

2014 Annual Report



Serving the Cities Of:

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

Rock County Health Department

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Janesville, WI 53547-1088
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Beloit, WI 53511
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Preventing Illness and Enhancing Health Through Quality Service

It is with great pleasure I present the annual report of Rock County Health Department services. The annual report provides Rock County citizens with a look at what has been accomplished by their health department staff.

The health department staff can be found providing services in many locations: homes, clinics, schools, restaurants, public lodging facilities, health fairs, wells, new building sites, mobile home parks, and campgrounds and beaches, all with the intent of improving or protecting the health of Rock County citizens. A dedicated support staff stays in the office to ensure walk in customers are served, phones are answered and requests from the staff are completed efficiently. It is very much a team effort to serve Rock County citizens.

As always, 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 done. Without their support, Rock County citizens would not have access to the quality public health services currently available.

As with any change, there was an uncertainty in 2014 about how working with a new county administrator (Josh Smith) would go. I have found it a great pleasure to work with him. He has been open to listening and learning more about the services provided by the health department. His interest and support of Public Health services made my decision to retire a much more difficult decision.

As I step away from a great career, I believe the health department is in good hands; the managers with whom I have worked are a capable and dedicated group. Still I will miss the interactions with them and the staff. And I will miss working with the Board of Health with whom I have had monthly contact for over 9 years. There is not a better group of people to guide the department and support the staff in the many ways they have. Citizens and staff alike, are fortunate.

I am appreciative of all the people who have served on the Board of Supervisors and Board of Health during my years as a Rock County employee, and the many staff who have come through my life. The Health Department has been a good place to work and I am grateful for the opportunity it afforded me to live and work in Rock County, WI.

In gratitude,

Karen Cain

Karen Cain, RN, MS
Director/Health Officer
Rock County Health Department

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Rock County Board of Health Members

Sandra Kraft , Chair, County Supervisor
Richard Bostwick, County Supervisor
Dr. Keith Konkol, MD
Greg Addie, County Supervisor
Dr. Connie Winter, DDS

Louis Peer, Vice Chair, County Supervisor
Eric Gresens, RPH.
Dr. Dean Peterson, DVM
Judith Wade, WHNP

Health Department Personnel:

HEALTH OFFICER

Karen Cain, RN, MS – Health Officer

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STAFF

Terri Graham – Public Health Support Specialist
Elizabeth LaBelle, BS — Administrative Secretary
Annette Little, BS – Public Health Support Specialist
Carol McComb – Public Health Support Specialist
Erica Stilen – Public Health Support Specialist
Geri Waugh – Account Clerk II

HEALTH EDUCATOR

Alison Chouinard, BS
Jenna Lovaas, MPH *(resigned 6/14)*
Katie Schroeder, CHES *(resigned 4/14)*

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Janet Zoellner, RN, MS – Public Health Nursing Director
Deborah Erickson, RN, BSN – Public Health Nursing Supervisor
Sancee Siebold, RN, MSN – Public Health Nursing Supervisor
Joanna Ames, RN, BSN – Public Health Nurse
Sandy Biviano, RN, BSN—Public Health Nurse
Valerie Christiansen, RN, BSN - Public Health Nurse
Ginny Fricke, RN, BSN-Public Health Nurse
Carissa Hodges, RN, BSN, BA - Public Health Nurse
Erica Jenson, RN, BSN – Public Health Nurse
Ann Klesic, RN, BSN – Public Health Nurse
Jill Lampo, RN, BSN – Public Health Nurse *(resigned 9/14)*
Olga Myers, RN, BSN – Public Health Nurse
Jennifer Stenger, RN, BSN, CHES – Public Health Nurse *(resigned 5/14)*
Amy Stricker, RN, BSN – Public Health Nurse
Casey Stubbs, RN, BSN – Public Health Nurse
Jennifer Weadge, RN, BSN – Public Health Nurse
Anne Weirich, RN, BSN – Public Health Nurse
Jessica Weimert RN, BSN—Public Health Nurse
Risa Weisensel, RN, BSN – Public Health Nurse
Amy Williams, RN, BSN – Public Health Nurse

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SANITARIANS

Timothy Banwell, RS, MPH – Environmental Health Director
Janis Baumann, RS, BS – Registered Sanitarian
Adam Elmer, RS, BS, – Registered Sanitarian
Roger Eychaner, RS, BS – Registered Sanitarian *(resigned 11/14)*
Jeff Moore, BS – Environmental Health Technician
Jackie Phillips RS, BS – Registered Sanitarian
Emilie Sadlowski, BA – Environmental Health Technician
Mark Seymour, RS, MS – Registered Sanitarian
Matthew Wesson, RS, BS – Registered Sanitarian
Rick Wietersen, RS, MS – Registered Sanitarian

MEDICAL ADVISOR

Dr. William Clanfield, MD

**ROCK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT-SOURCES AND OF APPLICATION OF
FUNDS FOR THE BUDGET YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014.**

SOURCES OF FUNDS:

APPLICATION OF FUNDS:

PROGRAM REVENUE:

Public Health Nursing	\$ 323,682.22	Salaries and Benefits	\$2,993,396.74
Environmental Health	\$ 537,139.32	Other Operating Expenses	\$ 240,219.52
Laboratory Fees	\$ 27,512.00		
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$ 888,333.54</i>		

GRANTS/OTHER REVENUE:

Consolidated Contract	\$ 268,025.13		
Brownfield Grant	\$ 43,196.00		
Farm Safety Grant	\$ 8,750.00		
Community Transformation Grant	\$ 112,603.00		
Prescription Drug Grant	\$ 5,000.00		
FIMR Grant	\$ 36,340.00		
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$1,362,247.67</i>		
County Tax Levy	\$ 2,344,556.39		
<i>Total Sources</i>	<i>\$3,706,804.06</i>	<i>Total Applications</i>	<i>\$3,233,616.26</i>

Environmental Health

Each year brings new challenges and the Environmental Health Division staff responds to these challenges by providing services, regulatory action, and information to the general public and property owners. Some of the highlights of the Environmental Services Division in 2014 are described below.

The Town well sampling program was popular again in 2014 with the Town of Center participating this year. Town residents were able to pick up water test bottles at the town hall and return them the next week. Within three days results are available to the home owners. This was very successful increasing the number of home owners testing their well water. We will continue to offer this program in 2015.

2014 was the second year for disposal of unwanted medications at Rx Drop Boxes located at eight (8) sites across Rock County. Approximately five thousand six hundred fifty nine (5,659) pounds of drugs were collected in 2014, which is a fifteen percent (15%) increase from the total collected in 2013. Offering eight (8) conveniently located drop boxes is much more efficient than organizing one-day collection events. Our community is especially thankful for the assistance from local law enforcement agencies and volunteer pharmacists who make this worthwhile program work.

The Brownfield Grant to assist the City of Janesville in redeveloping brownfield sites in a manner that promotes public health was finalized in 2014 with the development of a report and recommendations. Community focus group sessions and meetings with individuals has clarified neighborhood issues and identified ideas for reuse of abandoned and/or contaminated properties that can meet the public health needs of the community.

Sampling of licensed beaches and a number of surface water sites continued in 2014. Not only are the three (3) licensed beaches a recreational venue for the public, but also many other surface water sources are used for fishing, swimming, and boating. Routine testing helps to understand the public health risks associated with our community's surface water resources. In general, the results demonstrate that water quality was good at the licensed beaches during the entire 2014 season. Many of the smaller streams experienced periodic high levels of E. coli bacteria, often associated to rainfall events or specific land use issues. Health advisory signs were placed at these locations and on our website throughout the duration of the high bacteria counts.

A lead hazard control grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development was jointly awarded to Rock County and the Cities of Beloit and Janesville to remove lead hazards from residential properties in August of 2014. Our department completed thirty five (35) lead hazard risk assessments. This is a three year contract and will assist owners of one hundred forty three (143) dwelling units in reducing the childhood lead poisoning risks in our community.

COMMUNITY DRINKING WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

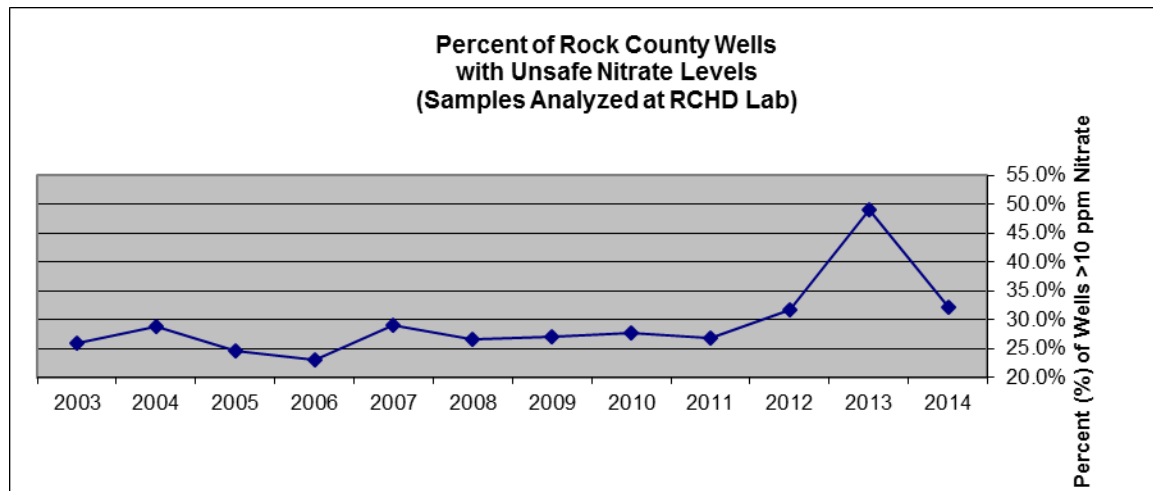
Every person and business in Rock County depends on a daily source of clean drinking water. In this area of Wisconsin, groundwater is our sole water supply source. In addition to the municipal water supply systems in our community, there are approximately 13,000 private water wells providing water to homes and businesses throughout the county. The groundwater protection program assists citizens and property owners with their drinking water concerns regarding bacteria and chemicals. The goal of the groundwater protection program is protect the quality of ground water in Rock County for drinking water use.

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, review two hundred (200) private well sample results for nitrate, other chemical contamination, and/or bacteria levels.

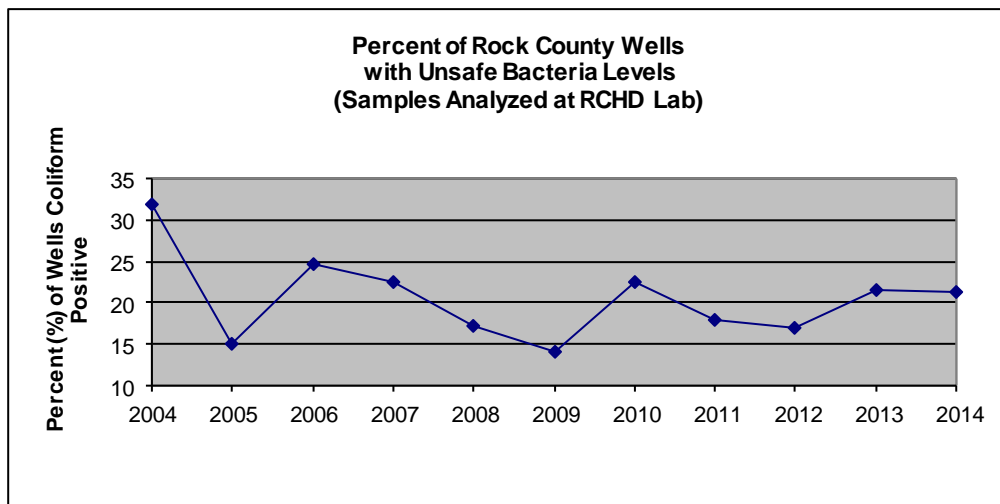
The Rock County Health Department Laboratory (RCHDL) completed one thousand two hundred ninety (1290) well water tests: including six hundred thirty three (633) nitrate and six hundred fifty seven (657) coliform bacteria. Thirty-two (32%) of wells tested for nitrates in 2014 exceeded the ten (10) parts per million health advisory level. This rate of unsafe nitrates was second to 2013 in being the highest level of nitrates we have seen in Rock County.

