

Summit County Public Health



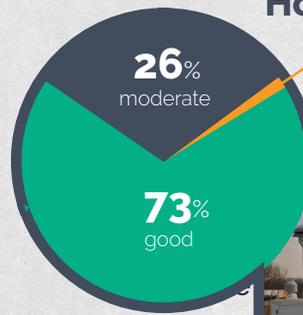
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



AIR QUALITY

The Akron Regional Air Quality Management District (ARAQMD), a service of Summit County Public Health, works in coordination with Ohio EPA toward the goal of clean air in Medina, Summit and Portage counties. ARAQMD inspects companies and reviews permits for air pollution sources in all 3 counties. Outdoor air quality complaints are also investigated. The air program also covers large scale asbestos removal projects, open burning concerns, & air monitoring for all three counties. With a staff of 14, ARAQMD works to help our region continue to see air quality improvements! Learn more at: www.araqmd.org.

How was our air in 2021?



1% unhealthy for sensitive groups

Air monitoring site in West Akron



OPEN BURNING & FUGITIVE DUST FOLLOW-UP

95

To help reduce regional particulate air pollution, Ohio law places limits on open burning and fugitive dust. In 2021 we performed a combined 95 inspections related to either open burning or fugitive dust.



AIR QUALITY INSPECTIONS

171

We have over 1,300 facilities with air permits. Our staff perform routine required inspections as well as complaint investigations at permitted facilities. Additionally, we have staff that inspect demolition and renovation projects for asbestos as required by Ohio law.



UNHEALTHY AIR DAYS

3

The Air Quality Index (AQI) is a tool used to help communicate current and forecasted air quality conditions. Both "moderate" and "good" AQI readings indicate that the air meets federal standards for quality. AQI readings in the "unhealthy for sensitive groups" and worse levels indicate that the air quality does not meet federal standards and is considered "poor". In 2021, there were three days with air considered "unhealthy for sensitive groups" according to federal standards.



FOOD SAFETY

The food safety program works to protect the public by making sure all places selling food are using the best food handling practices to provide food that is safe for people to eat. Places selling food are inspected to make sure that all staff are handling the food in ways that keep it safe to eat. These places include, restaurants, grocery stores, mobiles (like food trucks), temporary operations (like fair-food sellers at events), and even vending machines.



	LICENSED FOOD FACILITIES	2,813
	FOOD FACILITY INSPECTIONS	7,547
	TEMPORARY LICENSES ISSUED	99
	MOBILE LICENSES ISSUED	144
	VENDING MACHINE LICENSES ISSUED	228

Inspections are completed 1-2 times per year depending on the risk level and/or when complaints are received or enforcement action such as follow-up inspections are required. Summit County licenses and inspects approximately 3,500 food facilities each year.





HEALTHY HOMES

Where you live may be a major determinant of health. The city, neighborhood and even your residence impact your health. The SCPH Neighborhood Health program helps residents solve housing and neighborhood issues that create barriers to healthy living. This page contains a snapshot of 2021 activities.



HOUSING INVESTIGATIONS & INSPECTIONS

MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM

The goal of Summit County Public Health's (SCPH) Mosquito Control Program is to reduce the number of disease carrying mosquitoes in an environmentally responsible manner. This agency provides mosquito surveillance services to our community partners and when we detect disease-carrying mosquitoes, we provide a response using integrated pest management. We also strive to educate our community partners and the public on best practices that have been proven effective in reducing the number of mosquito breeding sites.

Complaint Type	#
Indoor Air / Mold	41
Landlord / Tenant Dispute	114
Trash / Hoarding / Unsanitary	166
Mosquito Complaints	159
Pest / Vermin	39
Animal bite exposure investigations	957
Lead investigations	118
Hotel Complaint Inspections	20
Jail Inspections	33

- **563** mosquito traps set at **180** surveillance locations
- **26** testing pools were positive for West Nile virus
- Reduced mosquito breeding grounds by collecting and disposing of **974** scrap tires
- Evaluated and treated, if necessary, **3772** known mosquito breeding sites
- Conducted **77** ULV (Ultra Low Volume) night spray applications covering **28,016** acres

LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM

Acting as a delegated authority for the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), SCPH conducted **936** elevated blood lead level (EBL) investigations for children under the age of six. In addition, the SCPH lead poisoning prevention program team investigated and closed **69** EBL cases. SCPH, in conjunction with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Summit County Department of Development (SCDOD), remediated lead paint hazards in **20** homes and conducted lead risk assessments for **49** homes despite supply line delays and a statewide contractor shortage.



