



BROWN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Emergency Preparedness

The CDC Emergency Response Grant enables the health department to work with local and regional first responders to help maintain our county's ability to respond to natural or manmade disasters. The Public Health Preparedness Grant and related funding brings in approximately \$100,000 annually and is only used for Emergency Response activities.

City Readiness Initiative

The City Readiness Initiative grant brings in approximately \$18,000 annually. This grant is used for community and volunteer education programs.

BOARD MEMBERS

<u>Member</u>	<u>Township</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Rachael Jodrey	Lewis	3/2027
Ralph Jennings	Lewis	3/2028
Tim O'Hara	Mt. Orab	3/2024
Dr. Michael McHenry	Lewis	3/2025
Mark Klump	Jefferson	3/2026

Health District Programs and Services

The 2023 Activity Report for the Brown County Health Department presents statistical data outlining service levels in the various programs and service components offered by the agency or mandated by statute.

Public Health Programs & Services

Environmental Health	Public Health Nursing
Vital Statistics	Emergency Preparedness / Response
Health Education	School Inspections
Solid Waste	Sewage / Water Quality
Mammogram Van	Diabetes Support Group
Drug Prevention	

Administrative - Accreditation

In 2023 the department continued their efforts toward becoming an accredited agency as required by the Ohio Department of Health.

Plumbing Services

Plumbing services in the County during 2023 continued to be provided through a contract with Hamilton County. This arrangement results in a net monetary savings for the agency.

Permits and Inspections	2023	2022
Residential Permits	172	194
Residential Inspections	211	306
Commercial Permits	19	22
Commercial Inspection	35	33
Registered Installers	79	77

Nursing Services

The Public Health Nursing Division works to promote and protect the health of Brown County residents through a variety of initiatives. The Nursing Division provides communicable disease investigation and tracking, epidemiology, health education, immunization clinics, health screening tests, and many other services to the county. Below is a listing of a few items we do but is not a full reflection of all we do.

COVID-19

In 2023, we continued to offer first-time vaccines. In the fall, we started offered 300 vaccines of the new Monovalent Spikevax. In December, we opted to not carry Spikevax any longer due to the rising cost of the vaccine.

Hoxworth Blood Drive

We had no Blood Drives in 2023 due to the unavailability of their staff and van.

Immunization Clinics

The nursing division provides vaccination clinics and immunizations for a variety of diseases: including influenza, shingles, pneumonia, and RSV.

National Night Out

Was held on August 2nd at the F.O.E. in Georgetown and Mt Orab. This was a huge community event in both places.

St Elizabeth Mammogram Van

The mobile mammography van from the St Elizabeth hospitals partner with the health department four times a year to bring the mobile van to our parking lot to assist those individuals needing a yearly screening. We work with St Elizabeth and the Breast and Cervical Cancer Project (BCCP) to ensure that everyone receives their screening even without insurance.

Syringe Service Program (SSP), Prevention Point

The opioid epidemic continues in our county. In 2023, our SSP took in approximately 54,000 used needles, which is a 130% increase from 2022.

*NEW Mobile Unit

We received the unit in March 2023 with the help of the HEALing Community Study. We had 56 visits, distributing more than 1600 doses of Narcan. We traveled more the 1700 miles across the county

Visits per Township

Pleasant	25
Jefferson	3
Union	4
Huntington	7
Lewis	3
Clark	4
Washington	5
Perry	2
Green	3



Vital Statistics

Ohio's New Driver License and Identification Card

The Brown County Health Department issues birth certificates for anyone born in the state of Ohio and issues death certificates for any deaths that occur in Brown County. Genealogists may view records at our office Monday-Friday 8:00am – 4:30pm with the assistance of our Local Registrar and/or Deputy Registrar. Our office maintains birth and death records for Brown County dating from 1908 to present.

On July 2, 2018, The Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles introduced its new Driver License and Identification Card (DL-ID). The new *Compliant DL-ID* requires more documentation to be presented at the BMV when renewing your driver's license. The new driver license requirements have continued to produce an increase in the number of requests for Birth Certificates coming through our office in 2023.

