

# ANNUAL REPORT 2013



## CAMDEN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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Community Health Services  
Environmental and Consumer Health Services  
Public Health Emergency Preparedness  
Senior and Disabled Services



Making It Better, Together.

Camden City, 2013

Dear Citizens:

I am very pleased to present the 2013 Annual Report for the Camden County Department of Health and Human Services. The Department is among the oldest County Health Agencies in South Jersey being established in 1968. Camden City and Cherry Hill Township were originally independent health departments that joined the County Health Department in our early history. That being accomplished all 37 municipalities are served by a single health agency.

Often times, the role and services that the Health Department provides are overshadowed by more visible programs within County Government. But there is no other agency that touches everyone to the extent and in the ways that Public Health does.

If we look at the 20<sup>th</sup> century we see tremendous gains in health and longevity associated with sanitation and hygiene, development of antibiotics and vaccines, and fluoridated water supplies all of which have been contributed by public health.

Historically, Public Health prevention and programs have not been appropriately valued, since often we look at medical remedies as a way to create good health. Frequently we overlook the fact that often good health can be effectively achieved by personal behavior, a healthier environment, progressive health policy and availability of health care access for all people.

The challenges today in 2013 have not disappeared but evolved and changed over the decades. The challenges today include overall reduction of health care costs through education and personal behavior, structural changes that will create cost reductions and operational efficiency for our County Public Health Agency, and seeing the impact of public health played out with increases in years of healthy living by all our residents.

Program changes are focusing on collaboration with community resources to reduce chronic diseases, empowering individuals to have a healthy lifestyle, developing sound public health policy and continuing our success in controlling infectious diseases.

In the area of structural changes we are always looking for new ways for public health to promote cost savings, better efficiency and a healthier Camden County.

I encourage you to read through this report and please do not hesitate contacting us with your ideas and opinions.

Sincerely,

Carmen Rodriguez, Freeholder Liaison  
Department of Health and Human Services

# Public Health

## What is Public Health?

Public Health views its patient as the **entire Community** and seeks to reach people before they become ill. The major distinction between public health and health care is that the public health focus is on preventing or delaying disease while health care treats disease. Public Health encompasses the entire community, small or large, and strives to create a healthier community that reduces health care cost and adds to years of active life.

## Core Public Health Functions

- Assess and monitor the health of communities and at-risk populations to identify health problems and priorities.
- Formulate public health policies with community and government leaders to address local and national public health programs and priorities.
- Provide all populations with access and appropriate cost effective care including health promotion, disease prevention and follow-up evaluation.

## Why should we invest in Public Health?

In 1999, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published a list of the top 10 public health achievements of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. These findings show that public health advances have been largely responsible for increasing life span of populations; over twenty five of the thirty years of increased longevity can be credited to public health initiatives. These public health initiatives include development of antibiotics, vaccines, clean water and a safer food supply. Medical advances account for less than 4 years of increased longevity for the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Since 1900 findings show the average life expectancy for Americans has increased by about 30 years. This has made a dramatic reduction in mortality for young children.

## Quotes from two well-known and respected Public Health Leaders

*“Public health programs help keep disease rates down, which in turn keeps health care costs down. It’s going to be hard to get the economy healthy again if our workers and our health care system are both sick.”*

Jeff Levi, PhD, Executive Director of TFAH. 2010

*The financial crisis makes it more important than ever for the country to make prevention a top priority. Even in these troubled times, prevention is an investment we can count on to deliver a big payoff—sparing millions of people from developing preventable diseases while saving billions in health care costs.”*

Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, MD, MBA President & CEO Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

## **Mission Statement**

**The Mission of Camden County Government is to improve the**

**Quality of life for all Camden County residents by:**

**Providing and assuring access to quality service and programs**

**which are cost effective and responsive to local needs.**

## Ten Essential Health Services

- Monitor health status to identify community health problems.
- Diagnose and investigate health problems in the community.
- Inform, educate, and empower people regarding health issues.
- Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
- Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
- Enforce the laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
- Link people to needed personal health services and ensure healthcare when it is otherwise unavailable.
- Ensure a competent local public health system and a competent personal healthcare workforce.
- Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
- Research innovative solutions to health problems.

