee was organized in 2008, including citizens and food establishment owners and operators. The objective of the committee is to promote food safety by sharing information and concerns between the food industry, citizens and public health.

GOAL

Protect the health and safety of the general public, which use public food and lodging facilities, in a cost effective manner.

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008 the program will conduct inspections at least once a year for Retail Food Establishments to ensure compliance with state and local regulations by owners/operators.

Two hundred seventy-two (272) retail food establishment operating permits were issued for the 2007-2008 permit year. During this permit year two hundred fifty-six (256) retail food establishments received routine inspections.

In addition to the annual inspections, establishments receive inspections for other reasons.

Thirty-one (31) temporary permits were issued and inspections were conducted at temporary retail events.

Thirty-six (36) pre-inspections were conducted for newly opened establishments or for establishments that changed ownership.

Thirty-four (34) follow-up inspections were conducted (which include checking critical violation corrections that were found during the routine inspections).

Thirteen (13) 30-day re-inspections were conducted to determine compliance in a retail food establishment after a new permit had been issued.

One (1) remodel inspection was conducted following a remodel at a retail food establishment.

Eleven (11) complaints were received and investigated in the field. One (1) complaint was received and investigated by the program from the office regarding various code violations for retail food establishments.

Objective partially achieved.

Objective 2

By December 31, 2008, conduct one inspection at least once a year for food and lodging facilities to ensure compliance with state and local regulations by owners/operators.

Five hundred seventy-four (574) annual restaurant, public lodging and bed & breakfast operating permits were issued for the 2007-2008 permit year. Five hundred forty-eight (548) restaurant, public lodging and bed & breakfast annual inspections were performed

In addition to the annual inspections, establishments receive inspections for other reasons.

Forty-eight (48) temporary permits were issued and inspections were conducted at temporary restaurant food establishments.

Fifty-one (51) pre-inspections were conducted for newly opened establishments or for establishments that changed ownership.

Seventy-six (76) follow-up inspections were conducted (includes checking critical violation corrections found during the routine inspections).

Twenty-six (26) 30-day reinspections were conducted to determine compliance in restaurant and public lodging facilities after a new permit had been issued.

Four (4) post fire inspections were conducted at restaurant and public lodging facilities after a reported fire.

Five (5) remodel inspection was conducted following a remodel at restaurant and public lodging facilities.

Forty-three (43) complaints were received and investigated in the field. Thirty-eight (38) complaints were received and investigated by the program from the office regarding various code violations for restaurant and public lodging facilities.

Objective not achieved.

Objective 3

By December 31, 2008, conduct at least one inspection of each senior citizen nutrition facility to ensure safe food temperatures and sanitary condition of each facility.

A routine inspection was completed at each of the eight (8) senior citizen nutrition facilities.

Objective achieved.

Objective 4

By December 31, 2008, conduct inspections of licensed vending machines to ensure safe food temperatures and sanitary conditions.

Routine inspections were completed at each of the two (2) vending commissary kitchens.

Eight (8) vending companies were inspected involving three hundred ninety-five (395) routine inspections of individual vending machines.

Twenty-six (26) milk vending machines were inspected under the Rock County Health Ordinance.

Objective achieved.

Objective 5

By December 31, 2008, investigate 100% of foodborne outbreaks to determine the cause and to prevent outbreaks in the future.

Twenty-two (22) foodborne illness complaints were received regarding food and lodging facilities. Each complaint was thoroughly investigated. Case histories were taken from each individual involved in the documented foodborne illness. There no documented foodborne outbreaks.

Objective achieved.

Objective 6

By December 31, 2008, continue the implementation of the restaurant foodborne illness risk management plan and state mandatory educational requirements.

One hundred eighty-nine (189) letters were written requiring owners/operators of licensed food establishments to attend sanitation educational courses and to provide proper certificates of proof to the health department.

Three (3) newsletters were sent to 2100 owner/operators of Restaurant and Retail Food Establishments and other agencies.

A Re-Inspection Fee Program was introduced in 2004. This program was developed to encourage increased awareness of critical violations within a facility and to recover some costs incurred by the department to conduct additional inspections at facilities. A \$225.00 charge is assessed for each additional routine inspection conducted. A \$75.00 charge is assessed for each time a critical violation follow-up inspection is conducted after a written order has been issued. Seven (7) facilities were assessed a \$225.00 fee. Three (3) facilities were assessed a \$75.00 fee.

*

Objective achieved.

Objective 7

By December 31, 2008 an annual inspection was completed in each school, group home or private institutional kitchens that are involved in the National Breakfast and Lunch Program.

Forty-one (41) operating permits were issued for Department of Public Instruction facilities in the 2007- 2008 permit year for institutions participating in the National Breakfast and Lunch Program. A second inspection is required of each facility to review food safety protection plans.

Forty-four (44) routine inspections conducted as required by Department of Public Instruction facilities participating in the National Breakfast and Lunch Program. Exit interviews were conducted with each school district to discuss the findings of the inspections.

Forty-one (41) second inspections were conducted as required at Department of Public Instruction facilities participating in the National Breakfast and Lunch Program.

In addition to the annual inspections, establishments receive inspections for other reasons.

One (1) pre-inspection was conducted at a new school participating in the National Breakfast and Lunch Program.

Three (3) remodel inspections were conducted at newly remodeled schools participating in the National Breakfast and Lunch Program.

Four (4) critical violation follow-up inspections were conducted at schools participating in the National Breakfast and Lunch Program.

Four (4) facility planning consultations were conducted in the field. Five (5) consultations were conducted in the office regarding schools participating in the National Breakfast and Lunch Program.

One (1) complaint was received and investigated from the office regarding schools participating in the National Breakfast and Lunch Program.

One (1) education meeting was held in the field. Three (3) meetings were held in the office regarding schools participating in the National Breakfast and Lunch Program.

Objective achieved.

Table 1
Rock County Health Department
Number of Food & Lodging Permits

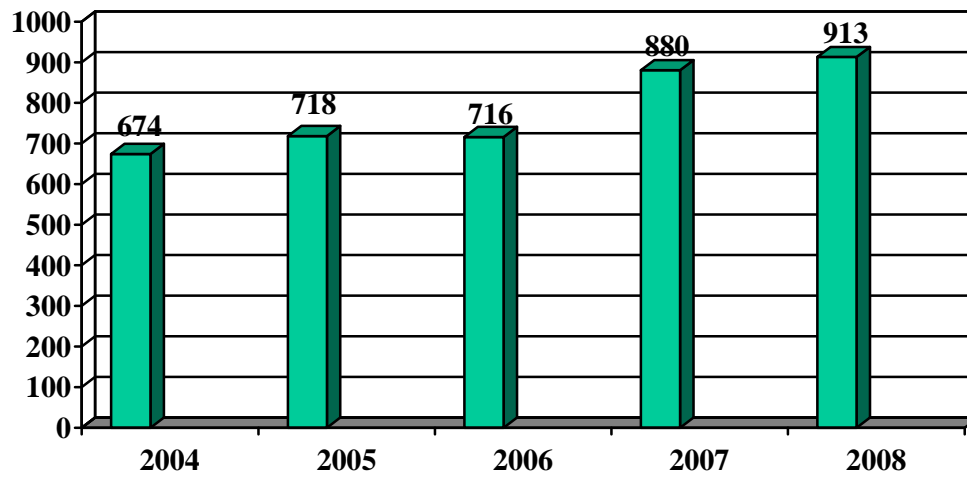
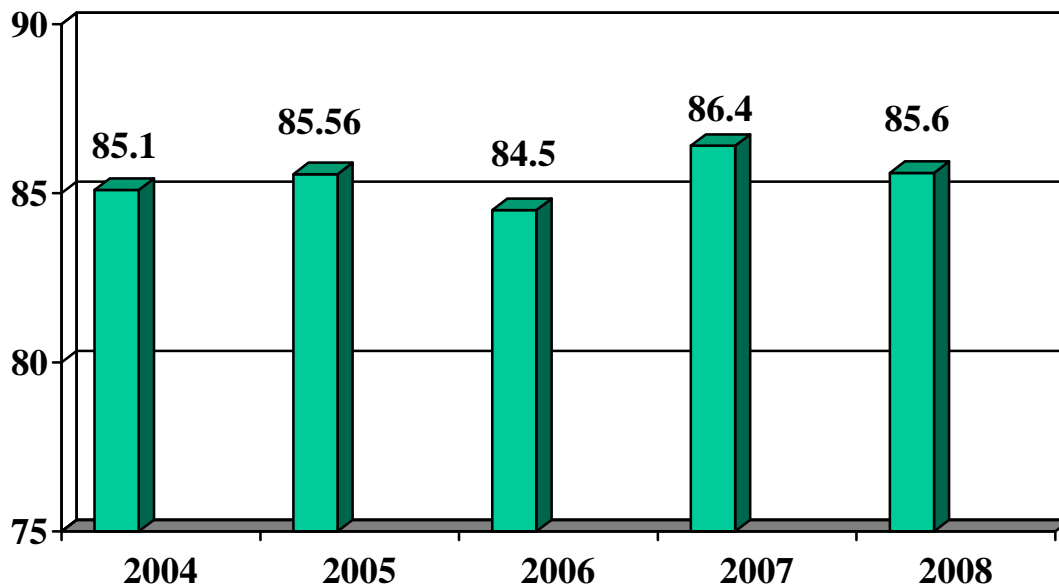