Twenty one percent (21%) of samples brought to the Rock County Health Department Laboratory tested positive for coliform bacteria in 2014. Eight (8) positive E.coli well water sample were recorded at the RCHDL in 2014. The percentage of wells testing unsafe for coliform bacteria in 2014 was similar to 2013 and was slightly higher than the 10-year average.

Objective achieved



The percent of Rock County wells with unsafe nitrates above 10 parts per million (10ppm) decreased in 2014.



The percentage of well samples tested in the Rock County Health Department lab that has been unsafe for nitrates and coliform bacteria by year since 2004.

Objective 2: By December 31, 2014, manage the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Safe Drinking Water contract by sampling and following up on all Transient non-community wells.

Transient non-community wells provide drinking water availability for the public at various types of facilities (campgrounds, parks, restaurants, taverns, etc.). This contract involves sampling one hundred fifty-one (151) transient non-community wells in Rock County for bacteria, nitrate and nitrites. Coliform bacteria “unsafe” water samples occurred at eight (8) wells. Fecal Coliform was not found to be present in any of these wells. Because multiple sampling is required after the initial unsafe bacteria tests, three hundred four (304) additional bacteria samples taken by program staff. Potential contamination sources are explored and when found corrected. Wells must be treated to eliminate coliform bacteria. Deficiencies for all wells were corrected.

Nitrates were above the drinking water standard of ten (10) parts per million at twenty-two percent (22%) of 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. Six (6) facilities that previously exceeded the 20 ppm level are replacing wells, hooking up to municipal supplies, or are in the process of developing an alternative plan for a safe water supply.

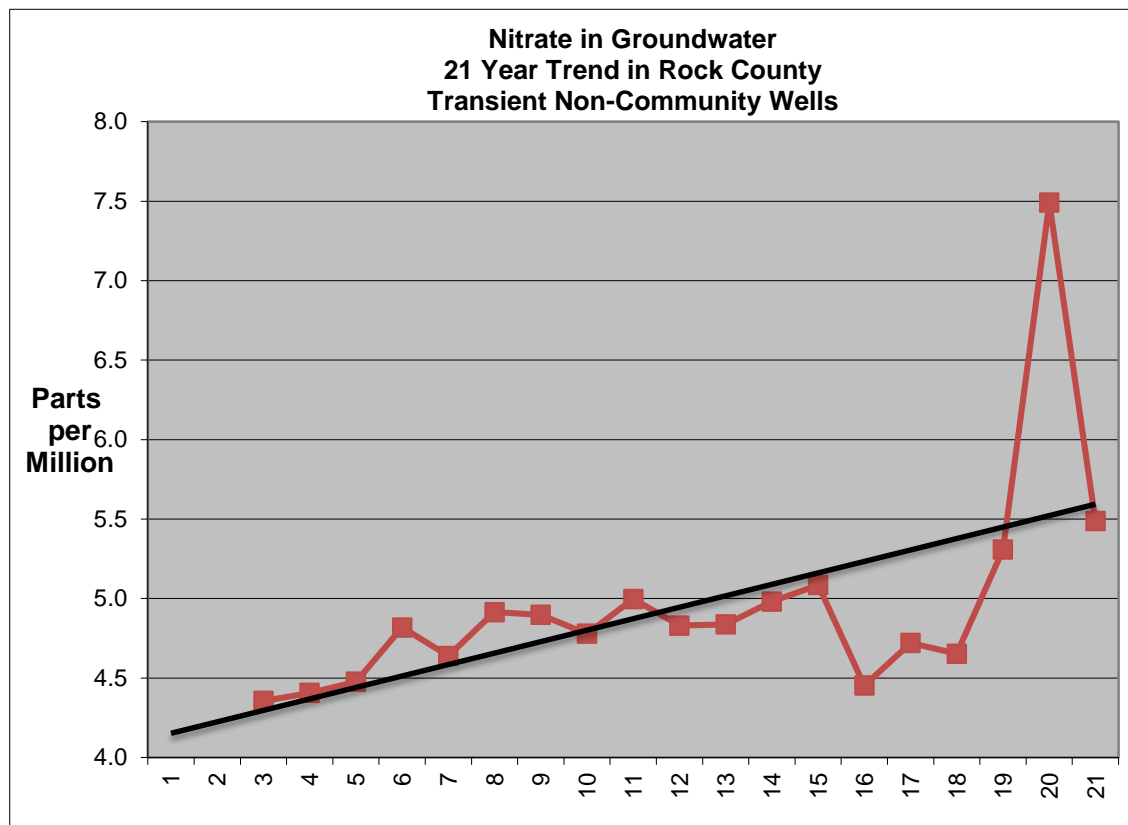
In addition to the above, nitrite testing is conducted for new systems added to the program and surveys are completed for at least thirty percent of the total facilities. The two new systems tested safe for nitrites and thirty seven (37) well system surveys were completed.

In summary, four hundred fifty-five (455) bacteria, one hundred seventy-six (176) nitrate and two (2) nitrite results were obtained from these wells. Thirty-seven (37) well system surveys were also conducted.

Since 1993, eighty five of the one hundred fifty one transient non-community wells have been tested each year for nitrates. These “indicator wells” provide an indication of nitrate trends in the groundwater of Rock County. This trend had indicated a steady increase in the average nitrate concentration over the past 21 years. After a significant decrease in

nitrate levels in 2009-2011, which is likely attributed to high groundwater recharge, the nitrate levels spiked to record high levels in 2013. The drought of 2012 is considered the cause of this sudden increase in 2013. In 2014, nitrate levels decreased significantly but are still much higher than the twenty-one year average.

Objective achieved



Average annual nitrate concentrations from eighty-five (85) transient non-community wells continuously sampled for the last twenty-one years (see Objective 2 above).

Objective 3: By December 31, 2014, investigate 100% of citizen complaints and requests concerning ground water quality within two days.

During 2014, the Groundwater Program had eight hundred fifty (850) field visits, seven hundred six (706) telephone consultations, and one hundred seventy-one (171) office visits regarding private well and/or ground water concerns. All citizens were given consultation from our office, by on-site visits, phone, and/or e-mail or mail. When needed, referrals are made for services to other agencies.

Objective achieved

Objective 4: By December 31, 2014 increase private well sampling in Rock County by 5% by promoting drinking water safety through posting information on the Rock County website, issuing news releases, and responding to citizen inquiries.

While private well sampling in 2014 was the second highest level ever at one thousand two hundred ninety (1290) samples analyzed at the Rock County Health Department Laboratory, this number was below the 2013 total of two thousand one hundred ninety one (2191). Only one town (Town of Center) volunteered for the Town Well Sampling program in 2014.

Multiple approaches were utilized in 2014 to promote awareness of drinking water safety, including groundwater awareness news releases, water testing posters, test kits were distributed at dozens of public locations throughout the county, and mailings were conducted to well owners. Citizens can also purchase water test kits online at the Rock County Health Department website.

Objective not achieved

Objective 5: Present five (5) Ground Water Educational Programs to Rock County citizens.

“Town Sampling Programs” were offered in 2014. Groundwater sampling and education programs were provided to the Town of Center in 2014. Groundwater educational displays were prepared for display at the Town Hall and individual consultation was given to residents. Groundwater information was provided to the Rock County Towns Association to promote well testing at the local level.

Groundwater and well testing was promoted at community events including Earth Day at the University of Wisconsin Rock County and through the Ag Matters Radio program. Two community Rx collection events were conducted to promote removing prescription drugs from our surface and ground water.

Objective achieved

Objective 6: By December 31, 2014, in coordination with Rock County Land Conservation Department, administer the county well abandonment program.

The Rock County Health Department is delegated by the State Department of Natural Resources to conduct a well abandonment program. This delegation is included in the Rock County Public Health Ordinance. The Land Conservation Department implements the well abandonment program in coordination with the Health Department. In 2014, the Health Department referred all requests for abandonment of wells to the Land Conservation Department for follow-up consultation and funding for filling and sealing of unused wells.

Objective achieved

ACTIVITY DATA GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Requests on Groundwater Concerns	1,274	1,174	1,050	1,579	1,733
Telephone Consultations	639	606	519	488	706
Public Education	8	8	9	9	6
Program Field Service Calls	494	419	401	946	850
Clients seen in Office	133	149	121	136	171
Water Sample Results Reviewed	2,230	1,620	2,068	2,290	2,710
Bacteria	1,495	1,029	1,311	1,104	1,359
Nitrate	564	502	678	1,087	968
Chemical and Other	171	89	79	79	383
Local Emergency Management Plans	29	26	27	20	27

The groundwater program activity for 2009 through 2013.

Objective 7: By December 31, 2014, increase the amount of unwanted prescription drugs collected through the Prescription Drug Collection Program with the Cities of Beloit, Edgerton, Evansville, Milton, and Janesville by 10%.

The Rx Round-Up Planning Committee organized two (2) pharmaceutical collection events and participated in spring and fall Federal Drug Take-Back Initiatives in 2014.

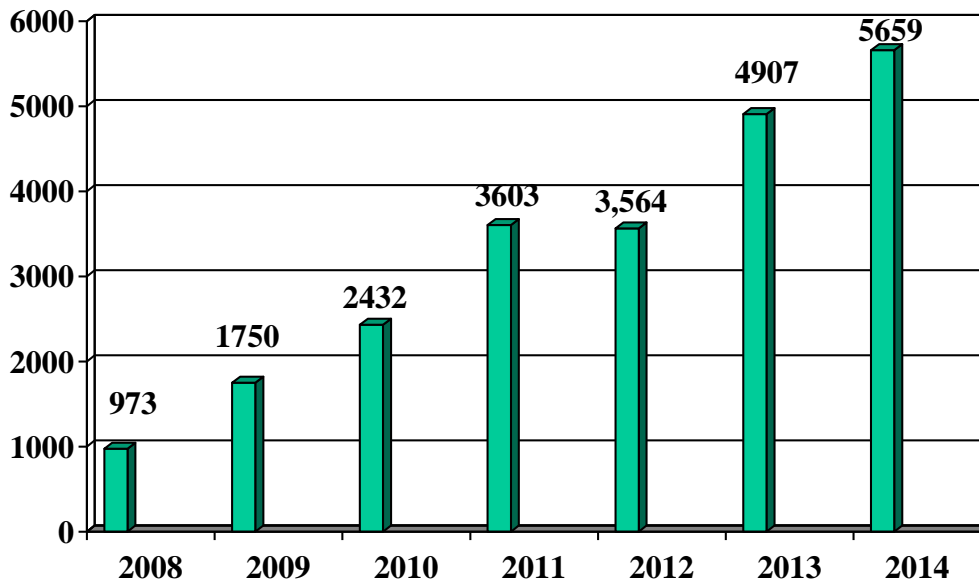
Eight (8) permanent drop boxes were in-place in 2014 around the county. Most of these of these drop boxes have 24-hour access. The drug drop boxes are located in the cities of Milton, Edgerton, Evansville, and Beloit, and, the Town of Beloit. In Janesville, there were three (3) Rx drop box locations at the start of 2014, however, two had to be removed in October due to new Federal Drug Enforcement rules. As a result of the new Federal Drug Enforcement rules, Rock County ended 2014 with six (6) RX drop boxes.

A total of five thousand six hundred fifty-nine (5,659) pounds of unwanted pharmaceuticals were collected between the Janesville and Beloit Senior Fairs and from the collection drop boxes. The amount of drugs collected in 2014 was fifteen percent (15%) higher than the four thousand nine hundred seven (4,907) pounds collected in 2013. The drop boxes accounted for a majority of the collected drugs. The convenience of the 24-hour drop boxes is the biggest reason given for their increased use over the one-day collection events.

Changes in DEA regulations and the elimination of Federal DEA Take-Back events will likely result in changes to the Rx program in 2015.

Objective achieved

POUNDS OF UNWANTED PHARMACEUTICALS COLLECTED BY YEAR



The above graph shows the pounds of unwanted drugs collected annually through the Prescription Drug Community Collection Program.

LABORATORY SERVICES

The laboratory provides a local service for Rock County citizens to test the drinking water quality of their private water wells. Public health recommendations are for private well owners to test their water once a year. The goal of the laboratory services is to provide basic drinking water analysis for citizens in Rock County.

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, provide laboratory testing for 1,000 wells in Rock County.