Vital Statistics

2023 Births/Deaths Occurring in County

Births 18 Deaths 361

2023 Causes of Death (Immediate Cause)

Alcoholism	3	Sepsis	29
Alzheimer's	21	Stroke	15
Accidents*	27	Suicide	8
Brain Event	14	Homicide	3
Cancer	71	Undetermined	3
COVID	2		
Dementia	13		
Failure to Thrive	9		
Heart Event	164		
Kidney Event	12		
Liver Event	13		
Lung Event	124		
Muscle Event	1		
Natural Causes	5		
Pancreatic Event	3		
Parkinson's Disease	3		

*Accidents:

Asphyxia/Drowning	4	Carbon Monoxide	0
Blunt Force Trauma	4	Drug Overdoses	26
Burn Victim	0	Gunshot	7
Car Accidents	6	Hanging	3

(Note: Causes of Death include all Brown County Residents)

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Environmental Health Services

The Environmental Health Division of the Brown County Health Department is responsible for managing a wide variety of state and local programs designed to promote a healthy environment for Brown County. These services include food inspections, household sewage treatment systems, private water sources, nuisance complaints, environmental disease monitoring, school and institution safety inspections, and many other programs. The following section provides an overview of many of the program areas in our Environmental Health Division.

Special Programs and Services by the Environmental Division for 2023 include:

- Agency personnel made 6 court appearances relating to nuisance investigations.
- \$150,000 was spent of the total \$150,000 awarded through the 2022 HSTS grant. \$81,105.70 was spent of the total \$150,000 awarded through the 2023 HSTS grant. The HSTS Grant is funded by the Ohio EPA and go to qualified county residents with failing septic systems.
- Brown County hosted 1 Serv-Safe Level 2 Manager Class.

Environmental Licenses, Inspections and Permits Issued

Campgrounds	27	Landfill Inspections/Complaints	45
Public Pools & Spas	8	Nuisances Investigations	81
Food Operations	274	Subdivision Reviews	42
Tattoo Facilities	3	Septic Installers Registered	33
Private Water Systems	3	Septic Haulers Registered	18
School Inspections	19	Service Providers Registered	12
Operational Maintenance	62	Water Haulers Registered	1
Rabies Program: Dog Bites	75		
Other Animal Bites	19		

Environmental Statistics

Sewage Applications	2023	2022	Installation Permits	2023	2022
New Construction	47	47	Permit to Install	42	53
Loans	3	6	Permit for Alteration	15	22
Repairs/Alteration	7	22	Operation Permits	53	42
Home Replacement	26	19	Totals	110	117
Commercial	0	0			
Totals	83	94			

Household Sewage Treatment System Grant

The Brown County Health Department has grant money available for replacement of failing septic systems and connecting failing systems to public sewer when available. This funding is made available to the County through the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Water Control Fund. Eligibility for the grant is based on household size and income. The owner needs to have lived on and owned the land for at least one year (this includes land contracts). The money can be used to replace existing septic systems but cannot be used for new systems. If the applicant is eligible, the grant would pay one of the following percentages: 50%, 85% or 100% of the replacement costs. This year the county has applied to receive the maximum amount of \$150,000 for the 2024 grant. Over the last 10 years Brown County has been able to utilize over \$1,300,000 to help county residents replace their failing septic systems. For more information, please contact our office at 937-378-6892.

Health Department Staff

Kyle D. Arn, MS, REHS	Health Commissioner
Pamela Williams, MPH, BSN, RN	Nursing Director / Deputy Health Commissioner
Stephen Dick, REHS	Environmental Health Director
Jennifer Fetters	Fiscal Officer/Administrative Asst/Local Registrar
Elizabeth Pemberton	Emergency Response Coordinator
Ami Yelton, RN	Public Health Nurse
Heather Sloat, REHS	Registered Environmental Health Specialist
Andrew Louderback	Environmental Health Specialist in Training
Erin Boone	Environmental Secretary/Deputy Registrar
April Bishop, RN	Public Health Nurse
Cheryl Phillips, RN	Public Health Nurse/Medical Billing
Todd Williams, MD	Medical Director