# Programs and Services Provided by Camden County

## Department of Health and Human Services

### Community Health Services Division:

#### ➤ Alcohol and Substance Abuse

- Prevention
- Education
- Adolescent/Adult
- Treatment
- Women

#### ➤ Communicable Disease

- Disease Field Investigations
- Epidemiology
- HIV/AIDS
- Rabies Control
- Reportable Diseases
- STD Program
- TB Program

#### ➤ Public Health Nursing

- Adult Health
- Child Lead Case Management
- Infant and Preschool
- Influenza Immunizations
- Maternal Child Health
- Preventative Screenings
- Special Child Health Care

#### ➤ Health Education/Promotion

- Chronic Disease Self-Management Program
- Community Health Needs
- Health Education/Risk Communication
- Mobil Health Van, Education/Services
- Public Health and Community Planning
- Smoking Cessation/Cancer Prevention
- Women's Health Conference (Annual)
- Mobilizing Action Through Planning and Partnership
- Health Promotion Programs:  
HealthEASE, Matter of Balance



### Environmental Health Services:

- Retail Food
- Recreational Bathing
- Body Art
- Tanning Salons
- Public Health Nuisance
- Multiple Dwelling Units
- Pet Shops & Kennels
- Right-To-Know
- Residential UST
- Noise
- Solid Waste Facilities
- Hazardous Materials Complaints
- Hazmat Emergency Response
- Integrated Pest Management
- Pesticide Enforcement
- Swimming Pool Discharge
- Vapor Recovery
- Idling
- Air Quality
- Private Wells
- Individual Sewage
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Stabilizing leaking containers in a box truck.



## Community Health Services Statistics 2013

### Alcohol and Substance Abuse:

<b>Camden County Funded Substance Abuse Programs 2013</b>		<b>Clients Served</b>
<b><u>Intoxicated Driver Services</u></b>	Total	
IDRC (Individuals Served)	Clients Served	1606
<b><u>Prevention/Education</u></b>	Clients Served	2981
<b><u>Outpatient Counseling</u></b>	Clients Served	2346
<b><u>METHADONE MAINTENANCE</u></b>	Clients Served	89
<b><u>Long-term Residential</u></b>	Clients Served	7
<b><u>Halfway House</u></b>	Clients Served	11
<b>**There were 1125 clients authorized for D/STR treatment</b>		
<b><u>DETOX</u></b>	Clients Served	191
-		
<b><u>SHORT TERM RESIDENTIAL</u></b>	Clients Served	220
-		
<b><u>MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE</u></b>	Programs Offered	258

### Childhood Lead Poisoning:

Case Management Services	249
Environmental Inspections	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>257</b>

### Child Health Services:

Child Health Well Visits	N/A
Child Immunizations	2250
<b>Total</b>	<b>2250</b>

### Camden County Special Child Health:

\*See Page 16 for Program Detail.

Average active caseload	1,005
Unduplicated number of children served	1,626
New referrals	1,436
New SSI referrals	1,029
<b>Total served</b>	<b>5,096</b>