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

In 2014, a total of one thousand two hundred ninety (1,290) drinking water tests were completed by the Rock County Health Department Lab; including six hundred thirty-three (633) nitrate and six hundred fifty-seven (657) coliform bacteria. Thirty-two percent (32%) of wells tested for nitrates in 2014 exceeded the ten (10) parts per million health advisory level. Twenty one percent (21%) of samples brought to the Rock County Health Department Laboratory tested positive for coliform bacteria and 1.2% were positive for E.coli in 2014.

The volume of samples analyzed in the lab during 2014 maintained a strong trend of water quality testing service to the community, reflecting our efforts to increase public awareness of our lab and the need for water quality testing of private wells.

Objective achieved

EMERGENCY PLANNING

The Health Department has the administrative responsibility to complete the offsite plans for farms and fixed facilities under the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (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, 2014, complete offsite plans as determined by the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for farms using extremely hazardous chemicals.

Eight (8) farm plans were completed for the LEPC. Each new updated plan contains local information to identify specific hazard risks for each farm, identifies a chemical vulnerability zone, and identifies sensitive populations in case an evacuation was required. In 2014, a county-wide farm plan was developed which includes information for all farms documented to have extremely hazardous substances.

Objective achieved

Objective 2: By December 31, 2014, complete new and updated plans as determined by the LEPC committee for fixed facilities using extremely hazardous chemicals.

Nineteen (19) offsite facility plans were completed for the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) in 2014. Each new updated plan contains facility site plans and local information to identify specific hazard risks for facility, identifies a chemical vulnerability zone, and identifies sensitive populations in case an evacuation was required. In 2014, a county-wide “Retail Battery and Tele-Communication” plan was completed which includes information for all facilities which have sulfuric acid in batteries in a quantity over the planning threshold.

Objective achieved

RECREATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY

Many recreational opportunities exist in Rock County for residents and visitors: beaches, pools, recreational educational camps and campgrounds.

These are excellent ways for social interaction and physical activity needed for a healthy life style. Stepping out of day-to-day routine situations place people at risk for injury and adverse health events such as recreational water illnesses, drowning, and other accidents. Beaches, pools, recreational educational camps, and campgrounds are licensed by the Rock County Health Department and meet specific standards that reduce the public health risk for accidents and exposure to communicable disease.

The goal of the Recreational Health and Safety Program is to reduce or eliminate the spread of communicable disease and risk of injury to the public who participate in recreational activities at beaches, swimming pools, campgrounds, and recreational educational camps in Rock County.

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014 conduct an annual inspection for each licensed facility.

During 2014, all nine (9) campgrounds, three (3) recreational-education campgrounds, sixty-eight (68) swimming pools, and three (3) beaches received an annual inspection.

Objective achieved

Objective 2: By December 31, 2014, respond to citizen complaints within two days regarding violation of state and local codes.

During 2014, one swimming pool complaint was responded to within two days. The swimming pool complaint concerned improper water quality and pool equipment maintenance. One campground complaint concerned refuse storage and accumulation of runoff from heavy rains.

Objective achieved

Objective 3: By December 31, 2014, conduct follow-up inspections within two weeks at facilities that have critical violations.

During 2014, nine (9) follow-up inspections for critical violations were completed for swimming pools within two weeks.

Objective achieved

Objective 4: By December 31, 2014, conduct pre-inspections when new establishments open or current establishments change ownership to ensure compliance with the state and local codes.

During 2014, a pre-inspection was completed for three (3) swimming pools.

Objective achieved

Objective 5: By December 31, 2014, implement a high risk assessment plan for licensed establishments

In 2014, a water safety awareness plan was implemented for all licensed swimming pool establishments. The plan consisted of tracking repeat violations at a pool and reviewing with the establishments during routine inspections. Inspections were problem-solving opportunities for pool owners and operators in the ongoing attempt to decrease pool violations and promote a safer swimming environment.

Objective achieved

Objective 6: By December 31, 2014, decrease the number of swimming pool recheck inspections by 10%.

The number of critical violation rechecks in 2013 and 2014 was 9 and 47 respectively: a fivefold increase.

Objective not achieved

COMMUNITY HEALTH & SAFETY

The Community Health and Safety programs are resources to be used by Rock County residents to reduce or eliminate hazardous conditions in their home and community. Many of the improvements in health that were achieved in the 20th century resulted from improvements in housing and areas surrounding our homes. Problems from our past have not entirely dissipated. Traditional insect and rodent pests are ever present waiting for the right opportunity to set up residence in and around our homes. Timely and adequate disposal of refuse will always be a challenge in this society. Radon and mold are examples of hazards that enter homes from the outside, are identifiable and exposure is preventable. Health Department staff has the expertise to assist citizens in reducing or eliminating these risks to their health.

The goal of Community Health & Safety is to reduce or eliminate public health risks to citizens in their homes and in the community through the education of disease, injury prevention practices, and administration of state and local regulations.

RADON MONITORING AND RISK REDUCTION

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, provide at least seventy-five (75) radon test kits to county residents.

During 2014, two hundred nineteen (219) kits were provided to county residents.

Objective achieved

Objective 2: By December 31, 2014, develop and implement a community awareness effort in one community with low radon testing rates.

Because a review of radon testing noted that most radon testing occurred in the urban areas of Rock County, the rural community was again targeted for promotion of radon testing in 2014. Test kits continued to be made available via mail and online making it easier for citizens in outlying communities to obtain test kits. Citizens can also mail in an order form obtained from one of the posters distributed throughout rural communities. Displayed posters can be found at libraries, town halls, and community centers in rural communities that were identified as having low radon testing rates.

Objective achieved

Objective 3: By December 31, 2014, provide follow-up information to all citizens that receive results on radon test kits.

During 2014, all citizens who purchased radon test kits were provided with the US EPA Citizen's Guide to Radon and a list of local certified radon mitigation system installers. Consultation with staff trained in radon measurement and mitigation was offered to all citizens with elevated radon results.

Objective achieved

Objective 4: By December 31, 2014, develop and implement a plan to increase the percentage of home owners who complete the radon test by 10%.

Due to an issue with the test kit provider, results for individual test kits purchased were not available to the department for much of 2014. For that reason, it was not possible to calculate the percentage of homeowners completing the testing after purchase. The issue with the test kit company has been resolved and this objective will be carried over to 2015.

Objective not achieved

MOBILE HOME PARK INSPECTIONS

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, conduct an annual inspection of each licensed mobile home park.

During 2014, annual inspections were conducted for all twenty-three (23) licensed mobile home parks.

Objective achieved

Objective 2: By December 31, 2014, respond to all citizen complaints within two days regarding violations of state and local codes.

During 2014, five (5) citizen complaints involving mobile home parks were received and responded to within two (2) days. Housing conditions, odor, refuse, and road conditions were the concerns that were addressed.

Objective achieved

Objective 3: By December 31, 2014, conduct follow-up inspections within thirty (30) days of mobile home parks that have violations.

During 2014, one (1) follow-up inspection was conducted for a mobile home park within thirty (30) days after critical violations were documented during a routine inspection.

Objective achieved

Objective 4: By December 31, 2014, conduct pre-inspections when new mobile home parks open or current mobile home parks change ownership to ensure compliance with the state and local codes.

During 2014, no new mobile home parks opened and no changes of ownership occurred that required a pre-inspection.

Objective achieved

RABIES AND ANIMAL BITE MONITORING

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, verify the compliance status of all animal owners issued animal bite orders by local law enforcement agencies.

Compliance status was verified for all three hundred ninety (390) animal bite orders received in 2014. Animal owners found not in compliance with animal bite orders were referred to law enforcement.

Objective achieved

Objective 2: By December 31, 2014, refer all citizens not compliant with animal bite orders to law enforcement for further action.

During 2014, forty two (42) non-compliant bite orders were referred to law enforcement for further action. The compliance rate for animal bite orders in 2014 was 89%.

Objective achieved

Objective 3: By December 31, 2014, all specimens of domestic cats, dogs, and ferrets that do not complete quarantine and wild animals with suspected risk of rabies transmission, will be submitted to the State Laboratory of Hygiene for rabies analysis.

Fifty-one (51) specimens were submitted to the State Laboratory of Hygiene for rabies analysis during 2014. One (1) specimen (a bat) tested positive for the rabies virus, and three (3) specimens tested indeterminate for the rabies virus and required further follow up.

Objective achieved

Objective 4: By December 31, 2014, promote awareness of animal bite prevention in one community identified with high reported animal bites.

Animal bite awareness efforts in 2014 were focused on the City of Beloit which has a high number of animal bites reported annually and a consistently low rabies vaccination rates for these animals. Pet owners who cannot afford to vaccinate their pets for rabies were encouraged to attend the low cost vaccination clinic which took place on September 14, 2014 at Telfer Park. Posters were hung at libraries, community centers, public buildings and businesses throughout the city and press releases were made to local media.

Objective achieved

SUMMARY OF ANIMAL BITE MONITORING 2010-2014

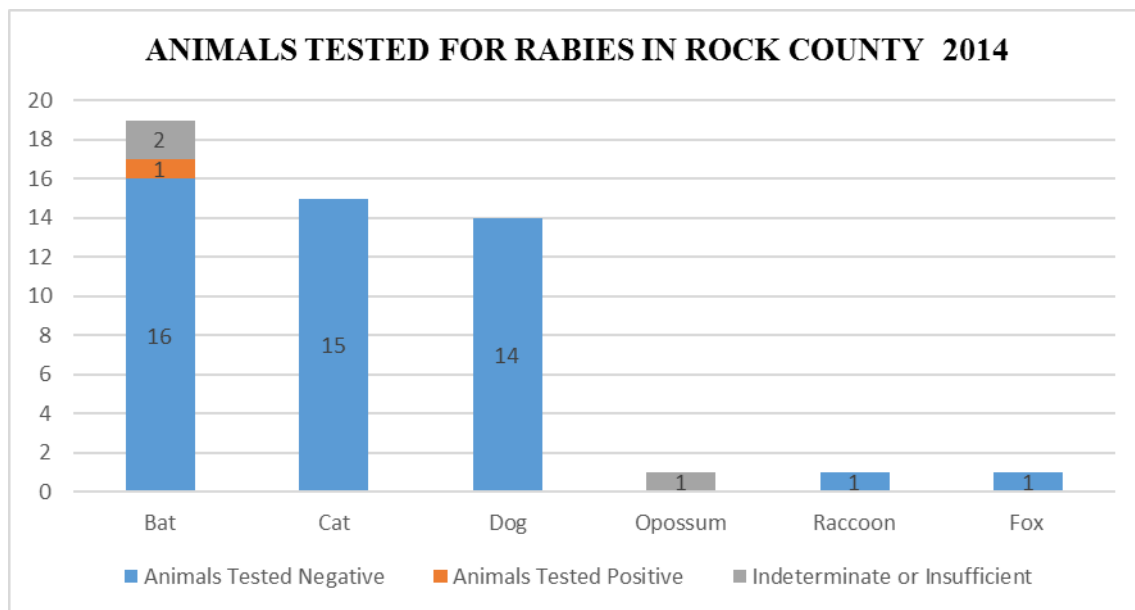
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Animal Bite Orders Issued	382	422	358	378	390
Cat Bites	108	102	83	74	81
Dog Bites	274	320	275	304	307
Ferret Bites	0	0	0	0	0
% Vaccinated	52%	57%	54%	58%	55%
Cats Vaccinated	31%	24%	34%	28%	30%
Dogs Vaccinated	61%	66%	61%	65%	62%
Ferrets Vaccinated	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Animal Bite Orders are issued to owners of cats, dogs and ferrets that bite a person. Animals not vaccinated for rabies must be quarantined at a veterinary clinic for 10 days after the bite.

RABIES CONTROL SUMMARY OF ANIMAL BITE ORDERS FOR 2014

CITY	VACCINATED	UNVACCINATED	UNKNOWN	TOTAL ANIMAL BITES ORDERS	PERCENTAGE VACCINATED
Afton	1	0	0	1	100%
Avalon	0	1	0	1	0%
Beloit	54	48	26	128	42%
Brodhead	0	0	2	2	0%
Brooklyn	3	0	0	3	100%
Clinton	2	2	0	4	50%
Edgerton	17	7	0	24	71%
Evansville	9	3	2	14	64%
Footville Orfordville Hanover	4	2	0	6	67%
Janesville	111	44	30	185	60%
Milton	9	6	2	17	53%
Whitewater	3	1	0	4	75%
Location of Bite Unknown	0	0	1	1	0%
Totals	213	114	63	390	55%

Reported animal bites occur throughout Rock County and vaccination rates vary by community. Unknown vaccination status is associated with strays.



