



# **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

## 2017 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 16, ARAQMD works to help our region continue to see air quality improvements! Learn more at: [www.araqmd.org](http://www.araqmd.org).



## How was our air in 2017?

Air monitoring site in West Akron



## OPEN BURNING & FUGITIVE DUST FOLLOW-UP

**194**

To help reduce regional particulate air pollution, Ohio law places limits on open burning and fugitive dust. In 2017 we performed a combined 194 inspections related to either open burning or fugitive dust.



## AIR QUALITY INSPECTIONS

**575**

We have over 1,100 facilities with air permits. Our staff perform routine required inspections as well as complaint investigations as permitted facilities. Additionally, we have staff that inspect demolition and renovation projects for asbestos as required by Ohio law.



## UNHEALTHY AIR DAYS

**0**

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 is below federal standards and is considered "poor". In 2017, there were no days with air considered "poor" according to federal standards.



# FOOD SAFETY

The food safety program works to protect the public by making sure all places selling food are doing the very best work 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 carnivals), and even vending machines!

16

INSPECTORS

379

FOOD COMPLAINTS INVESTIGATED



**LICENSED** FOOD FACILITIES

2,857



**FOOD FACILITY** INSPECTIONS

8,922



**TEMPORARY LICENSES** ISSUED

268



**MOBILE LICENSES** ISSUED

132



**VENDING MACHINE LICENSES** ISSUED

314

Beginning in March 2010 Ohio law required food service operations to have several staff members complete a Level 1 Certification food safety training. Inspectors from SCPH provide that training many times each year. In 2017, we offered 7 Level 1 Certification trainings & trained 196 people, including 17 people trained in our Spanish language class. Keeping food safe is our #1 goal.

7

level 1 trainings offered

196

individuals trained

17

trainees in spanish-language class



# HEALTHY HOMES

The SCPH Healthy Homes program helps residents solve housing issues that cause illness or injury. Healthy Homes provides a variety of services, including lead poisoning prevention, radon education, general housing complaints, mosquito control, animal bite follow-up, pet vaccine clinics, rabies control, and Smoke Free Ohio. Healthy Homes also partners with Adult Protective Services to identify housing concerns for vulnerable adults.



## HOUSING COMPLAINTS

Complaint Type	#
Indoor Air / Mold	76
Landlord / Tenant Dispute	36
Trash / Hoarding / Unsanitary	243
Mosquito Complaints	137
Pest / Vermin	285

## HOTEL & MOTEL INSPECTIONS



## RABIES & ANIMAL BITES

Not all animals are sweet and cuddly all the time. When someone is bitten by an animal in Summit County, we investigate to find out if the animal is or was a rabies risk. We also host pet vaccination clinics around the county and treat dogs and cats.





# 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 the permitting and inspection of STS systems for residential homes, certain smaller commercial properties, and PWS sources such as water wells and cisterns.

	<b>STS PERMITS ISSUED</b>	<b>350</b>
	<b>PWS PERMITS ISSUED</b>	<b>301</b>

## 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 "semi-public systems").
- Storm water screening and sampling to identify potential nuisance.

	<b>POS INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>2500+</b>
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	<b>OPERATIONS PERMITS</b>	<b>12,652</b>
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	<b>SEMI-PUBLIC INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>491</b>
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	<b>STORM WATER MONITORING</b>	
Contracting communities		<b>26</b>
Inspected sites		<b>1061</b>
Storm water samples collected		<b>112</b>



# RECREATION PROGRAM



## POOLS, SPAS & SPECIAL-USE PERMITS

**292**

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.

Pool inspections	688
Pool equipment inspections	309
Special use/sprayground inspections	83
Special use equipment inspections	36
Spa inspections	128
Spa equipment inspections	51



## PUBLIC BATHING BEACH INSPECTIONS

**24**

## WATER QUALITY SAMPLES COLLECTED

**65**

Summit County Public Health issued 12 permits to public bathing beaches in Summit County in 2017. 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. Effective 4/1/2016 the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3701-26 governing campgrounds, recreational camps, and combined park camps was updated. The code also requires these facilities to be inspected annually. It is SCPH policy to inspect twice during the season.