Table 2
Rock County Health Department
Restaurant and Retail Facility Score History
Routine Inspections



2008 ACTIVITY DATA
FOOD PROTECTION AND PUBLIC LODGING PROGRAM

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008*</u>
Food Establishments <u>and</u> Public Lodging Permits	716	880	913
Restaurant Inspections	440	394	515
Retail Food Inspections	202	218	256
School Lunch Room Inspections	42	42	60
Motel or Hotel Inspections.....	21	30	30
Temporary Food Establishment Inspections.....	68	75	79
Vending Machine Inspections.....	361	397	421
Bed & Breakfast, Tourist Rooming House Inspections.....	3	2	3
Food Establishments & Public Lodging Pre-Inspections.	83	92	88
Critical Item Follow-up Inspections.....	188	209	114
Written Compliance Orders Issued.....	28	9	17
Enforcement Conferences.....	6	0	0
Foodborne Outbreak Conferences.....	1	0	0
Complaints: General.....	97	-	53
Foodborne Illness Complaints.....	17	-	22
Field Consultations.....	97	36	74
Office Consultations.....	59	35	23
Plan Review—New or Remodeled Facilities	28	-	55
Telephone Contacts.....	2,943	2,298	1921

GENERAL SANITATION PROGRAM

The General Sanitation Program's purpose is to protect Rock County citizens from hazardous and unhealthy conditions and abate human health hazards. Those protection and regulation services are defined in the Rock County Public Health Ordinance Chapter 13.

The General Sanitation Program includes lead poisoning and radon risk reduction, human health hazard control, animal bite monitoring, and code enforcement for mobile home parks; recreational and educational camps; campgrounds; swimming pools; beaches; and tattoo/body piercing establishments.

In this program, the protection of public health is based on inspection criteria, response to complaints, and providing information to the public. The following activities are included: investigation of human health hazards; including unburied carcasses; manure accumulations; air pollution/noxious odors; solid waste; food or breeding places for vermin or insects; toxic and hazardous materials; sludge; wastewater; surface water pollution; holes or openings; non-functional public building fixtures; unhealthy or unsanitary conditions; and other situations determined to meet the definition of a human health hazard.

HUMAN HEALTH HAZARD ABATEMENT INVESTIGATION

GOAL

Protect citizens from exposure to human health hazards.

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008, investigate 100% of human health hazards reported to the Environmental Health Division, Rock County Health Department within 3 days, including the following: unburied carcasses, manure, air pollution, noxious odors, solid waste, food or breeding places for vermin (rats, insects, etc.), toxic and hazardous materials, sludge, wastewater, surface water pollution, ground water pollution, private water supply, holes or openings, non-functional public building fixtures, and unhealthy or unsanitary conditions.

Direct field investigations of sixty-five (65) citizen complaints occurred in 2008. During 2008, 100% of the requests regarding human health hazards (not including lead hazards) were investigated and abated or referred to other appropriate agencies.

In addition to field investigations, information is provided to citizens to remedy human health hazards that they are experiencing. During 2008, information was provided to six hundred forty-one (641) individuals for the purpose of: a) addressing public health concerns; b) resolving human health hazards; c) gaining compliance with the requirements of the Rock County Public Health Ordinance.

During 2008, the Groundwater Protection Program continued to sample the water supplies at the Rock County Health Care Center and Rock Haven quarterly for the organism causing Legionellosis.

Objective achieved.

Objective 2

By December 31, 2008, investigate and catalog all nuisance complaints brought to the attention of the Rock County Health Department.

Included in the catalog of nuisance complaints are citizen request for information and field visits. During 2008, the Rock County Health Department received the following complaints, twenty-seven (27) air pollution/indoor air quality, seventy-one (71) solid waste/garbage/manure, seventy (70) vermin (rodents, insects, etc.), forty (40) toxic materials, one hundred fifty-five (155) mold, and one hundred twenty-five (125) housing deficiencies (see chart on General Sanitation Activity).

Objective achieved.

PUBLIC RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

GOAL

Protect citizens from hazardous and/or unsafe conditions at licensed recreational facilities.

Objective

By December 31, 2008, to inspect and make recommendations to enforce the Wisconsin Administrative Codes and Rock County Public Health Ordinance for 9 campgrounds, 3 recreational camps, 66 swimming pools and 3 beaches.

During 2008, all licensed facilities received an annual inspection. Additional inspections are conducted when deficiencies are identified. The flood during the summer required additional visits to campgrounds and beaches. A total of two-hundred sixty-four (264) inspections, re-inspections, complaint investigations surveys and sampling visits were completed for recreational and educational camps; campgrounds; swimming pools; and beaches licensed by the Rock County Health Department for compliance to state and county health and safety regulations.

During 2008, one hundred eighty-five (185) telephone calls were made to obtain or disseminate information to the public concerning the above licensed facilities.

During 2008, one hundred four (104) beach water samples were taken and tested at the State Lab of Hygiene for compliance with the Rock County Public Health Ordinance. Included in these beach samples are floodwater samples for monitoring the surface water quality of the Rock River. No licensed beach samples tested unsafe and only two river samples tested unsafe.

Objective achieved.

MOBILE HOME PARKS

GOAL

Protect the health and safety of citizens housed in mobile home parks.

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008 inspect each mobile home park and make recommendations to enforce the Wisconsin Administrative Code for mobile home parks.

During 2008, all twenty-four (24) licensed mobile home parks were inspected for compliance with the Rock County Public Health Ordinance and the Wisconsin State Administrative Code Comm 26.

During 2008, the Rock County Health Department investigated fifteen (15) citizen complaints regarding licensed mobile home parks.

During 2008, a total of fifty-one (51) field inspections were made at mobile home parks.

Objective achieved.

ANIMAL BITE MONITORING

GOAL

Monitor animal bites to prevent/reduce risk of transmission of rabies from animal to man and animal to animal.

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008 monitor 100% of animal bites reported to assess risk of transmission of rabies.

During 2008, all four hundred forty-nine (449) animal bites reported were monitored.