This graph shows the number of animals submitted to the State Lab of Hygiene for rabies testing by species. A total of 51 animals were tested for rabies in 2014

HUMAN HEALTH HAZARDS

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, investigate 100% of human health hazards reported to the Rock County Health Department within 3 days.

During 2014, two hundred fifty five (255) out of two hundred sixty (260) human health hazard requests (98.1%) were investigated and abated, or referred to other appropriate agencies, or determined not to be hazards within three days. One hundred ten (110) field visits investigated the requests for compliance with the Rock County Health ordinance and/or assessing the situation for referral to other local or state agencies.

In addition to field investigations, information is provided to citizens to remedy human health hazards that they are experiencing. During 2014, information was provided to 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.

Objective not achieved

TATTOO AND BODY PIERCING ESTABLISHMENTS

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, conduct an annual inspection of each licensed tattoo and body-piercing establishment.

During 2014, sixteen (16) routine inspections were conducted for tattoo and body piercing establishments.

Objective achieved

Objective 2: By December 31, 2014, respond to all citizen complaints within two days regarding violations of state and local codes.

One tattoo and/or body piercing complaint was received and investigated within two days, during 2014.

Objective achieved

Objective 3: By December 31, 2014, conduct follow-up inspections within two (2) weeks at establishments that have critical violations.

During 2014, five (5) critical violation follow-up inspections were completed for tattoo and body piercing establishments.

Objective achieved

Objective 4: By December 31, 2014, conduct pre-inspections when new establishments open or current establishments change ownership to ensure compliance with the state and local codes.

During 2014, two (2) pre-inspections were completed for new establishments or change of ownership.

Objective achieved

LEAD ABATEMENT AND MONITORING

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, provide a lead safe environment for 100% of children with a blood lead level ≥ 20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ (micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood) through education and lead abatement orders.

During 2014, three (3) children were identified with blood lead levels ≥ 20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ in Rock County. Three (3) properties where the children resided or spent significant time were investigated and ordered to undergo lead hazard reduction work to make the property lead safe. All three properties were made lead safe through interim controls and lead abatement.

Objective achieved

Objective 2: By December 31, 2014, perform an environmental lead assessment and provide lead hazard reduction recommendations on 80% of residences occupied by children with a blood lead level of 5-19 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$.

During 2014, nineteen (19) children were identified with blood lead levels of 5-19 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ were referred to the Environmental Health Division. These children either resided at or spent significant time at nineteen (19) properties. Eighteen (18) or 95% of these properties were assessed for lead hazards and recommendations were sent to the families and property owners.

Objective achieved

Objective 3: By December 31, 2014, perform an environmental lead assessment and provide lead hazard reduction recommendations for all homes of concerned parents of children with a blood lead level of 0-4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$.

Twenty-two (22) concerned parents with children at high-risk for lead poisoning requested a lead assessment of their homes in 2014. Twenty-two (22) or 100% were assessed for lead hazards and recommendations were sent to the families and property owners.

Objective achieved

Objective 4: By December 31, 2014, 70% of owners of units that house a child with a blood lead level of 5-19 µg/dL will show compliance with lead hazard reduction recommendations.

During 2014, 74% (14 of 19) of the owners of units associated with a child having a blood lead level of 5-19 µg/dL showed significant compliance with the lead hazard reduction recommendations they received from Rock County Health Department after the assessment.

Objective achieved

Objective 5: By December 31, 2014, 60% of property owners with units that house a child with a blood lead level of 0-4 µg/dL will show compliance with lead hazard reduction recommendations.

During 2014, 68% (15 of 22) of the property owners of units associated with a child with a blood lead level of 0-4 µg/dL resided showed significant compliance with the department's lead hazard reduction recommendations.

Objective achieved

Objective 6: By December 31, 2014, promote childhood lead poisoning prevention by posting information on the Rock County web site, issuing news releases, responding to citizens inquiring about lead poisoning hazards, and presenting two educational programs.

Lead poisoning prevention information was updated on the Rock County web site during 2014. Educational presentations during 2014 were conducted at the Rock-Green Realtors Family Fun Fair, the Blackhawk Technical College Health Fair, the Rock County Employee Health Fair, and at Basics Cooperative. Several activities related to the Rock County Lead Hazard Control Grant were also conducted, which included developing a website, developing a brochure, and distributing a promotional items. All citizen inquiries and concerns were also addressed.

Objective achieved

ENVIRONMENTAL LEAD ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

NUMBER OF LEAD ASSESSMENTS 2010 - 2014

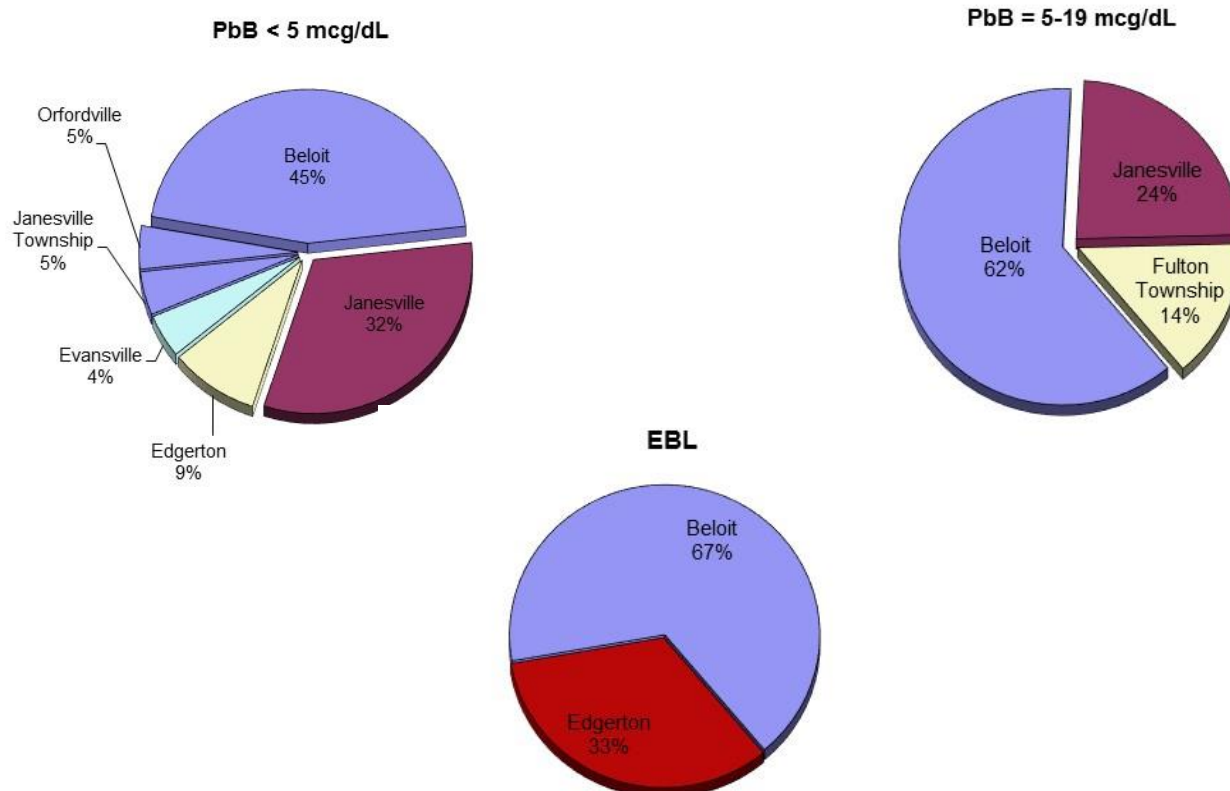
PbB* µg/dL	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
≥20 (EBL)**	3	6	5	2	3
5 - 19***	17	9	11	45	19
<5	65	46	62	33	22
Total	85	61	78	80	44

*PbB = Blood lead level measured in micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood (µg/dL)

** Elevated blood lead level (EBL) – environmental assessment mandated

***Lead Poisoning – defined as PbB >5µg/dL; Prior to 2014 defined as PbB>10 µg/dL

PERCENT OF LEAD ASSESSMENTS CONDUCTED BY COMMUNITY CHILDHOOD BLOOD LEAD LEVELS (PbB) IN MICROGRAMS PER DECILITER OF BLOOD (µg/dL)



These pie charts demonstrate the percentages of childhood blood lead levels distributed in Rock County communities.

COMMUNITY HEALTH & SAFETY ACTIVITY DATA 2010-2014

		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Human Health Hazard Requests and Responses		670	538	587	307	260
Lead - Total Field Visits		203	163	184	288	508
Lead Onsite Assessment.....		85	61	78	80	44
Lead Hazard Control Grant		-	-	-	10	99
Healthy Homes		-	-	-	-	201
Radon Kits Sold		196	275	346	171	219
Radon Kits with Test Results		92	138	250	103	N/A
Animal Bites Monitored for Rabies Control*		418	475	389*	378	390
Citations Issued		0	1	1	0	0
General Sanitation Program Totals						
Program Field Service Calls		939	880	809	607	1138
Complaint Investigations		110	93	57	76	62
Clients Seen In Office		69	64	60	48	34
Telephone Calls.....		2,873	3,050	1,944	1,391	1150

The General Sanitation activity chart includes field visits, phone calls received, clients seen in the office, and information sent by mail or e-mail.

**Animal bites monitored for rabies control includes wild animals that were submitted for testing, but did not have an associated bite order.*

PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROGRAM

Proper treatment of wastewater has been instrumental in the reduction of communicable disease over the last century. For those living in a city or village, sewage is collected in a distribution of underground piping and treated in a central location to remove pathogens and chemicals before being discharged to a river or stream. Homes and businesses outside the municipal boundaries depend on their own means for treating wastewater called private onsite wastewater treatment systems (POWTS).

The Private Sewage Program regulates and controls the installation of the POWTS and the soil testing necessary for designing. The goal of the Private Sewage Disposal Program is to protect the public health and the environment of Rock County by ensuring that all POWTS are properly installed, repaired and maintained.

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, complete the review of all submitted soil and site evaluation reports.

Twelve (12) Certified Soil Testers (CSTs) were monitored, assisted in completing soil test reports, and field evaluations of soil borings. In 2014, a total of ninety-four (94) soil test reports were reviewed, corrected when needed, approved, and filed. Thirty-five (35) soil onsite visits were made to verify soil conditions to assure soil testing reports are completed in an accurate manner.

Objective achieved

Objective 2: By December 31, 2014, ensure that properly designed and installed POWTS are provided for all properties not served by public sewer.

Twenty-two (22) different plumbers were monitored and assisted in completing accurate plans and installing code conforming POWTS. In 2014, one-hundred and nine (109) state sanitary permits were issued to install or repair POWTS. Forty-one (41) sanitary permits for new construction and seventy-seven (67) sanitary permits for replacement or repair work were issued in 2014. In addition, one (1) sanitary permit was issued to connect a new building to an existing POWTS.

One-hundred and one (101) POWTS were installed in 2014, which includes thirty-three (33) new POWTS and sixty-eight (68) replacement POWTS or POWTS connections. In 2014, numerous orders and/or reminders were issued to correct non-compliant aspects of POWTS being constructed or to correct or complete permit applications. Two (2) of these directives required follow-up orders and/or reminders to obtain POWTS code compliance.

Objective achieved

Objective 3: By December 31, 2014, administer the Wisconsin Fund Program and process all applications to assist citizens in obtaining State grants for repair and/or replacement of a POWTS.

In January 2014, the Wisconsin Fund grant applications for three (3) property owners were submitted to the State. Total awards of \$8,410 were received and distributed to the three (3) applicants. No applicants were denied grants, but amounts were reduced as a result of State budget cuts.

During 2014, sixty-seven (67) property owners were sent information on the Wisconsin Fund Program. Two (2) applications received in 2014 were submitted in January 2015 and are awaiting action.

Objective achieved

Objective 4: By December 31, 2014, administer the POWTS maintenance program for private onsite wastewater treatment systems.

Each year, as new or replaced POWTS are installed, property owners are informed of the septic maintenance program requirements. In 2014, approximately one-hundred and nine (109) notices of required maintenance were given or mailed to property owners at the time of sanitary permit issuance and one-hundred and one (101) letters informing property owners of the mandatory maintenance program were mailed after POWTS installation.