WATER QUALITY

The Water Quality program works to ensure that ground and surface water are safe from potential sources of contamination by enforcing the state of Ohio Sewage Treatment System (STS) and Private Water System (PWS) rules. Program staff are responsible for permitting and inspecting STS systems for residential homes, certain smaller commercial properties, and PWS sources such as water wells and cisterns.



STS PERMITS ISSUED

369

PWS PERMITS ISSUED

289

OTHER PROGRAMS

To complement the state rules and reduce the contamination to waters of the state, SCPH has also developed additional programs and services. Other SCPH programs include:

- A point-of-sale (POS) program for the inspection of STS & PWS for residential homes prior to transfer of ownership.
- A program that provides for the consultation and approval of staff prior to the issuance of building and zoning permits for projects that have the potential to affect the STS and/or PWS on-site.
- An operation permit program that tracks the operation of STS to reduce the risk of premature failure of the system due to a lack of maintenance.
- Compliance inspections for commercial septic systems (also known as "semipublic systems").



POS INSPECTIONS REVIEWED

2649



OPERATIONS PERMITS

15,859



SEMI-PUBLIC INSPECTIONS

620

BUILDING & ZONING REVIEWS

323



RECREATION PROGRAM



POOLS, SPAS & SPECIAL-USE POOL PERMITS

263

Part of what makes living in Summit County so great is the abundance of recreation opportunities throughout the county. Beaches, swimming pools, spas, RV parks and residential camps all fall under the Environmental Health program's responsibility. Ensuring adequate equipment, maintenance, and general health and safety standards are being met are the top priority of this program. Additionally, should any complaints about a facility come in, our staff will investigate and initiate corrective actions if required. New for 2019, SCPH now uses NOAA satellite images shared by the Ohio Department of Health for harmful algal bloom (HAB) monitoring that can detect cyanotoxins or cyanotoxin-producing genes in water. This information, along with on-site visual inspection results are shared with the owner/operator.

Pool inspections	195
Pool equipment inspections	286
Special use/sprayground inspections	66
Special use equipment inspections	31
Spa inspections	145
Spa equipment inspections	48

POOL SAFETY CONSULTATIONS

65



PUBLIC BATHING BEACH INSPECTIONS

19

WATER QUALITY SAMPLES COLLECTED

51

Summit County Public Health issued 13 permits to public bathing beaches in Summit County in 2018. Inspections are generally completed at each permitted bathing beach two times per season. They are generally unannounced .

Residential Camps are generally seasonal & offer opportunities for campers to enjoy a variety of activities with overnight lodging. The Ohio Administrative Code requires these facilities to be inspected annually.



CAMPS

Licensed camps	11
Inspections	19



SOLID WASTE

The Solid and Infectious Waste program at Summit County Public Health works to protect human health and the environment by inspecting all licensed, permitted and registered solid waste facilities, and by responding to complaints about possible illegal solid waste activities throughout the county. SCPH inspects different types of solid waste facilities including:

- **Construction & Demolition Debris (C&DD) Landfills and Processing Facilities:**

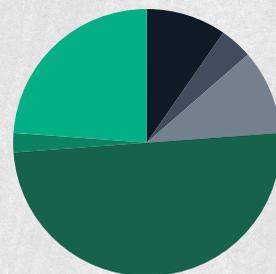
Three landfills in the county accept only construction and/or demolition debris (no garbage or hazardous waste) and four facilities process, transfer or recycle C&DD.

- **Solid Waste Transfer Stations:** Three facilities accept solid waste from surrounding communities and then transfer it to active solid waste landfills. These are inspected at least quarterly.

- **Closed Landfills:** Closed landfills have a 30 year "post closure care" period where they are routinely inspected. Four closed landfills exist within the county and are inspected to assure compliance with several environmental conditions.

- **Other Inspections:** Other entities inspected by the program include: one infectious waste treatment site, scrap tire generators, compost facilities, and any location where we receive complaints regarding potential illegal dumping activities.