The program completed monitoring and follow-up activities of all reported animal bites. Three hundred seventy-one (371) Animal Bite Orders were issued to the owners of biting cats and dogs. Ninety (90) specimen samples from biting animals were sent to the State Laboratory of Hygiene for rabies testing. In situations where thirty (30) biting animals were never captured or located after the bite, the victims were informed of the risk and advised to seek further medical attention (Objective 3 and 4).

Objective achieved

Objective 2

By December 31, 2008, monitor all Animal Bite Orders issued for full compliance in 95% of cases.

During 2008, twenty-four (24) people were reported to the law enforcement authority for non-compliance to an Animal Bite Order.

Three hundred forty-seven (347) owners complied with Animal Bite Orders (93.5%).

Objective not achieved

Objective 3

By December 31, 2008, advise 100% of citizens who cannot rule out potential rabies transmission from an animal exposure on the dangers of rabies and on the need for post-exposure treatment.

When an animal involved with a bite cannot be found or the State Laboratory of Hygiene analysis is inconclusive, the bite victim is advised to seek medical attention for rabies post exposure prophylaxis. During 2008, thirty-five (35) people were advised to consult with their physicians about the need to start the rabies post-exposure prophylaxis.

Objective achieved.

Objective 4

By December 31, 2008, provide 100% of citizens advised to consult with their physicians with information on post-exposure treatment and provide health department protocol to medical provider of person bitten.

During 2008, thirty-five (35) people were provided with post-exposure treatment information.

Eight (8) physicians were provided with health department protocol for post-exposure treatment. There is a need for further follow-up with victims of animal bites to ensure post-exposure treatment information is understood.

Objective not achieved.

Objective 5

By December 31, 2008, continue to inform citizens on avoidance of wild animals, handling of domestic animals and the need for rabies vaccinations for pets in order to prevent rabies.

During 2008, the Public Awareness Program was developed and implemented through newspaper press releases, brochures throughout the community and a radio talk show and participation in the Partners in Prevention Family Fun Festival and a presentation to 3rd grade students at Clinton Elementary School.

Information on the need for animal rabies vaccination and risk of rabies in our community is provided to the public. There is a need to educate owners of cats to get their pets vaccinated. Only 22% of the cats involved in bites were vaccinated. There is also a need to educate parents with children newborn to 10 years of age regarding the risks of serious dog and cat bites.

Objective achieved.

RABIES CONTROL SUMMARY OF ANIMAL BITE ORDERS FOR 2008

CITY	VACCINATED	UNVACCINATED	UNKNOWN	TOTAL ANIMAL BITES ORDERS	PERCENTAGE VACCINATED
Beloit Township	2	0	0	2	100
City of Beloit	62	33	14	109	57
Brodhead*	2	1	0	3	67
Clinton	1	1	1	3	33
Edgerton	7	8	0	15	47
Evansville	10	7	0	17	59
Footville/Orfordville/ Hanover	5	5	0	10	50
Janesville	97	64	23	184	53
Milton	14	0	3	17	82
Whitewater*	1	0	0	1	100
Owner resides outside Rock County**	9	1	0	10	90
TOTALS	210	120	41	371	57

* Brodhead and Whitewater addresses are located in the boundary areas of Rock County.

** "Owner resides outside Rock County", occurs when a nonresident owner travels through Rock County with pet and bite results.

SUMMARY OF ANIMAL BITE MONITORING 2004-2008

	2004	2005	2006*	2007	2008
ANIMAL BITE ORDERS ISSUED	322	320	393	420	371
CAT BITES	(88) 27%	(7) 27%	(107) 27%	(103) 25%	(97) 26%
DOG BITES	(234) 73%	(232) 73%	(285) 73%	(315) 75%	(274) 74%
FERRET BITES	-	(1) <1%	0	2	0
% VACCINATED	66	65	55	50	57
CATS VACCINATED	(38) 43%	(32) 36%	(30) 28%	(29) 28%	(22) 23%
DOGS VACCINATED	(173) 74%	(177) 76%	(187) 66%	(181) 57%	(188) 69%
FERRETS VACCINATED	-	(0) 0%	(0) 0%	(0) 0%	(0) 0%

*Beginning in January 2006, City of Beloit Animal Bite Orders were monitored for compliance.

ANIMALS TESTED FOR RABIES IN ROCK COUNTY FOR 2008

BREED	ANIMALS TESTED NEGATIVE FOR RABIES	ANIMALS TESTED POSITIVE FOR RABIES	UNEQUIVOCAL INSUFFICIENT MATERIAL TO TEST	TOTAL
Feline	39	0	1	40
Canine	26	0	2	28
Squirrel	1	0	0	1
Bat	14	0	3	17
Opposum	2	0	0	2
Shrew	1	0	0	1
Woodchuck	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	84	0	6	90

SEWER AND WATER EVALUATION

GOAL

Complete private sewer and water evaluation for FHA, FA, and other loan inspections.

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008, provide 100% of requested inspections to assist property owners in obtaining loans to buy homes with private water and sewer systems.

During 2008, there were no requests for inspections received by our department.

Objective achieved.

Objective 2

By December 31, 2008, refer 100% of private sewage systems found to be "failing" to the Private Sewage Program for correction.

During 2008, there were no requests for inspections received by our department.

Objective achieved.

RADON MONITORING AND RISK COMMUNICATION

GOAL

To inform the public of the potential health risk of radon.

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008, to continue to provide access to radon monitoring kits to homeowners in Rock County less the city of Beloit.

In 2008, the Rock County Health Department provided seventy-two (72) charcoal canisters at a reduced cost to homeowners. Thirty-one (31) of the fifty-one (51) returned for analysis had levels of radon gas for the short-term test exceeding 4 pCi/L safety standard or sixty-one (61%).

The homeowners were advised to further evaluate the risk using the long-term alpha track detectors or additional short-term test kits and staff provided technical information on controlling the risk of radon.

Objective achieved.

Objective 2

By December 31, 2008, to provide information to all citizens requesting radon and radon mitigation information.

During 2008, one hundred forty-nine (149) citizens contacted the Health Department concerning radon. Low cost radon test kits, test result interpretations, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved radon reduction methods and lists of EPA Trained Radon Mitigators were provided to citizens as part of the radon program.

The Rock County Health Department continued to operate a revolving fund to purchase and sell at cost, radon detector kits (both charcoal canisters and alpha track detectors) to the citizens of Rock County.

Objective achieved.

LEAD MONITORING AND ABATEMENT

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008, provide a lead safe environment for 100% of children with a blood lead level ≥ 20 ug/dL through education and lead abatement orders.

During 2008, nine (9) children were identified with blood lead levels ≥ 20 ug/dL in Rock County. Fifteen (15) properties where the children resided or spent significant time were investigated, ordered to undergo lead hazard reduction work and were made lead safe. Five (5) of these properties are still undergoing long-term hazard reduction activities, but were made lead safe through initial interim controls.

Objective achieved.

Objective 2

By December 31, 2008, perform an environmental lead assessment and provide lead hazard reduction recommendations on 90% of residences occupied by children with a blood lead level of 10-19 ug/dL.

During 2008, seventeen (17) children were identified with blood lead levels of 10-19 ug/dL. These children either resided at or spent significant time at twenty-one (21) properties. Nineteen (19) or 90% of these properties were assessed for lead hazards and recommendations were sent to the families and property owners. Two (2) families refused the assessment, but were provided educational materials.

Objective achieved.

Objective 3

By December 31, 2008, perform an environmental lead assessment and provide lead hazard reduction recommendations on 80% of the residences of concerned parents with children having a blood lead level of 1-9 ug/dL.

During 2008, two (2) families having children with blood lead levels of 1-9 ug/dL requested an environmental lead assessment. 100% of the residences occupied by these children were assessed for lead hazards and recommendations were sent to the families and property owners.

Objective achieved.