Property owners are notified every three (3) years to maintain their POWTS. Four-thousand eight-hundred and thirty-nine (4,839) initial notices were sent to property owners in 2014 for POWTS maintenance. During 2014, thirteen (13) citations were issued for failure to comply. 2014 Compliance rate for POWTS is 99.7%.

In addition to POWTS maintenance, eighty-five (85) owners of holding tanks and ten (10) pumpers of holding tanks were monitored in regard to proper reporting of servicing holding tanks.

Objective achieved

Objective 5: By December 31, 2014 develop and implement a plan to educate four (4) town building inspectors that all building permits involving properties with existing POWTS be reviewed by our department to evaluate the compatibility of proposed construction with existing POWTS.

During 2014, four town building inspectors (Fulton, Harmony, Bradford, and Clinton) contacted the Rock County Health Department (RCHD) to request existing POWTS information for properties undergoing construction. All four building inspectors were advised of the State Administrative Code requirements regarding this issue and the services RCHD offers to ensure compliance.

Objective achieved

Objective 6: By December 31, 2014 evaluate all soil and site evaluation reports for land divisions not served by public sewer and make recommendations to Rock County Planning and Zoning Committee.

As a reviewing agency for the Rock County Planning and Development Committee, the Rock County Health Department assesses proposed property development for the suitability of onsite wastewater treatment. During 2014, sixty-four (64) land divisions consisting of eighty-five (85) lots were reviewed. In addition, seven (7) soil onsite visits were conducted and one soil test report was filed involving new land divisions.

Objective achieved

Objective 7: By December 31, 2014 document that less than 2% of failing septic systems are less than 25 years of age.

During 2014, less than two percent (2%) of the existing 13,000 septic systems failed before 25 years of age. In the last 25 years, six thousand four hundred fifteen (6,415) septic systems have been installed. Sixty-seven (67) permits were issued for failing septic systems, with six (6) being less than 25 years of age. This is a failure rate of nine thousandths of one percent (0.09%). One (1) was 8 years old, one (1) was 10 years old, one (1) was 14 years old, one (1) was 16 years old, one (1) was 17 years old, and one (1) was 19 years old.

The failure of the sixteen year old system was linked to failing pre-fabricated chambers in the drain field. The cause of failure for the other systems less than 25 years of age were unable to be determined with certainty. Since faulty components or installations were not found, it is suspected that hydraulic overloading and/or improper waste disposal contributed to the shortened anticipated life spans of these POWTS.

Objective achieved

**ACTIVITY DATA PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROGRAM
2010 – 2014 OFFICE WORK**

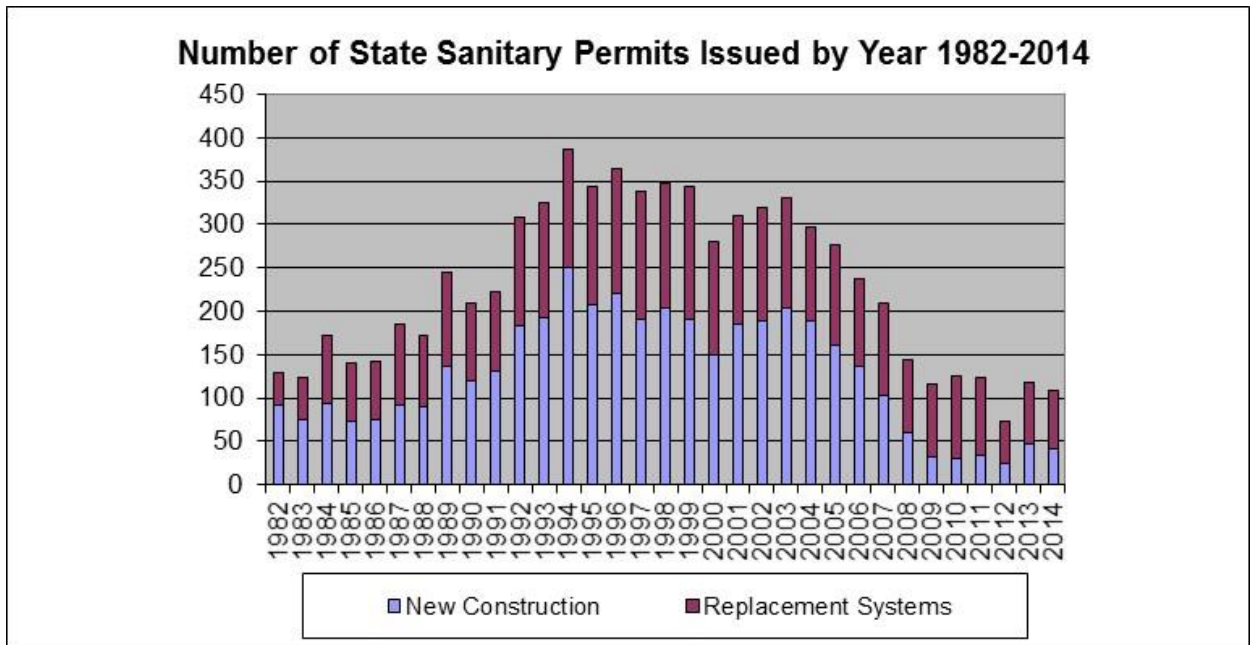
ACTIVITY	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Office Visits	160	141	129	120	107
Telephone Calls	1,369	1,396	939	870	808
Sanitary Permits Issued	126	124	73	120	109
New	31	34	24	47	41
Replace or Repair	95	90	49	71	67
County Sanitary Permits	3	5	6	2	1
Land Divisions Review	67	61	50	51	64
Lot Review Under Land Division	80	77	58	62	85

The above table describes the office activity of the private sewage disposal program from 2010 through 2014.

**ACTIVITY DATA PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROGRAM
2010 – 2014 FIELD WORK**

ACTIVITY	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Initial System Inspection	130	127	79	120	101
Conventional Gravity	82	86	46	88	68
Mound	40	34	22	21	25
Inground Pressure	0	0	0	3	0
At Grade	1	0	0	3	3
Holding Tanks	3	3	5	2	1
Treatment Tank Only (including aerobic tanks)	1	1	2	1	1
Other	3	3	6	2	3
System Re-Inspections	58	38	25	14	12
Soil Test Onsite Verification	69	61	24	35	35
Consultations and Surveys	270	186	110	122	105
Failing System Investigations/Complaints	64	45	33	38	35

The above table describes the field activity of the private sewage program from 2010 through 2014.



FOOD PROTECTION AND PUBLIC LODGING PROGRAM

Residents and visitors to our community use food service establishments and public lodging facilities. The threat of food borne illness is ever present and citizens expect that they can dine out and travel in relative safety. Recent statistics from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) state that one in six (1 in 6) people suffer from food borne illness over the course of a year. The role of public health is to not only license and regulate, but to provide owners, operators, and workers with the latest information on food safety practices.

The goal of the Food Protection and Public Lodging Program is to protect the health and safety of the public that utilizes licensed food and public lodging establishments in Rock County.

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, the requirements of the State Department of Health Services and Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection will be met.

Routine inspections were conducted at each of the six hundred sixty one (661) licensed full service facilities, forty-three (43) school lunchrooms, and fifty eight (58) temporary food operations at special events in Rock County. The average score for restaurant and retail facilities was 89.9 in 2014, which is an improvement from 88.6 in 2013. Routine inspections were also completed at thirty (33) public lodging facilities.

Objective achieved

Objective 2: By December 31, 2014, conduct at least one inspection of each senior citizen nutrition facility to ensure safe food handling practices.

Inspections were completed for all ten (10) senior meal sites.

Objective achieved

Objective 3: By December 31, 2014, continue outreach to licensed establishments through quarterly newsletters and quarterly meetings of the Food Safety Advisory Committee.

Four (4) quarterly newsletters were sent to licensed establishments. One meeting was held with the Food Safety Advisory Committee.

Objective not achieved

Objective 4: By December 31, 2014, conduct twelve training visits to licensed food establishments.

Fourteen (14) training visits were provided to licensed establishments in 2014.

Objective achieved

Objective 5: By December 31, 2014, a training plan to educate food service workers on one identified high risk food safety practice will be developed and implemented.

At each routine inspection, inspection staff conducted special training on proper handling of cut leafy green vegetables as required in the new state food code.

Objective achieved

Objective 6: By December 31, 2014, reduce the number of high-risk food safety violations identified in routine annual inspections by 5%.

The number of CDC high-risk violations per routine inspection increased from .94 during 2013 to 1.03 in 2014; an increase of 9%.

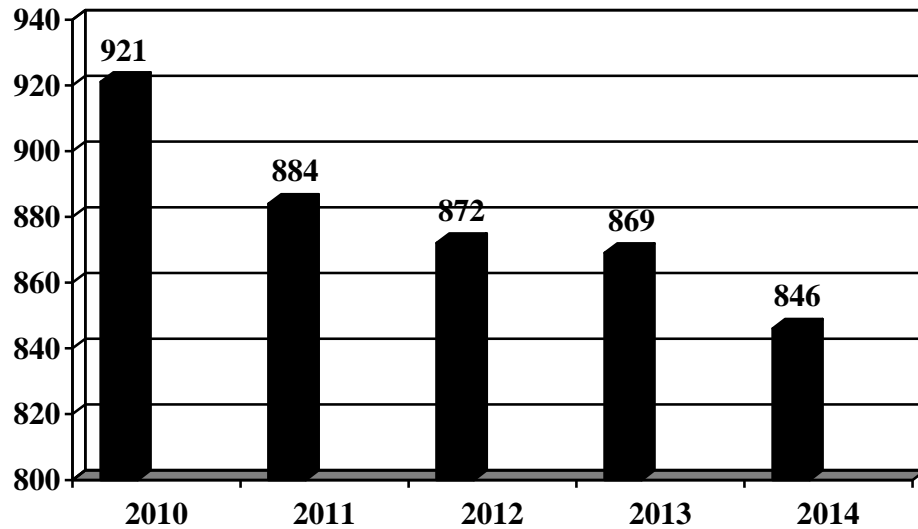
Objective not achieved

FOOD PROTECTION AND PUBLIC LODGING PROGRAM INSPECTION DATA

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Food Establishments, Retail, School, Public Lodging and Milk Vending Permits	921	884	872	869	846
Restaurant Routine Inspections	491	490	540	453	449
Retail Food Routine Inspections	228	229	243	208	212
School Lunch Room Routine Inspections	43	44	45	43	43
Motel, Hotel, Bed & Breakfast & Tourist Rooming Houses Routine Inspections	30	34	30	35	34
Temporary Restaurant and Retail Food Establishment Inspections	107	70	78	58	39
Vending Machine Inspections	359	320	290	254	236
Restaurant, Retail and Lodging Establishments Pre-Inspections.	74	88	61	58	91
Restaurant, Retail, Lodging and School Establishment Critical Violation Follow-up Inspections	100	71	80	69	54
Restaurant & Retail Written Compliance Orders Issued	16	9	3	3	1
Food borne Illness Complaints	13	11	12	14	10
Restaurant, Retail, School Complaints: General	52	52	81	73	69

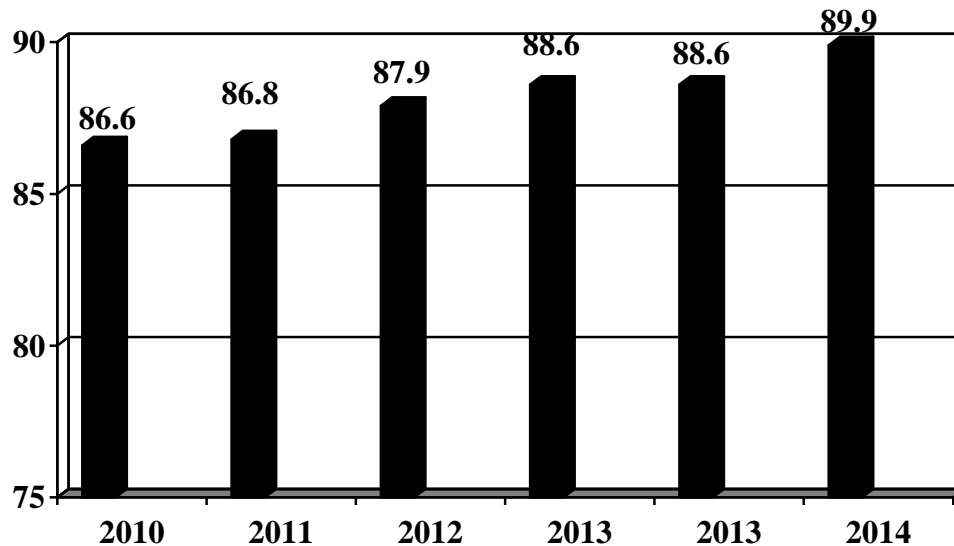
The above table describes the Food Protection and Public Lodging program activity from 2010 through 2014.