## CAMPS

Licensed camps	6
Inspections	12

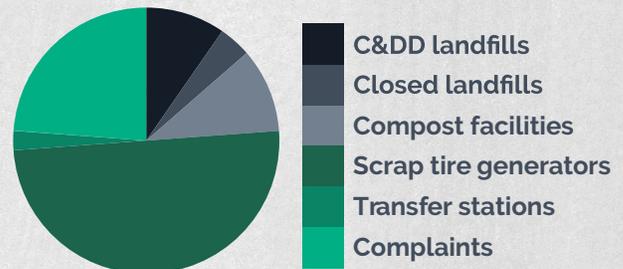


# SOLID WASTE

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 landfills:** Three landfills in the county accept only construction and/or demolition debris (no garbage or hazardous waste).
- **Solid Waste Transfer Stations:** Three facilities that accept solid waste from surrounding communities and then transfer it to active solid waste landfills operate in the county. These are inspected at least quarterly.
- **Closed Landfills:** Closed landfills have a 30 year "post closure care" period where they are routinely inspected. Five 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 or which we receive complaints regarding potential illegal dumping activities.

## 2017 INSPECTIONS



## SOLID WASTE FACILITY INSPECTIONS

Construction & demolition debris (C&DD) landfill inspections	49
Solid waste transfer station inspections	12
Closed landfill inspections	20
Inspections due to scrap tires	254
Illegal dumping activity complaints	35
Inspections resulting from illegal dumping activity complaints	121
Compost facility inspections	52



# MORE PROGRAMS



## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

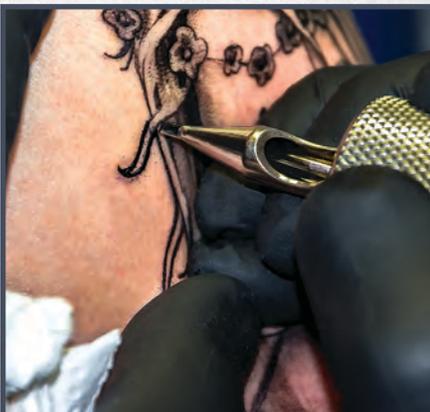
SCPH emergency preparedness staff ensure that all-hazards plans are developed with community partners to plan SCPH's response in the event of a disaster. SCPH engages volunteers, community, regional, state and federal partners in planning and response efforts. SCPH participates in yearly functional exercises and drills with response partners to test emergency plans and make adjustments to improve response capabilities in Summit County. In 2017, SCPH

Functional exercises	<b>4</b>
Drills	<b>13</b>
Table top exercises	<b>10</b>

Functional exercises are meant to examine and/or validate the coordination, command, and control between various multi-agency coordination centers. Drills are coordinated, supervised activities used to test a single, specific operation or function within a single organization. Table top exercises involve key personnel discussing simulated scenarios in an informal setting.

## D.U.M.P. PROGRAM

What do you do when you or a loved one has medicine that is no longer need? **Dispose of Unused Medications Properly**. Due to rising issues with prescription drug abuse and concerns for the environment, local police departments have partnered with SCPH to have DUMP boxes available to county residents to safely drop off medicines which are collected & then properly disposed. In 2017, SCPH collected **8,688** pounds of unused medicines.



## BODY ART INSPECTIONS

When you decide you want to get a tattoo or a body piercing, you have many things to think about. SCPH inspects facilities to ensure the owners follow safe work practices.

Facilities	<b>47</b>
Inspections	<b>53</b>
Complaints (7 for illegal residential operations)	<b>11</b>



# 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 Inspections	<b>402</b>
Total Number of Recommendations	<b>846</b>
Safety Hazards	<b>90</b>
Doors & Windows	<b>102</b>
Hazardous Materials	<b>56</b>
Walls & Ceilings	<b>78</b>
Equipment & Furnishings	<b>66</b>
Grounds	<b>50</b>
Drinking Fountains	<b>54</b>
Toilet facilities	<b>73</b>
Lighting Fixtures	<b>20</b>
Athletic & Play Areas	<b>51</b>
All other recommendations	<b>206</b>

## BROWNFIELD REVITALIZATION

SCPH is a member of the Summit Brownfields Revitalization Coalition along with NEFCO and the Summit County Development Finance Authority. The coalition was awarded a 2014-2017 US EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant, with an extension into 2018. SCPH has two representatives on the Brownfield Technical Advisory Committee (BTAC). The BTAC and its technical subcommittee reviews Brownfield funding proposals and makes recommendations to the NEFCO board for final approval. In 2017, multiple projects received funding to perform environmental site assessments (ESA). Major projects included an assessment of Summit Lake in south Akron. The assessment will assist the City of Akron and the neighborhood in determining the best recreational uses of this natural lake in the future. The results of the report are due in the spring of 2018.