Objective 4

By December 31, 2008, perform an environmental lead assessment and provide lead hazard reduction recommendations on 100% of concerned parents with children at high-risk to lead poisoning.

During 2008, sixty-two (62) concerned parents with children at high-risk for lead poisoning requested a lead assessment of their homes. All sixty-two (62) or 100% were assessed for lead hazards and recommendations were sent to the property owners.

Objective achieved.

Objective 5

By December 31, 2008, at least 70% of owners of units that house a child with a blood lead level of 10-19 ug/dL will show significant compliance with lead hazard reduction recommendations.

During 2008, 81% (17 of 21) of the owners of units associated with a child with a blood lead level of 10-19 ug/dL resided showed significant compliance with the lead hazard reduction recommendations they were sent. Two (2) of the properties were not assessed due to the families' refusal. Two (2) property owners did not complete any of the lead hazard reduction recommendations.

Objective achieved.

Objective 6

By December 31, 2008, at least 60% of owners with units that house a child with a blood lead level of 0-9 ug/dL will show significant compliance with lead hazard reduction recommendations.

During 2008, 81% (52 of 64) of the owners of units associated with a child with a blood lead level of 0-9 ug/dL resided showed significant compliance with the lead hazard reduction recommendations they were sent. Three (3) of the property owners did not comply with the recommendations and nine (9) of the properties were unable to be reassessed due to the inability to contact the tenants or owners.

Objective achieved.

2004-2008 Environmental Lead Assessment Summary of Properties by Associated Blood Lead Level (PbB)

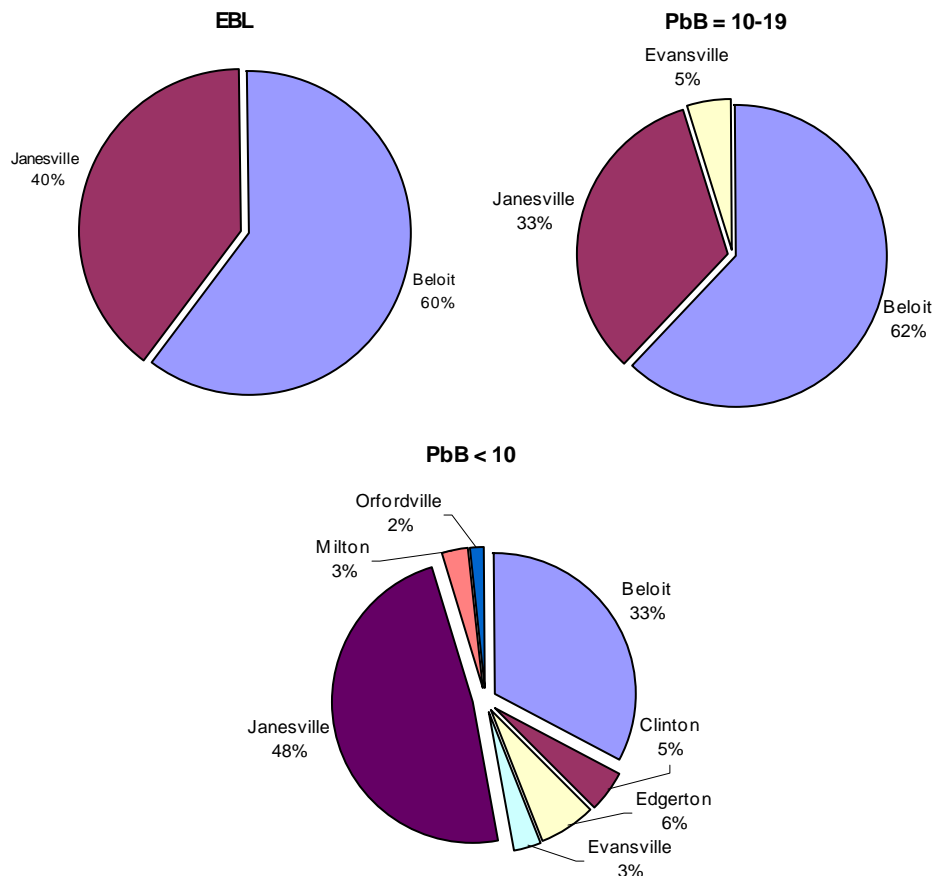
Associated PbB¹	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
EBL²	2	8	8	9	15
10-19³	13	18	24	21	19
<10 or unknown	30	32	32	47	64
Total	45	58	64	77	98

¹ Highest recorded blood lead level of children residing at the property

² Elevated Blood Lead Level – defined as PbB \geq 20 or two PbB \geq taken at least 90 days apart
(environmental intervention mandated)

³ Lead Poisoning – defined as PbB \geq 10

2008 Environmental Lead Assessments by Area



TATTOO AND BODY PIERCING ESTABLISHMENTS

GOAL

Protect health and safety of citizens receiving tattoos and body piercings.

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008 inspect each licensed tattoo and body-piercing establishment for compliance with the Rock County Public Health Ordinance and Wisconsin State Administrative Code HFS 173.

During 2008 seventeen (17) inspections of licensed tattoo and body piercing establishments were conducted for compliance with the Rock County Public Health Ordinance and the Wisconsin State Administrative Code HFS 173. Of these seventeen (17), six (6) were pre-inspections for facilities that were newly opened or changing ownership. Two (2) tattoo facilities closed during 2008. All licensed tattoo facilities were inspected in the fiscal year (July 1 through June 30) as required in the State of Wisconsin local agent contract.

Objective achieved.

Objective 2

By December 31, 2008, investigate 100% of citizen complaints and requests within 3 days concerning tattoos and body piercings.

During 2008, three (3) citizen complaints were received and facility inspections conducted.

Objective achieved.

GENERAL SANITATION ACTIVITY DATA 2004-2008

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Human Health Hazard Requests and Responses					
Unburied carcasses	5	5	7	6	0
Air Pollution/Indoor Air Quality.....	205	159	145	127	24
Solid Waste/Garbage/Manure	144	49	74	118	71
Vermin Harborage (rats, insects, etc.)	59	38	41	114	70
Toxic/Hazardous Materials.....	15	1	17	49	40
Surface Water Pollution	11	5	3	0	0
Holes and Openings	3	0	1	0	0
Housing Deficiencies Including Mold.....	79	88	176	254	280
Lead - Total Field Visits.....	141	145	275	266	277
Lead Onsite Assessments.....	43	60	65	76	98
Radon Project Contacts	355	330	219	137	149
Paid Sewer & Water Inspections.....	6	4	4	0	0
Animal Bites Monitored for Rabies Control.....	312	416	410	440	449
Citations Issued	0	1	0	5	1
General Sanitation Program Totals					
Program Field Service Calls	932	1,016	1,134	607	532
Complaint Investigations	75	74	6	107	95
Clients Seen In Office	95	109	94	112	37
Telephone Calls	2,462	2,346	3,386	2,528	2,126

GROUND WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

The purpose of the ground water program is to monitor the existing ground water conditions at the local level and protect ground water and local drinking water.

The program will help eliminate or control known and potential risks to Rock County drinking water supply and assist residents in understanding potential health risks. A list of these risks was developed for Rock County in the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, Special Report 8, September 1985, Ground Water Protection Principles and Alternatives for Rock County, Wisconsin. Every person in Rock County, and many businesses, especially the food processing industry, depends on a daily source of clean drinking water. Citizens and property owners are assisted in solving problems with drinking water including but not limited to bacteria, nitrates, arsenic, pesticides, chemical contamination, odors, tastes, sampling and interpretation of sampling results.

GOAL

To protect ground water for drinking water and other reasonable uses in an environmentally sound manner.