**ROCK COUNT HEALTH DEPARTMENT
NUMBER OF FOOD & LODGING PERMITS**



The number of Rock County food and lodging permits has been steadily decreasing since 2010.

**ROCK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
RESTAURANT AND RETAIL FACILITY
ROUTINE INSPECTIONS AVERAGE SCORE HISTORY**



The average restaurant and retail facility scores have been increasing from 86.6 in 2010 to 88.9 in 2014.

Public Health Nursing

Lillian Wald, long considered the founder of Public Health Nursing, is noted for her work with New York City families. In 1893, on one of her first occasions to visit a family in their home, she is quoted as saying *"That morning's experience was a baptism of fire. Deserted were the laboratory and academic work of college. I never returned to them... I rejoiced that I had a training in the care of the sick that in itself would give me an organic relationship to the neighborhood in which this awakening had come."* The organic relationships that she described long ago still continue every day in the work lives of the nurses at the Rock County Health Department. Public Health nursing captures only 2% of the nursing workforce nationally, yet the effect of these hours spent in connection with the community multiplies itself in the good prevention work that they do through better health outcomes in the most challenging of environments. Just as Lillian Wald supposed when she established the profession of public health nurses, Rock County public health nurses see their community as an extension of the culturally diverse world in which we all live, work and play.

The scope of work detailed in this report reflects the delivery of programming on which our county has relied for many decades, while it also recognizes our unique ability to flex in response to emerging issues and outbreaks in our county and nation.

Some highlights of nursing division activities:

- Provided on-site nursing services at First Choice Women's Health Centers in both Janesville and Beloit to enroll pregnant women in Medicaid insurance and home-visiting services.
- Through collaboration with Dean, Mercy Health Systems, and a national "Cribs for Kids" grant, delivered 80 Pack and Play cribs into the community with follow-up visits to ensure a safer sleeping environment for babies.
- Taught two "Steppin' On" class series to elders in the community to prevent injury from falls.
- Launched a new class series "Lighten UP" to address the emotional well-being of vulnerable adults.
- Provided 650 hours of school nursing services through contracts with the school districts of Edgerton, St. Paul Lutheran and Orfordville-Parkview.
- Made over 1,500 contacts to families with children that were not up to date with immunizations.
- Followed up on nearly 2,000 clients for investigation of communicable illnesses and contacts to those with illness.
- Made 2,699 home visits to families in the Healthy Families First program.
- Co-chaired the Rock County Child Death Review Team to analyze the deaths of all individuals age 25 and younger in Rock County.
- Prepared and reviewed cases of stillbirth and fetal death through the Fetal Infant Mortality Review Team and heard community feedback on those findings through the Beloit African American Services Advisory Team.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

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

- Preventing the occurrence of all diseases which can be prevented by immunizations; activities include:
 - Providing immunization clinics for childhood and adult vaccines
 - Providing immunization services and communicable disease guidance to travelers
 - Monitoring immunization rates
 - Offering consultation services to clients who are in need of immunization information
 - Educating communities, schools, and providers about improving immunization rates
 - Conducting mass clinic exercises to maintain capacity to response to a communicable disease outbreak.
- Controlling the spread of the 80 plus state mandated reportable acute and communicable diseases by prompt investigation and community education; activities include:
 - Contacting clients diagnosed with communicable diseases to educate, inform, and monitor treatment
 - Educating contacts to clients with reportable diseases about signs and symptoms, testing, treatment, and prevention strategies
 - Updating and consulting with community partners about changes in communicable disease reporting and treatment guidelines
 - Investigating outbreaks of communicable illness in high-risk settings such as nursing homes.
 - Providing consultation to clinical providers regarding best practices in communicable disease treatment and prevention
- Maintaining ongoing surveillance of diseases in the community; activities include:
 - Reviewing communicable disease data and information to determine what communicable diseases are occurring in the county
 - Following up with reports of illnesses and potential outbreaks
 - Communicating with infection disease professionals locally and at the State of Wisconsin.
 - Providing for active monitoring of travelers returning to the United States from areas experiencing Ebola outbreaks

Vaccination continues to be the best prevention for many childhood diseases and remains a high priority service of the public health nursing division. The Affordable Care Act now mandates the inclusion of vaccination for all insured individuals. Since October 2012, public health agencies can no longer use Vaccines for Children supplied vaccines to immunize children that are privately insured. Education to citizens, clinics, and schools continues regarding these changes. As a result of these changes, in 2014 the Health Department clinics experienced a 21% decrease in both clients served and the number of vaccinations given, over 2013 usage. Strong use of the agency travel immunization program continues. The health department held two mass clinics for

flu vaccination in area school districts in the fall of 2014. Regular clinics are offered at each of the Health Department offices 2-3 days per week. Clinics are also operated on a rotating basis in each community in Rock County.

LOCATION OF 2014 CLINICS AND VACCINATIONS BY TYPE			
Immunization Clinics	Client Count	Vaccine Type	Vaccine Count
Clinton Clinic	16	Dtap	69
Edgerton Clinic	15	Hepatitis A – Adult	158
Evansville Clinic	8	Hepatitis A – Peds	285
Thursday North Office Walk – In	292	Hepatitis B – Adult	95
Health Department North Office	1205	Hepatitis B – Peds	76
Health Department South Office	811	Hib	53
Tuesday Evening North Office Walk	74	HPV	144
Milton Clinic	11	Influenza - Injectable	937
Orfordville Clinic	19	Influenza – Nasal Mist	683
South Office Evening Walk – In	56	Influenza – High Dose	636
Flu & Pneumonia Clinics	1190	Japanese Encephalitis	4
Other	33	Kinrix (Dtap and Polio)	86
		Meningitis	158
		MMR	246
		Pediarix (Dtap, Hep B, and Polio)	28
		Pentacel (Dtap, Hib, and Polio)	74
		Pneumonia	47
		Polio	75
		Prevnar	128
		Rabies	12
		Rotavirus	41
		Td	4
		Tdap	556
		Twinrix	54
		Typhoid	264
		Varicella	267
		Yellow Fever	106
		Zostavax	339
Total	3,730	Total	5,625

This table lists the number of people served at Health Department clinics and the number of each vaccine given

In addition to a primary focus on prevention through vaccination, the Health Department also provides secondary prevention through the investigation of mandatory reportable communicable disease. Public health nurses coordinate with the referring physician when necessary and provide information to the client on restoration of their health and how to best prevent the spread of illness to others. Not all reports of communicable disease result in a confirmed diagnosis after investigation.

DISEASE	2013	2014	DISEASE	2013	2014
HIV Infections	**see note		Mumps	*1 (0)	*13 (0c)
Arsenic Poisoning	0	1 (0c)	Norovirus & respiratory outbreaks	*15 (14c)	*15 (12c)
Blastomycosis	2	0	Pertussis	*52 (50c)	25
Campylobacter	42	31	Q Fever	*3 (1c)	*1 (0c)
Chikungunya	0	1	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	*1 (1p)	*1 (0c)
Cryptosporidium	21	18	Salmonella	25	42
E. Coli	8	6	Shigella	1	5
Ehrlichiosis	*2 (1c)	0	Strep A or B, invasive	*8 (7c)	23
Food/Waterborne Outbreaks	3		Strep Pneumoniae	9	*14 (13c)
Giardia	9	11	Toxoplasmosis	*1 (1s)	*2 (1p)
Haemophilus Influenzae	3	2	Tuberculosis		
Hepatitis A	*2 (1s)	*1 (0c)	Active	*4 (0c)	*13 (1c)
Hepatitis B (acute)	*53 (0c)	*49 (0c)	Atypical	*15 (12c)	*19 (16c)
Hepatitis C	*120 (83c)	*127 (93c)	Latent Infection	*24 (21c)	*29 (19c)
Hepatitis E	*2 (0)	*2 (2c)	Varicella (Chicken Pox)	10 (5c)	*15 (2c)
Histoplasmosis	1	1	West Nile Virus	*1 (1c)	*2 (0c)
Influenza, hospitalized	*57 (25c) (28p)	*93 (66c) (14p)	Sexually Transmitted Infections		
Lead Poisoning >10	*27 (16c)	*25 (10c)			
Lead Poisoning 5-9	*119 (52c)	*110 (16c)			
Legionellosis	*7 (6c)	*5 (4c)	Chlamydia	*775 (761c)	*670 (666c)
Lyme Disease	*7 (6c)	*10 (5c)	Gonorrhea	*93 (87c)	*90 (89c)
Malaria	0	1	Syphilis	**	**
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	1			
Meningitis, Bacterial other	0	*3 (2c)			
*= reported cases (c) = confirmed cases after investigation (p) = probable after investigation (s) = suspect after investigation **Statistics from the State of WI not available			Total all reported	*1524	*1477
			Total cases confirmed after investigation	1273	1184
			Reported contacts to sexually transmitted infections = 70		
			Reported contacts to all other communicable illness = 434		

This table shows a comparison of the type and number of reportable diseases the Health Department investigated in 2013 and 2014.

While there are many strategies implemented by the Health Department to reduce and limit transmission of communicable diseases, eight (8) specific objectives were targeted for 2014. Those objectives and results are described on the following pages.

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, have an incidence of 0 for the following vaccine preventable diseases: measles, mumps, rubella, polio, pertussis (whooping cough) in children <1 year of age and 11-18 years of age, hepatitis B in children 2 – 18 years of age and varicella (chicken pox) in children < 17 years of age.

There was an incidence of 0 confirmed cases of measles, mumps, rubella, polio and hepatitis B in the stated ages. A pertussis outbreak that began in 2010 continues in the state and in Rock County. The State of Wisconsin continues to struggle to control the outbreak of pertussis that started in 2010 in children and adults. Rock County saw a total of 25 confirmed cases of pertussis in 2014, 2 of these were to infants less than one year of age and 10 of these were to children between the ages of 11 and 18. Varicella was reported in 9 children under the age of 17. The nursing division continues to put a high priority on outreach and education regarding vaccine-preventable diseases. Clinical providers and consumers are frequently not aware that the Affordable Care Act of 2010 now places responsibility for primary immunization on the primary care provider. Nurses are assigned to specific medical clinics to provide information, support and education resources to providers. The division also provided educational presentations to area libraries to display throughout April for immunization awareness month.

Objective not achieved

Objective 2: By December 31, 2014, 80% of children who turn 24 months during the year will have received 4 DTaP, 3 polio, 3 Hib, 3 Hepatitis B, and 1 MMR vaccinations.

In 2014, 74% of Rock County infants who turned 24 months met this benchmark, a decrease of 1% over 2013.

Objective not achieved

Objective 3: By December 31, 2014, 100% of all clients with a reported Category I infection will be contacted by a nurse within 1 day of case assignment.

Category I infections are those that can cause the most severe illness, indicate a high risk for foodborne or waterborne outbreaks, or are highly unusual in our area. This year the nursing division investigated 47 Category I illness reports. Reported illnesses included invasive haemophilus influenzae B, hepatitis A, meningococcal meningitis, mumps, norovirus outbreaks, active tuberculosis, foodborne outbreaks, and pertussis. Not all of these reports were confirmed after investigation. All of these cases were given a high priority for nursing investigation and all cases were contacted within 24 hours of case assignment.

Objective achieved

Objective 4: By December 31, 2014, nurses will provide two educational presentations to clinical providers regarding best practice in tuberculosis detection and treatment.

Tuberculosis detection and treatment has changed considerable over the last decade, with new options for blood testing becoming available. A presentation was held at Blackhawk Technical College with the nursing program to discuss tuberculosis detection and provide recommendations for their program on how best to protect the health of the nursing students and the clinical patients that they serve.