2021 INSPECTIONS TOTAL 414



- C&DD landfills
- Closed landfills
- Compost facilities
- Scrap tire generators
- Transfer stations
- Complaints



SOLID WASTE FACILITY INSPECTIONS

C&DD Landfill & Processing Facility Inspections	67
Closed Landfill Inspections	13
Compost Facility Inspections	17
Scrap Tire Inspections	218
Transfer Stations	13
Complaint Inspections	95
Infectious Waste Treatment Facility Inspections	4



MORE PROGRAMS



MATH MANAGING ASTHMA TRIGGERS @ HOME

The Managing Asthma Triggers @ Home (MATH) program, targeting high risk asthma patients at Akron Children's Hospital, received the 2021 National Association Of County and City Health Officials' Model Practice Award. Financial assistance has been received from UnitedHealthCare via Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority to provide a suite of evidence-based products and services, home visits and monthly messaging designed to help families reduce at-home asthma triggers.

Families enrolled	26
Families completing project	42
Average improvement in asthma test scores	+2.6

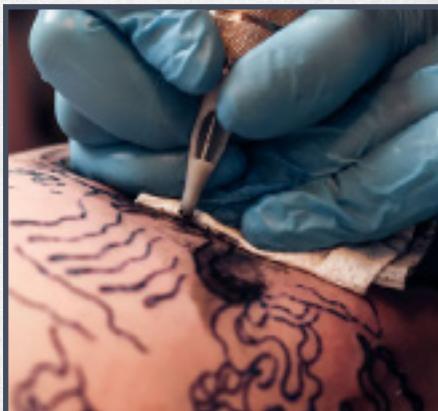
The project serves families in Summit, Medina and Portage counties.

Our 2021 enrollment breakdown by county of residence is as follows:

Summit **38** Medina **2** Portage **2**

D.U.M.P. PROGRAM

What do you do when you or a loved one has medicine that is no longer needed? **Dispose of Unused Medications Properly**. Prescription drug abuse and concerns for the environment led to the creation of this program. SCPH, local police departments and the Summit County Sheriff's office have partnered to provide a safe, environmentally responsible disposal option. The Sheriff's office provides secure transportation of all disposed medicines. In 2021, SCPH collected **6,096** pounds of unused medicines.



BODY ART INSPECTIONS

When you decide to pursue body art or piercings, you want peace of mind knowing the facility employs proper disease control practices. SCPH inspects facilities to ensure the owners follow safe work practices.

Facilities	60
Inspections	63
Complaints	7

MORE PROGRAMS



SCHOOL INSPECTIONS

Local health districts are mandated in the Ohio Revised Code to inspect all school buildings twice per year to assess the general condition and sanitation of the building.

Total Number of Facilities in SCPH Jurisdiction	191
Public Facilities	141
Non- Public Facilities (Including Charter Schools)	50
Total Number of Complaints Received	4
Total Inspections Completed	183
Standard	177
Consultations	6

RIGHT TO KNOW

SCPH manages the City of Akron's Community Right to Know program. This program tracks businesses who use, manufacture or store between 500-10,000 pounds of hazardous chemicals onsite. Inspectors visit each facility annually and track and log a chemical inventory list. This chemical inventory is shared with the Akron Fire Department. In 2021, SCPH inspected 125 facilities.



HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS (HABS)



Photo taken in Summit County

Harmful Algal Blooms, or HABS, occur when colonies of algae containing cyanobacteria grow excessively, or "bloom", in a body of water and produce algal toxins that are harmful to people, fish, and animals. HABS have become more common in Ohio's lakes, rivers, and ponds during the last few years. Favorable conditions for HABS include high nutrient availability (phosphorus and nitrogen), heat, and sunlight. Bodies of water with algal blooms may look discolored, have a spilled paint appearance, contain surface scums, thick mats, or films, and/or have green globs floating below the surface.

SUSPECTED LOCATION	EDUCATION PROVIDED	Sampling/ Intervention
Silver Creek Metro Park	Yes	Signage posted
Preserve at Salt Creek HOA	Yes	State testing determined lead toxicity
Springfield Lake	Yes	Refer to Springfield TWP, Village of Lakemore