Objective 1

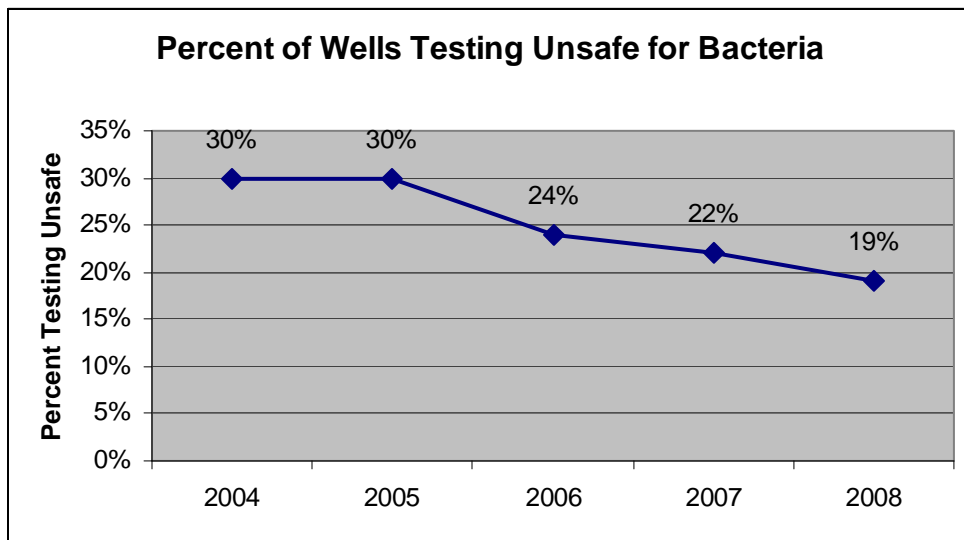
By December 31, 2008, review a minimum of two hundred (200) private well sample results for nitrate, other chemical contamination or bacteria levels.

Seven hundred and thirteen (713) nitrate, one thousand five hundred and forty seven (1547) bacteria, and one hundred ninety-one (191) pesticide and chemical results were reviewed. Individuals having wells with results over the health standard received consultation and suggestions for corrections concerning their water supply. Drinking water analysis results were obtained through the Rock County Health Department laboratory, State Laboratory of Hygiene and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Safe Drinking Water contract.

A review of Rock County Health Department laboratory results indicated that twenty-seven per cent (27%) of wells tested for nitrates in 2008 exceeded the ten (10) parts per million enforcement standard.

Nineteen percent (19%) of samples brought to the Rock County Health Department laboratory tested positive for coliform bacteria in 2008. There were three (3) positive E.Coli samples from

tests conducted at the RCHD lab in 2008. The percentage of wells testing unsafe for bacteria decreased in 2008, which has been the trend over the past five years.



A Geographic Information System (GIS) database was developed and implemented to inventory and track groundwater water sampling information.

Objective achieved.

Objective 2

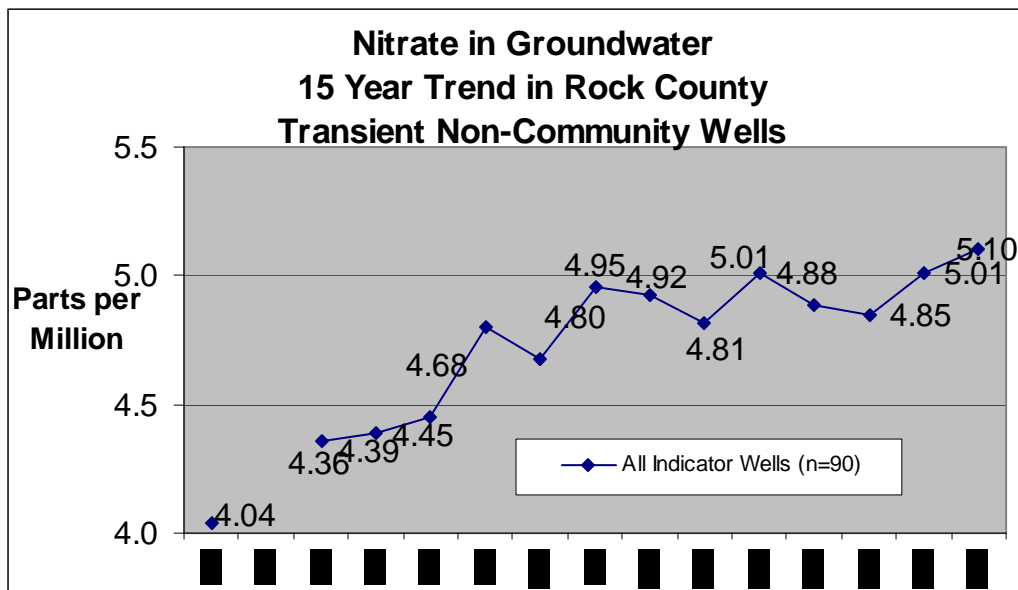
Manage the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Safe Drinking Water contract by sampling and following up on one hundred and forty-eight (148) Transient Non-community wells by December 31, 2008.

This contract involved sampling one hundred and forty-eight (148) transient non-community wells in Rock County for bacteria, nitrate and nitrites. Transient non-community wells provide drinking water availability for the public at various types of facilities (campgrounds, parks, restaurants, taverns, etc.). Bacteria "Unsafe" water samples occurred at fifteen (15) wells due mainly to seasonal use of wells, inadequate well caps at the top of the well casing or recent well repair work. Fecal Coliform was not found to be "present" in any of these wells. Because multiple sampling is required after unsafe bacteria tests, the unsafe wells resulted in three hundred and seventy-two (372) additional bacteria samples taken by program staff. Time and effort required of staff has been reduced as problem wells are identified and upgraded.

The Health Department is responsible for seeing that one hundred and forty-eight (148) transient non-community water supplies in Rock County were sampled in compliance with the requirements of the Safe Drinking Act. Five hundred and twenty-one (521) bacteria, one hundred and fifty-nine (159) nitrate and two (2) nitrite results were obtained from these wells. Twenty-nine (29) well system surveys were also conducted.

Nitrates were above the drinking water standard of ten (10) parts per million at twenty-five (27) facilities. All facilities with nitrates above the standard must post the water supply as a warning to all drinking water users. When a water supply exceeds twenty (20) parts per million the facility must provide an alternative water supply by drilling a new well.

The average concentration of nitrates from ninety (90) of the non-transient community wells that are annually sampled provides an indication of nitrate trends in the groundwater of Rock County. This trend has indicated a 26% increase in nitrates over the past 15 years, however the rate of increase has become more stable over the most recent seven (7) years of observations.



Objective achieved.

Objective 3

Investigate 100% of citizen's complaints and requests concerning ground water quality based on priority for health protection by December 31, 2008.

Four hundred and eight (408) field visits, seven hundred and twenty-five (725) telephone calls, and eighty-one (81) office visits were handled for citizens regarding private well and/or ground water concerns. All citizens were given consultation from our office, by on-site visits, phone, email, or mail and, when needed, referrals are made for services to other agencies.

Objective achieved.

Objective 4

By December 31, 2008, provide for ten (10) Ground Water Educational Programs to be conducted in Rock County by the Environmental Health Division.

- Eight (8) Prescription Drug Collection Events were conducted during 2008.
- Flood Concern Presentation to Southern Wisconsin Builders Association
- A town-based GIS Project was completed evaluating environmental health issues.
- A Rock County Environmental Report Card was completed.
- Participated in an Environmental Education Program with UW-Rock County.
- Provided a groundwater educational program at the Welty Environmental Center.

Objective achieved.

Objective 5

By December 31, 2008, review statewide groundwater database for chemical detection above health enforcement limits in Rock County and reported in the Annual Report.

This objective was combined with objective 1. A data management software was developed to locate the area of well water sample results on a map for applications with GIS (geographic Information System).

Objective achieved.