Although this objective dealt with a prominent concern, tuberculosis, when this objective was developed there could have been no way of foreseeing that public health agencies and clinical providers would face their biggest communicable disease challenge since the pandemic of 2009. The importation of Ebola infection from West Africa into the United States resulted in a great deal of necessary planning, both in public health and alongside healthcare providers, emergency response teams, and hospital systems. The Health Department assisted area providers in many ways, helping systems cope with and prioritize the amount of infection control information and guidance that was being produced from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and assisting in finding up-to-date resources and guidance regarding needed personal protective equipment. In addition to providing resources for area providers, the Health Department also had to put policy and procedure into place that specifically addressed the way that travelers entering from affected countries would be provided supervision and medical follow-up by local public health agency. The time that the Health Department provided to preparing for an Ebola outbreak in our county resulted in greatly reduced amounts of time that providers and the Health Department had available to address other issues such as tuberculosis.

Objective not achieved

Objective 5: By December 31, 2014, 80% of families with children less than 6 years of age with a capillary blood lead level ≥ 5 mcg/dl, will receive public health nursing services to educate, provide lead abatement information and refer for medical follow-up.

Lead toxicity is an ongoing concern. All at-risk children are recommended to receive a blood test to measure the level of this heavy metal in the bloodstream in late infancy, with additional testing as warranted. In mid-2012 the Centers for Communicable Disease Prevention and Control lowered the action threshold for lead levels in children from 10 mcg/dl to 5 mcg/dl. There is no known “safe” level of lead in the blood. The lowered threshold has resulted in a triple-fold increase in referrals for children with unsafe lead in their system.

In 2014, 145 cases were closed to children presenting with lead levels over 5 mcg/dl. Of these, the objective was reached in 75% of the cases. At times, the parents of children with low levels of lead will refuse education visits, or have moved by the time the referral is received.

Objective not achieved

Objective 6: By December 31, 2014, nurses will case manage 100% of HUD grant referrals for lead abatement according to the grant standards.

Teaming with the environmental health division, the nursing division provides a single point of contact to answer health questions related to effects of lead in young children, monitor lead levels, and provide developmental screening to youngsters residing in homes that are having lead abatement work completed. The length of involvement with the public health nurse case manager can extend to a year or longer before work on the home is completed and all of the objectives of the grant are completed. The families involved with this program are at liberty to decline nursing services if they choose. Of the seven HUD grant recipients closed to service in 2014, all recipients that agreed to nursing services met the grant requirements.

Objective achieved

Objective 7: By December 31, 2014, the percentage of clients receiving a home visit for HIV partner referral services will increase from 26% to the WI state average of 40%.

The Health Department provides follow-up for HIV and partner referral for the counties of Rock, Green, Walworth and Lafayette. This year the number of referrals received in the HIV/Partner Services Referral Program decreased from 34 to 20 individuals. The great majority of these were from Rock County. All of the clients referred for HIV/Partner Services were contacted either by phone or home visit. All but one were aware of their HIV status and did not require testing, which may have affected the number agreeing to a home visit. The percentage of clients that were visited in the home for follow-up to referrals stayed at 26%, the same as 2013. All clients that were referred received nursing follow-up and education, either in person or over the phone. In-house testing for HIV increased from 45 in 2013 to 57 in 2014.

Objective not achieved

Objective 8: By December 31, 2014, repeat sexually transmitted infections (STI) in the same client within the same year will be reduced by 5%.

The consequences of reinfection can include pelvic inflammatory disease, infertility, increased transmission to sexual partners, and, in some studies, premature labor and birth. The nursing division continues to work with individuals and with the community to increase effective messaging for a reduction in this reinfection rate. In 2013, 13% of clients that were reported with sexually transmitted infection had also been reported with STI in the previous 12 months. In 2014 this number decreased slightly to 12%.

Objective not achieved

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES

The goals of the Rock County Healthy Families First program are to:

- Promote positive health behaviors

- Reduce the risks associated with sub-optimal reproductive health of mothers
- Promote the growth, development, and optimal functioning of infants, children, and youth
- Reduce racial disparity in birth outcome and prevent injury and disability.
- Collaborate with other providers in the community

The Healthy Families First home visiting program is offered to women and families expecting a child or parenting an infant. Referrals are accepted for a woman/family that has an increased risk of prematurity, a risk to infant development, or another factor for which the family needs additional support. This service is designed to build a helping relationship between a professional nurse and family, and through that relationship to support and partner with the family through a time of great transition. During pregnancy the nurses use the curriculum “Partners for a Healthy Baby”, and into infancy, the “Bright Futures” curriculum. This service is voluntary, and dependent on a family’s acceptance of service.

The nursing division has made efforts to outreach to clinical providers throughout the past few years to inform them of the benefits of home visiting for families at risk. In 2014, the Wisconsin Medicaid system mandated that all Health Maintenance Organizations serving pregnant women through Wisconsin Medical Assistance, and residing in identified counties in Wisconsin, develop a systematic plan for addressing risks caused by certain social determinants of health. The Health Department worked collaboratively with all local HMOs to inform, educate and develop procedures related to referral into the Health Department’s prenatal care coordination and Healthy Families First home visiting program to assist them in meeting this directive. The Health Department receives no additional funding for this collaboration, however the healthy birth of an infant is an outcome with great benefit to all.

The Health Department accepts referrals from any source, and for women of any income level. The total number of referrals received in 2014 was 755, a 41% increase over 2013 (537). The number of clinic-based referrals for pregnant women increased from a total of four referrals in 2013 to 151 referrals in 2014, with one clinic system increasing referrals for pregnant women from three to 146.

The objectives and narrative related to the accomplishment of the maternal and child health objectives are described below.

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, infants born to mothers that were seen for at least three home visits will meet the Healthiest People 2020 goal of less than 7.8% low birth weight.

Of the cases closed in 2014, 63 pregnant women were seen for three or more home visits, 14% of these women delivered low birthweight infants, classified as those smaller than five pounds eight ounces. Possible reasons for this higher percentage may be the families followed for multiple birth and all families screened in for service due to increased risk factors.

Through the care of the public health nurses, families with babies born too early, or too small, were assisted to receive screening and intervention to overcome early deficits to growth and

development. The health department continues to provide outreach to clinics and health care providers to encourage referral early in pregnancy.

Objective not achieved

Objective 2: By December 31, 2014, 75% of parents of all newborns seen through the Healthy Families First program will identify that they put their infants on their backs to sleep (Healthiest People 2020 target goal).

Unsafe sleep position is an identified contributor to the death of infants in Rock County. The nurses have a high priority on education regarding safe sleep practices. Each family has instruction on placing their baby on their back to sleep at the first visit after delivery, and during pregnancy if the family is followed for services prior to delivery. 98.5% of the families visited identified that they place their babies on their backs to sleep. The nurses have also delivered 80 cribs to families that could not otherwise afford a safe place for their babies to sleep, and followed through with education and information related to safe sleep.

Objective achieved

Objective 3: By December 31, 2014, there will be 5% increase in completed medical evaluation for those head start students who fail their vision or hearing screening.

All Rock County sites that provide Head Start services receive nursing services to assist in screening for vision and hearing deficits in students. Early identification and treatment are essential to continue health and well-being, as well as an optimal experience learning in the classroom. In 2013, 58% of children identified with a need for a professional eye exam received this service, which 69% of those students in need of hearing examination received an exam.

This year the nurses screened 196 students for vision acuity and 195 for hearing status. Notable was a doubling over 2013 of the number of students that failed vision screening and were referred for services. 34% of the students screened were referred for further vision evaluation. At the time of this writing, 65% of the students referred either have completed a medical appointment or have an appointment pending. For hearing screening, 6% of the students were referred (the same as in 2013), and 64% have either completed their appointment or have an appointment pending. The nurses spend a great time of effort contacting parents by phone and note to inform them of the need for an exam and help them access services if needed. Although the number of students with appointments pending for vision screening meets the stated objective, not all of these student have yet completed their exam. The total of students complying with a hearing exam is slightly decreased from 2013.

Objective not achieved

Objective 4: By December 31, 2014, nurses will provide two outreach activities focused at decreasing disparities in one or more social determinants of health.

The nursing staff provided a flu clinic to the men's homeless shelter (GIFTS) operating in Janesville. They also provided monthly health topics and support to the parent socialization groups of Rock County's Head Start Program. A public health nurse provided directed health education topics to teen mothers in a local high school, the Beloit Domestic Violence Shelter and Stateline Pregnancy Center. The Health Department continues to be involved in African American Infant Mortality through the LifeCourse Initiative for Healthy Families, Beloit.

Objective achieved

Objective 5: By December 31, 2014, there will be a 10% increase in revenue received through Medical Assistance billing related to maternal and child health.

The nursing division responded in 2014 to recommended changes in documentation related to a prenatal care coordination audit completed in late 2013. As a result of these findings, the division stopped all billing related to prenatal care coordination in early 2014 while changes to documentation procedures and training could be completed. As a result of this necessary change, billing in 2014 declined by 19% over 2013. Because of the increasing number of at-risk pregnant women being served through the nursing division, revenue is projected to continue increasing into 2015.

Objective not achieved

Objective 6: By December 31, 2014, among Healthy Families First clients receiving more than 3 home visits, there will be a 5% increase in mothers who sustain breastfeeding for the first six months of baby's life.

The nursing division provides home visiting to pregnant and parenting families. Part of pregnancy care involves education and support to the mother and father to encourage them to consider breastfeeding for their baby's best health. After delivery, support continues for mother to continue breastfeeding successfully for as long as possible. Extending to a community focus, the nursing division participates in a community-wide coalition that meets regularly to advocate for breastfeeding and look at needed system supports in healthcare, nutritional support agencies, businesses and public health to facilitate this goal. Nurses have also been involved in community education in businesses and day care centers to educate and inform regarding the benefits to the baby, mother and family when breastfeeding is sustained.

In 2014, there were 217 families in the Healthy Families First program that received three or more home visits after the baby's birth. Of these families, 61% chose to breastfeed their baby, this number is unchanged from 2013. In 2013, 26% families choosing to breastfeed were able to sustain breastfeeding for at least the first 6 months of the baby's life. In 2014, of the families

choosing to breastfeed, the percent sustaining breastfeeding for at least 6 months climbed to 36%, a 10% improvement over last year.

Objective Achieved.

Objective 7: By December 31, 2014, among Healthy Families First clients receiving more than 3 home visits, there will be 0 unintended repeat pregnancies at case closure.

Interpregnancy spacing has been deemed an important factor in continued health of the mother, and health of the unborn baby. For optimal health, a repeat pregnancy should be delayed at least to 6 months after the birth of a child, and 18 months is ideal. Public health efforts have long been focused on providing access to contraception and education for mothers and fathers about how to use contraception and access reproductive health services. This is an important focus for nursing visits, however this year the goal was changed to look at the outcomes of our clients relating to whether unintended pregnancy actually occurred during the time they were visited. Of the 217 clients seen for services, 22 experienced an unintended pregnancy before the case was closed (10%). Pregnancy, although unintended, does not always signal an unwelcome event in the life of a family by the time that child is born. Nevertheless, strains on relationships, housing, income and occupation may be experienced when a family adds a child without anticipating and planning for his or her arrival. Nationwide, unintended pregnancy constitutes nearly 40% of all pregnancies at the time of conception (CDC, National Health Statistics, 2012). Since this is a new agency goal, further knowledge needs to be explored as to whether the rate experienced by our clients is increasing or decreasing, and what interventions will yield success in reducing this number going forward.

Objective not achieved

Objective 8: By December 31, 2014, at least one new program or service will be developed in response to the findings of the Rock County Child Death Review Team.

The Child Death Review Team is an interdisciplinary team that looks at the cause of all deaths to children older than 2 weeks and under age 25, occurring outside a hospital environment. Through the efforts of the Child Death Review Team many organizations have taken on education and awareness within their systems and community groups to move toward prevention of these deaths in Rock County.

Motor vehicle accidents are a leading cause of death in children. A belt-positioning booster seat is typically recommended for children who are 4 to 8 years old or who weigh at least 40 pounds and are up to 4 feet 9 inches tall. A booster seat reduces the risk of serious injury to children 4-8 years of age by 45% when compared with seatbelt use alone (Pediatrics 2009; 124; 1281–6). Parents sometimes network with friends to pick up children from school or transport others to sleep-overs or other social occasions. When this happens, the driver may not have a ready and available booster seat for the guest in their car. As a result of networking between the nursing division, Beloit Turner School District and their parent teacher organization, a booster seat loan program was developed for a Beloit Turner Elementary School. This program provides a few

booster seats on loan at the school for temporary use if a parent, friend or grandparent requests one.

Objective Achieved

Objective 9: By December 31, 2014, the Fetal Infant Mortality Review Team will have met three times for case review.