## **Communicable Diseases- Reportable Diseases:**

Reports from Laboratories, Hospitals, Medical Providers, Public Health

<b>Disease</b>	<b>Count</b>
Amoebiasis	3
Babesiosis	15
Botulism- Foodborne	1
Brucellosis	0
Campylobacteriosis	83
Cryptosporidiosis	5
Cyclosporiasis	1
Dengue Fever	2
Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis	7
Anaplasma Phagocytophilum	14
Ehrlichia Chaffeensis	10
Giardiasis	16
Haemophilus Influenzae	16
Hepatitis A	44
Hepatitis B	240
Hepatitis C	853
Influenza	111
Legionellosis	25
Listeriosis	2
Lyme Disease	752
Malaria	0
Measles	1
Mumps	0
Pertussis	24
Psittacosis	4
Q Fever	1
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	18
Rubella	4
Salmonellosis - Non Typhoid	63
Salmonellosis- Typhoid Fever	3
Shiga Toxin-Producing E. Coli (STEC)	3
Shiga Toxin-Producing E. Coli (STEC) – NON O157:H7	5
Shigellosis	7
Saint Louis Encephalitis	1
Streptococcus Agalactiae (GBS)	4
Streptococcus Pneumoniae	41
Streptococcus Pyogenes (Gas)	10
Streptococcus Pyogenes (Gas) With Toxic Shock Syndrome	1
Streptococcus Pyogenes (Gas) Without Toxic Shock Syndrome	19
Tularemia	1
Unknown Fever/ Neurologic	0
Vancomycin Intermediate S. Aureus	2
Varicella	53
Vibriosis	4
Viral Encephalitis	1
West Nile Virus	11
Yersiniosis	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,483</b>
* < 5 cases not counted for	

## Communicable Diseases-Programs

Rapid HIV Testing	1,053
Number that tested positive	3
Routine Serology	NA
Sexually Transmittal Diseases	4,780
# seen and treated at our STD clinics	1,237
Cases of Syphilis (all stages)	782
Cases of Gonorrhea (all forms)	1,239
Cases of Chlamydia	2,759
Animal Bites Reported and Investigated	638
Confinement Notices Issued	99
Positive rabies specimens	6
Municipal Rabies Clinics we supported	35
# of animals reported as vaccinated at municipal clinics	3,189
Influenza Immunizations	7348
*TB # of Clinic Visits	663
Immunization Audits	100

## Health Education Unit:

\*See Pages 12 - 16 for more detail.

### Health Screening Program Statistics

Month	Blood Pressure	Referred	Cholesterol	Referred	Fasting Blood Sugar	Referred	Counseling Healthy Lifestyle *	Referral for Access to Care	Smoking Cessation Referral
January	17	7	11	6	0	0	17	4	6
February	22	7	17	6	0	0	24	15	8
March	27	14	20	12	6	2	28	15	2
April	24	7	26	13	11	2	33	14	5
May	20	5	18	11	4	2	20	11	2
June	25	5	22	6	2	1	26	15	9
July	14	5	12	6	1	0	14	11	0
August	38	10	28	14	8	0	39	19	14
September	27	10	27	15	7	1	34	18	10
October	19	4	0	0	2	1	19	12	4
November	15	7	0	0	2	0	16	4	1
December	11	5	11	5	8	0	11	7	3
Total	259	86	192	94	51	9	281	145	64

## **Environmental Health Inspections:**

\*See Pages 18-20 for More Information

*Retail Food	3,872	Hazardous Materials Complaints	243
Recreational Bathing	326	Hazmat Emergency Response	69
Body Art	71	Integrated Pest Management	38
Tanning Salons	17	Pesticide Enforcement	88
Public Health Nuisance	2,513	Swimming Pool Discharge	108
*Multiple Dwelling Units	20,221	Vapor Recovery	
Pet Shops & Kennels		Idling	55
Right-To-Know	657	Air Quality	332
Residential UST	120	Private Wells	524
Noise	20	Individual Sewage	602
Solid Waste Facilities	132	Regulated Tanks	67
<b>TOTAL Number of Services: 30,075</b>			

Response to a Plastic Chemical Fire in Camden County



## A SNAPSHOT OF OUR SERVICES

The following pages give more detailed information on a few of our services that we frequently receive questions about. These services are representative of what we do in providing for all residents of our community.