Objective 6

By December 31, 2008, in cooperation with Rock County Land Conservation, develop a Well Abandonment Program.

The State Department of Natural Resources delegates authority for counties to conduct a well abandonment program. One criterion for delegation of that authority is approval of a local ordinance for well abandonment. The Board of Health and the Rock County Board of Supervisors approved changes to the Rock County Public Health Ordinance. The Health Department and Land conservation will continue the implementation of the well abandonment program in 2009.

Objective partially achieved.

Objective 7

By December 31, 2008, explore options for a Prescription Drug Community Collection Program and develop a plan for implementation.

The Rx Round-Up Planning committee was organized to plan pharmaceutical collection events. This committee consists of representatives from the Rock County Health Department, Rock County Coroner's Office, City of Beloit and City of Janesville. A state grant was awarded to the county for pharmaceutical collection events. A total of 973 pounds of unwanted pharmaceuticals were collected at eight (8) events.

Offsite Planning Activities

The Health Department has the administrative responsibility to complete the offsite plans for farms and fixed facilities under SARA Title III legislation. The health department works with Rock County Emergency Management to complete the plans for the county.

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008, complete offsite plans for farms using hazardous and extremely hazardous chemicals as determined by EPCRA.

Eleven (11) farm plans were completed for the Local Emergency Planning Committee. Each new and updated plan contains local groundwater information to identify specific groundwater risks for each farm.

Objective achieved.

Objective 2

By December 31, 2008, complete new and updated plans for fixed facilities, which use hazardous and extremely hazardous chemicals as determined by EPCRA.

Sixteen (16) offsite facility plans were completed for the Local Emergency Planning Committee. Each new and updated plan contains local groundwater information to identify specific groundwater risks for each facility.

Objective achieved.

2004 - 2008 ACTIVITY DATA

GROUND WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Requests on groundwater concerns	1,432	1,518	1,417	1414	1714
Telephone Consultations	832	809	638	786	725
Complaints	7	18	19	37	8
Water samples results reviewed	1,409	2,037	1,566	1,919	2,451
Bacteria	1,002	1,453	821	993	1547
Nitrate	407	522	668	827	713
Chemical and other	83	62	77	99	191
Public education presentations	10	5	10	7	12
Program field service calls	451	466	516	443	408
Clients seen in office	158	154	143	189	81
Local emergency management plans	10	24	21	26	27

PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

The Private Sewage Program regulates and controls the installation of private onsite wastewater treatment systems (POWTS) and the soil testing necessary to install a POWTS for the protection of public health and the environment. Proper sewage disposal promotes a healthy society that is reflected in the community as decreased incidence of disease such as salmonella, shigella, hepatitis, dysentery, typhoid, giardiasis, hookworm and other pathogenic and parasitic infections frequently found in areas without proper sewage disposal.

All new installations and replacement POWTS require a permit and must be inspected by the Health Department during construction. Before a permit is issued a soil evaluation must be conducted on the property to ensure that proper soils exist for the disposal and purification of the wastewater. Also, no building can be constructed in an area without public sewer unless permits have been issued to install a POWTS. The program also monitors the maintenance, operation, and servicing of all new and existing POWTS in the County.

The program is regulated under the authority of Chapter 145, Wisconsin State Statutes, Chapter Comm 83, Wisconsin Administrative Code and the Rock County Public Health Ordinance.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2008

2008 was a year that further demonstrated the slow down in the building industry. In 2008 Sanitary Permits for new construction was at the lowest level since 1982, which was the first year this statistic started being tracked. In addition, the percentage of sanitary permits issued for new construction was also at an all time low. Total permit issuance including new and replacement POWTS was at a level just slightly higher than the all-time low numbers reached in 1982 and 1983. This slow down was reflected in the program workload and staff time requirements. Since not as much staff time was needed in the program additional much needed time was allowed to be allocated to other programs that were experiencing a significant increase in workload demands in 2008. The lesser fieldwork demand for 2008 also allowed program staff to spend more time and energy in the non-installation requirements of POWTS dealing with maintenance and performance monitoring. This is a positive step forward in the program since the complexity of systems has increased to the point that normal maintenance requirements and tracking methods are inadequate to ensure proper long-term operation of these complex systems.

GOAL

Assure that all private onsite wastewater treatment systems (POWTS) are installed, repaired and maintained to protect the public health and the environment.

Objective 1

By December 31, 2008, complete 100% of soil testing reports.

During 2008, thirteen (13) different Certified Soil Testers (CST'S) were monitored and assisted in completing soil test reports and in field evaluation of soils.

In 2008, a total of one hundred fifty-three (153) soil test reports were reviewed, approved and filed. Many of these required correction before filing.

In 2008, seventy-six (76) soil onsite were made to provide proper documentation of soil and to assure soil testing reports are completed in an accurate manner.

Objective achieved.

Objective 2

By December 31, 2008, continue to ensure that 100% of private onsite wastewater treatment systems (POWTS) are installed in compliance with applicable State and County codes.

During 2008, thirty-three (33) different plumbers were monitored and assisted in completing accurate plans and installing code conforming POWTS.

In 2008, one hundred forty-four (144) State sanitary permits were issued to install or repair POWTS, sixty-one (61) sanitary permits for new construction and eighty-three (83) sanitary permits for replacement or repair work. In addition, six (6) County Sanitary Permits were issued to connect new or additional buildings to an existing POWTS or to install non-plumbing systems.

In 2008, one hundred fifty-one (151) POWTS were installed; seventy-one (71) were new POWTS and eighty (80) were replacement POWTS or POWTS connections.

In 2008, two hundred thirty-three (233) construction inspections of POWTS were conducted; one hundred fifty-one (151) initial inspections and eighty-two (82) re-inspections were completed.

In 2008, numerous/orders/reminders were issued to correct non-compliant aspects of POWTS being constructed or to correct or complete permit applications. Fifty-three (53) of these directives required follow up orders/reminders to obtain compliance. Of these fifty-three (53), thirty-nine (39) have been complied with and the rest are in process. Most installation corrections were made at the time of inspection and no written directive was necessary.

Objective achieved.

Objective 3

By December 31, 2008, continue to implement the Wisconsin Fund Program and process all applications to assist citizens in obtaining State grants for repair and/or replacement of private onsite wastewater treatment systems (POWTS).

In January 2008, the Wisconsin Fund grant applications for ten (10) property owners were submitted to the State. Total awards received were thirty-nine thousand six hundred fifteen dollars (\$39,615). Individual awards averaged three thousand nine hundred and sixty-one dollars (\$3,961) with a range of one thousand seven hundred sixteen (\$1,716) to six thousand (\$6,000). No applicants were denied grants due to inadequate funding to cover all categories of POWTS failure.

During 2008, numerous property owners were sent information on the Wisconsin Fund Program and many of these are waiting application or action on submitted applications. Program staff assist property owners with the completion of the grant application requirements. Seven (7) applications were received in 2008 for a total of thirty-five thousand five hundred ninety-three dollars (\$35,593) were submitted in January of 2009 and are awaiting action.

Objective achieved.

Objective 4

By December 31, 2008, continue to implement the septic tank maintenance program for septic tanks required to be pumped as part of the Wisconsin State Fund Program and as required in the Wisconsin Administrative Code Commerce 83.

Each year, as new or replaced POWTS are installed, property owners are informed of the septic maintenance program requirements. In 2008, approximately one hundred-forty-four (144) notices of required maintenance were given or mailed to property owners at the time of sanitary permit issuance and one hundred fifty-one (151) letters informing property owners of the mandatory maintenance program were mailed after POWTS installation.