The Rock County Fetal Infant Mortality Review Team (FIMR) is the culmination of a multi-year effort to seek system-wide solutions to infant mortality in Rock County. In mid-2013 the nursing division began implementing a grant awarded by the Wisconsin Partnership Project, in collaboration with the LifeCourse Initiative for Healthy Families, Beloit. FIMR work involves both the process of case review, and seeking the stories of parents to learn more about the experiences related to the death of their infant. Throughout the early part of 2014 many tasks necessary to start this work were completed. Permission was secured from all area delivering hospitals to participate in case reviews and meet regularly to analyze cases. Cultural competence training was held for nurses involved in case review and parent interviews. Agreements with the state Vital Records department and with the Milwaukee FIMR Team were signed and implemented. The agency developed processes, policies and protocols for de-identifying all case reviews. This anonymity allows for confidential discussion and focus on future solutions. The nursing division came together in a team approach to conduct interviews, assemble and compile records, and develop their own expertise in providing this important prevention work.

The Rock County FIMR approach also includes a unique group of community members called the African American Services Advisory Team (AASAT). The inclusion of feedback from members of the African American community of Beloit is vital to understanding how best to apply the solutions needed in the most culturally effective way possible.

Early results include much insight into developing an effective message for interpregnancy spacing, smoking cessation in pregnancy, developing resources for grieving families and facilitating systems enhancement to become even more effective in assisting families suffering this profound loss. The FIMR and AASAT teams each met three times in 2014.

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.

In 2014, the public health nursing division provided over 700 hours of direct service in community health education and outreach. Highlights of working with adult populations to enhance health include teaching and facilitating health classes related to depression risk and fall risk in adult populations. Because the function of a public health nurse involves a holistic

approach to the health of the family, it is not unusual to have a call or visit that the nurse was planning to make for child health or communicable disease direct itself toward the nurse providing navigation to necessary community resources and health practices for the needful adult.

Public health nursing in this category essentially combines elements of all core public health functions, assessment, policy development, and assurance. Three objectives were identified in this category for 2014. The next paragraphs will detail just some of the work accomplished in this area.

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, public health nurses will participate in at least 4 adult health and wellness activities in a community-based setting.

The nursing division continued to provide a staff representative to the Rock County Wellness Committee. Division staff also manned a booth at the annual Rock County Wellness Fair, providing information on international travel immunizations and summer safety tips. At nearly 1,200 employees, Rock County employees and their family members comprise a ready population for education, immunization and emphasis on the benefits of healthy living. A public health nurse staffed a booth at each of 12 “Super Tuesday” events at a local natural foods store, focusing on a different topic monthly. Environmental impacts of health, such as radon and healthy water supplies, and the importance of immunization for prevention of communicable disease were just a few of the focus areas of this effort in community education.

Nurses staffed a booth at the Rock County Fair in collaboration with the Rock County Sheriff’s office. A different health topic was featured at the booth each day. Farm Safety and dog bite prevention seemed to draw the most people to the Rock County Fair booth. National Night Out, Beloit’s Black Family Day, Latino Health Fair, and the Community Baby shower were also opportunities at which public health nurses provided pertinent health information such as immunization recommendations, dog bite prevention, safe sleep practices, and immunizations.

Objective achieved

Objective 2: By December 31, 2014, at least one role in supporting the positive mental health of Rock County residents will be identified.

In 2014, in partnership with the Council on Aging, a public health nurse was trained to facilitate a program designed to support those at higher risk for depression. Rock County residents either over 60, or adults with a disability were invited to participate in “Lighten UP”, a supportive group process intended to reduce depressive symptoms, improve well-being and improve sleep among older adults and adults with physical disabilities. The Lighten UP class started with 10 participants and eight 90-minute group sessions were completed. Two classes are scheduled for 2015.

Objective achieved

By December 31, 2014, public health nurses will conduct outreach on influenza immunization resulting in a 5% increase in influenza immunization delivered by the agency.

With the institution of changes in immunization delivery through the Affordable Care Act, the Health Department has added the core function of assurance to community work around immunization of the population. In 2014, influenza vaccination was available through medical clinics, pharmacies, community sites such as stores and health fairs, and at the health department. The Health Department moved forward on electronic billing for almost all Medicare billing and increased the efficiency and timeliness of reimbursement. The agency continued to provide on-site clinics for county employees and collaborated with human resources to offer influenza, and other immunizations through roster billing to the county's insurance plan. Delivering immunization services in this way saves the cost of higher priced immunization in a clinic setting and provides a convenient way for county employees to be vaccinated, saving work time lost due to illness.

The Health Department worked with the county's developmental disabilities board to identify group homes where residents were unable to leave their homes to obtain a flu shot and provided on-site clinics for five group homes. Influenza vaccinations were also offered on site at regularly scheduled immunization clinics and several groups in the community, such as the GIFTS men's shelter, Community Baby Shower, and Head Start parent groups. In addition, influenza clinics were held in several senior living complexes

The Centers for Disease Control announced early in the flu season that the influenza vaccine was a poor match for the most widely circulating influenza strain. This may have dampened consumer desire to receive the influenza vaccine. The agency worked with state emergency government and served as a central distribution point for antiviral medication, should it have been needed for a widespread outbreak. Overall immunization numbers were down for 2014. Flu vaccination through Health Department services decreased 25% from 2013.

Objective not achieved

FAMILY HEALTH CLINIC

The Family Health Clinic provides services that transverse the Communicable Disease Control Program, Healthy Families First Program, and Adult Health Program. These clinics provide a needed service and also make available a way to identify clients and families who may need extended services through other program areas. The goal of the Family Health Clinic is to provide Rock County citizens low-cost nursing clinic services that provide health assessment, health information, and appropriate referrals.

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, public health nurses will provide education and information to 400 travel immunization clients via phone or clinic visit.

Travel immunization is provided by the Health Department as a primary prevention service to those traveling to areas where travel risk of communicable illness is high. All clients are provided information and education by phone, some choose to schedule immunization services at the Health Department and others choose to receive these services elsewhere or decline recommended immunizations. In 2014, West African countries experienced a massive outbreak of viral hemorrhagic fever (Ebola). As the role of the travel nurse has transitioned from mostly travel immunization, to a more comprehensive provision of education and information regarding prevalent illness in the regions being visited, the nurse's role and time commitment has increased accordingly. More than 600 nursing hours were devoted to travel risk counseling and immunization delivery in 2014. Three hundred and ninety-five (395) clients received clinic services and immunization, and eighty-four (84) others received counseling via phone only and did not schedule a clinic appointment.

Objective achieved

Objective 2: By December 31, 2014, through increased efforts at case finding, there will be a 10% increase in the number of pregnant women referred for Healthy Families First home visiting services.

Although nursing services throughout an infant's first year of life can assist families in developing healthy habits around feeding, sleep practices, immunization and development, frequently when a family engages in services after the baby is born it is difficult to provide the highest level of holistic care to the entire family unit. When a family is engaged in services throughout the pregnancy, the focus becomes one of "setting the stage" for best health. Care through a pregnancy provides the maximum prevention benefit by involvement of not only the mother, but often the father, grandmother and others that greatly influence the support to mother and baby's health. This support does occur after the baby is born as well, but sometimes is crowded out by the emergent needs of the newborn.

The nursing division provides a nurse that connects with each clinic system to provide information, resources and referral contact for pregnant women. In 2014 there were a total of 305 women referred for home visiting services while pregnant. This represents a 45% increase in referrals for at-risk pregnant women over 2013 levels, and a welcome opportunity to serve women and families to prepare them for the many parenting challenges ahead.

Objective achieved

Objective 3: By December 31, 2014, resource and referral services will be provided collaboratively with First Choice Women's Health Center in its Beloit location.

In 2010, a collaborative effort was launched to provide an on-site immunization clinic to men and women receiving health services at the First Choice Women's Health Center (FCWHC) in Janesville. In 2012, the addition of a weekly clinic to assist women to apply for health insurance

and support services as soon as their pregnancy was diagnosed was also started at the north office in Janesville. This collaboration continued in Janesville in 2014, where 41 women were assisted to apply for medical assistance, and were enrolled in home visiting services. The office of First Choice Women's Health Center in Beloit's Eclipse Center has limited hours, however the nurses were able to assist six women at the Beloit office and enroll them in medical assistance and early home visiting services for their pregnancy.

Objective achieved

Health Education

Health education is critically important to improving the health of communities and individuals. Rock County ranks in the lower 1/3 of counties in the state for overall health.

The goal of the Rock County Health Education Program is to motivate a person or groups to act on learned information to change unhealthy behaviors to healthy behaviors, leading to an overall improvement in health. Health education in Rock County continues to grow and expand in its scope.

In 2014, two grants (Community Transformation Grant and the Brownfield Grant) that allowed the Health Department to expand Health Education services in the community ended. Before the end of the Community Transformation Grant, the Health Department was able to implement a Farm to School program in the School District of Edgerton. Support was also given to the School District of Beloit for Farm to School programming.

Objectives:

Objective 1: By December 31, 2014, two school districts will participate in the Farm to School Nutrition program by purchasing and serving locally grown fruits or vegetables at school meals.

- The Transformation Grant provided Edgerton School District and School District of Beloit financial and educational support throughout the year for the Farm to School program.
- Edgerton School District and School District of Beloit actively participated in Farm to School activities and programming.
- Edgerton School District received a salad bar for the school cafeteria from the Transformation Grant to give students various options of healthy and nutritious foods at school.
- Edgerton Community Elementary School received \$5,000 to go towards equipment to construct a school garden in the school's inner courtyard.
- Weekly Farm to School health, nutrition and agricultural education lessons were provided by the Rock County Health Department's health educator.
- Local farmers educate students on agricultural practices and careers.
- Eight fruit and vegetable "taste-testing" activities were done at Edgerton Elementary School, including school garden produce.
- Monthly "Harvest of the Month" newsletters were distributed to over 125 families each month.
- Produce from Edgerton Elementary school garden was donated to Edgerton Community Outreach.

Objective achieved.

Objective2: By December 31, 2014, 2 school districts will adopt Recreational Use Agreements and have updated wellness policies that include the agreement.

No school districts signed the Recreational Use Agreements. All school districts in Rock County do allow use of their facilities for many community sponsored activities already.

Objective not achieved.

Objective 3: By December 31, 2014, investigate and apply for mini-grants that would support current health department programming.

The Rock County Health Department was awarded an Agricultural Safety Grant from the Wisconsin Division of Public Health. Grant dates Feb. 1, 2014 – June 30, 2014. Farm Safety outreach, awareness and educational resources were promoted throughout Rock County.

Objective achieved.

Objective 4: By December 31, 2014, represent the health department on health-related community coalitions and committees.

The health educator represents the health department by being on several health-related committees and coalitions in the area. They include: Transform Rock County Coalition, Farm to School Coalition, Edgerton School District Food Service Committee, Community Health Needs Assessment Committee, “Good to Great Activate” Committee, Mercy Hospital Emergency Operation Committee Volunteers Active in Disaster Committee, Rock N’ Wellness Committee.

Objective achieved.

Objective 5: By December 31, 2014, continue implementation strategies of the Community Transformation Grant according to grant requirements.

- School garden activities and agriculture health, nutrition and agricultural education continues after the grant is complete.
- Community businesses and members volunteer and donate time, plants and other garden supplies.
- Harvest of the Month is incorporated into food service program at Edgerton School Districts

Objective achieved.

Objective 6: By December 31, 2014 complete the ATSDR model of activities for the Brownfield Grant and submit final report to the CDC.

In 2012, the Rock County Health Department received a \$148,000 grant from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Diseases Registry (ATSDR) to collaborate with the City of Janesville, WI to reduce exposure to contaminants and improve health outcomes by using community health issues to guide redevelopment along the riverfront and downtown.

RCHD staff met with fifteen (15) community organizations and held two open community meetings to obtain feedback from community members regarding what community health issues are important to them and what changes people would like to see in Janesville. Through this process, the Health Department identified thirty-four (34) community health issues and numerous redevelopment ideas.

The community health issues were organized into four categories: (1) Health; (2) Community; (3) Land and Environment; and (4) Buildings and Infrastructure. At the two open community meetings, participants were asked to indicate which community health issues they felt were most important and which redevelopment ideas they liked the most. These prioritizations provided the framework for gathering the data needed to measure change in health outcomes for Janesville residents in the future.

The activities of the grant were completed and the final report was submitted to the CDC on September 29, 2014.

Objective achieved.