During 2008, four thousand eight hundred fifty-six (4,856) first notices requiring homeowners to maintain their POWTS were sent. During 2008, one thousand one hundred one (1,101) computer generated final notice/orders were issued, and three hundred eighty-nine (389) follow-up written orders were issued, notarized, and sent. Two hundred ninety-two (292) non-compliance letters were sent to property owners who still hadn't complied after the orders were issued and one hundred twelve (112) no-pay letters were sent to property owners sending in maintenance documentation without the required system maintenance administration fee. Non-compliance with these orders and notices resulted in the issuance of twenty-one (21) citations.

During 2008, sixty-six (66) owners of holding tanks and eleven (11) pumpers of holding tanks were monitored in regard to proper reporting of pumping.

Objective achieved.

Objective 5

By December 31, 2008 review 100% of the building permits as required by statute 145.195 and Wisconsin Administrative Code Comm 83 to evaluate private onsite wastewater treatment systems (POWTS) as required by Wisconsin State Administrative Code.

During 2008, Sanitary permits for sixty-one (61) new structures were issued as the first step in the building permit review process. With few exceptions, building permits for new structures were not issued by local building inspectors before the Sanitary Permit was approved.

During 2008, numerous calls regarding proposed building plans and how they related to existing POWTS were received; all inquiries were informed of code requirements. One (1) formal written evaluation and recommendation was made to a local municipality. Many additions and remodeling projects either don't require a building permit or building permits were issued by the local municipalities without Health Department review; limiting our input on these projects.

Objective achieved.

Objective 6

By December 31, 2008, review 100% of the soil tests for land divisions not served by public sewer and make recommendations for approval or denial to the Rock County Planning and Development Committee.

During 2008, as a reviewing agency for the Planning and Development Committee, sixty-four (64) land divisions consisting of one hundred thirteen (113) lots which includes five (5) lots in areas served by a public sewage system and twenty-six (26) lots where a waiver of land division review was requested. No outlots or parcels >15 acres were reviewed.

During 2008, seventeen (17) soil onsites were conducted and thirty-one (31) soil test reports were filed involving new land divisions.

Objective achieved.

Objective 7

By December 31, 2008, develop local plans to implement new requirements of Wisconsin administrative Code Commerce 83 as they are developed by the State.

During 2008, considerable time was spent evaluating the procedures and requirements of new Comm 83. Further steps were taken to continue to develop and refine our policies and procedures to conform to State requirements.

During 2008, Rock County continued to encourage the State to develop statewide policy determinations on areas of the code that are not clear in order to ensure that Rock County is consistent with the rest of the State in the implementation of the code.

Objective achieved.

2004-2008 ACTIVITY DATA

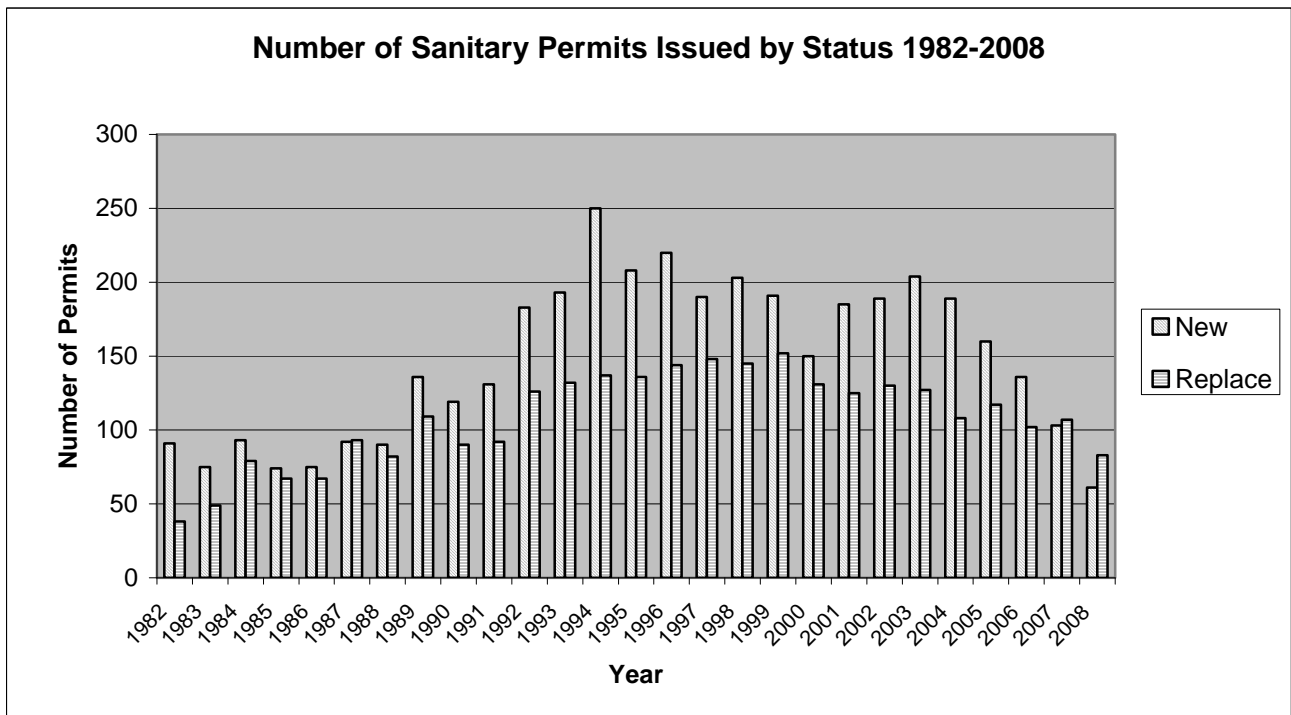
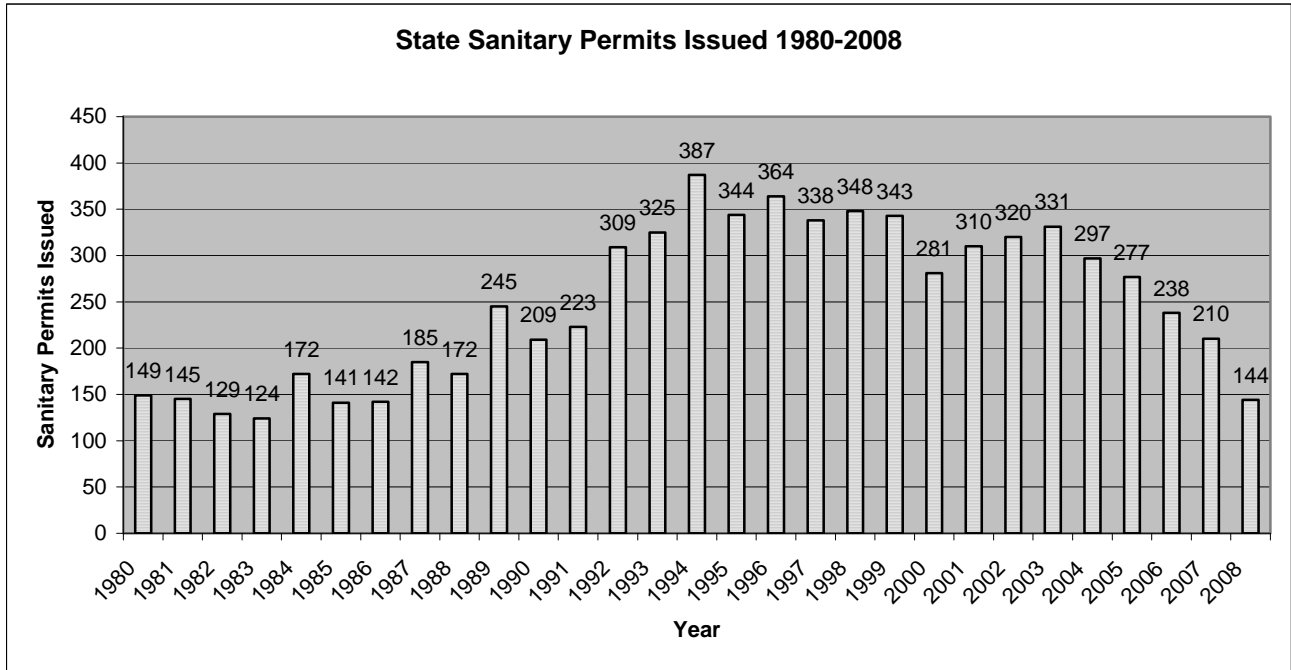
PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROGRAM

OFFICE WORK

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Office Visits	216	231	163	160	168
Telephone Calls.....	1,874	2,002	1,666	1,610	1,450
State Sanitary Permits Issued.....	297	277	238	210	144
New	189	160	136	103	61
Replace, Repair	108	117	102	107	83
County Sanitary Permits	5	4	7	7	6
Soil Tests Filed.....	312	314	252	258	153
Land Divisions Reviewed.....	103	98	117	80	64
Lot Reviews Under Land Division Ordinance	390	328	251	185	113
Orders/Reminder Notices.....	1,118	1,662	1,567	1,542	1,590

FIELD WORK

Initial System Inspection.....	312	263	255	228	151
Conventional Gravity	181	149	160	128	90
Mound	107	93	78	74	46
Inground Pressure.....	4	2	1	3	3
At Grade	9	8	4	5	3
Holding Tanks	5	4	4	1	1
Repairs.....	0	0	0	0	0
Treatment Tank Only (including aerobic tanks).....	3	4	2	10	2
Other	3	3	6	7	6
System Re-inspections	112	98	113	74	82
Soil Test Onsite Verification	180	206	176	171	76
Consultations and Surveys.....	352	252	221	287	324
Failing System Investigation/Complaints.....	64	39	28	106	104



LABORATORY SERVICES

GOAL

To provide services, which identify basic screening test for assessment of public health risks to the citizens of Rock County.

Objective 1

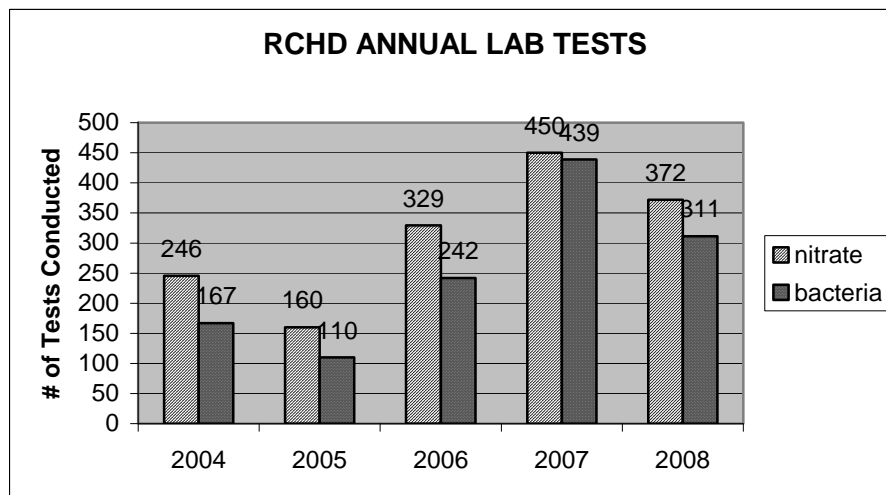
By December 31, 2008, provide laboratory testing which is reflective of public health issues in Rock County. The Rock County Health Department laboratory provides basic water testing for the community; Bacteria and Nitrate.

Rock County residents and visitors obtain drinking water from approximately 13,000 private wells servicing homes, eating establishments, campgrounds, churches and other facilities. The laboratory maintains the State certification for coliform bacteria and nitrate analysis. Coliform bacteria and nitrate analysis is provided to citizens and businesses at a cost effective and convenient manner.

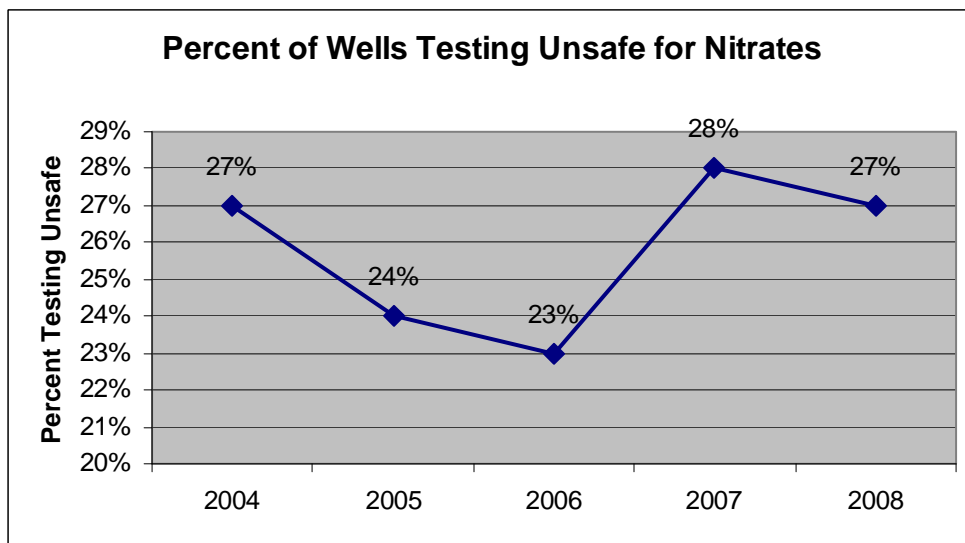
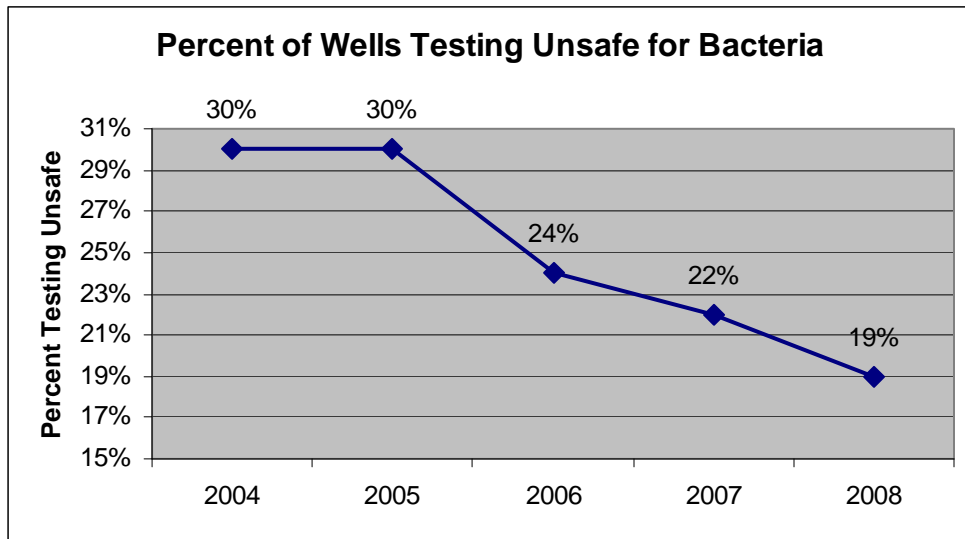
Objective Achieved.

Objective 2

By December 31, 2008, maintain statistical data and analysis of laboratory services on an annual basis.



- All unsafe water samples received consultation from our Ground Water Program staff.
- 714 additional “flood” samples were diverted to the State Lab in a free testing program, thus reducing the number of samples analyzed at the RCHD lab in 2008.
- The number of samples tested in 2008 was 22% higher than the 5-yr average.



Objective achieved.