### Alcohol and Substance Abuse

- Information and Referral
- Education/Prevention
- Treatment
- Intoxicated Driver Resources



### Community Health Services Division

- Camden County Health Connection
- Mobilizing Action through Planning and Partnership (MAPP)
- Southern Region Specialty Chest Clinic
- Special Child Health Program
- Take Control of Your Health: Chronic Disease Self-Management

### Division of Environmental and Consumer Health Services

- Emergency Response for Hazardous Materials
- Food Surveillance
- Multiple Dwelling Housing Inspections

### Office of County Health Officer

- County Bioterrorism Response Program



## Community Health Services:

### Health Education Unit: **Camden County Health Connection**

The Camden County Health Connection promotes community wellness on site at county workplaces, health fairs, senior centers, public housing complexes, homeless shelters, nutrition sites, shopping centers and community organizations. The **Camden County Health Connection** is a mobile unit, which enables our Health and Human Services Department to extend the reach and availability of our health screening and disease risk assessment services provided at our health centers. The Camden County Health Connection houses an experienced staff of a registered nurse and health educators to provide a wide range of health-education and lifestyle-management programs that empower children and adults to take control of their health and improve their well-being.

The mobile unit enables the Health Department to increase access to health promotion, disease prevention and early detection programs for cancer, heart disease, diabetes and stroke in Camden City and southern Camden County. These services include the following:

- Blood sugar screenings
- Blood pressure screenings
- Cholesterol screenings
- Osteoporosis screenings
- Chronic Disease Management Training programs
- Stroke Risk Assessment Screenings
- Referrals for community health care services
- Health education
- Support and counseling
- Follow-up health care services



The “Camden County Health Connection” mobile health unit

Support groups such as the Chronic Disease Self Management Program, tobacco treatment and counseling, health seminars and skills-building workshops are also conducted upon request.

These services do not replace regular visits to a primary care physician, but rather emphasize the importance of annual check-ups and help arrange care for people who need them. The overall goal of the Camden County Health Connection is to link this region to needed health services such as health insurance, health care, social services and community health resources. The Camden County Health Connection serves as a health education resource center composed of videos, books, brochures and web-based action oriented tools to assist residents of all ages in the importance of preventive care.

## **Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnership: Approach to Public Health in Camden County (MAPP)**

Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnership (MAPP) is a community health assessment process developed by the National Association of County and City Health Officials and federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). MAPP is intended to help local public health system entities work collaboratively to assess and improve community health and quality of life. The local public health system includes academic institutions, community nonprofit organizations, foundations, health care institutions and providers, libraries, religious and fraternal organizations, schools, social service agencies and other entities that provide public health services and share information about health issues with community residents. Since 2007, workgroups have been formed to implement strategies to address the following six priority issues which emerged through that assessment process.

- Cancer
- Cardiovascular Health
- Environmental Health
- Co-occurring Mental Health and Addictions Disorders
- Obesity/Overweight and Nutrition

In 2013 the Camden County Health Department collaborated with hospitals, health systems and health departments within Gloucester, Camden and Burlington counties, to: 1) identify, analyze and address health problems; 2) assess applicable data; 3) develop measurable health objectives and indicators; 4) inventory community health assets and resources; and 5) develop and implement coordinated strategies to improve health. This effort was entitled the Tri-County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Collaborative. The CHNA was conducted from September 2012 to June 2013. Through collaborative efforts, the community health needs assessment will build on prior work of the Camden County MAPP Coalition, local health systems, hospitals, Senior Services Division, Environmental Health and Community Health Services Divisions, and community, emergency and public health preparedness partners. The assessment was also conducted to comply with requirements set for the in the Affordable Care Act, as well as to further the health department's commitment to community health population health management.

The CHNA collaborative took a comprehensive approach to identifying the needs in the communities it services. These components included the following:

- Secondary Statistical Data profile
- 4 Data Collection Sessions
- 153 Key Informant Interviews
- 2480 Telephone Surveys
- 6 Focus Group Discussions

The 2013 community health needs assessment will be published in January 2014 and available on the Health Department Website.

### **Health Education and Promotion Programs**

#### ***Take Control of Your Health: Chronic Disease Self-Management Program***

The Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP), developed at Stanford University, is an effective self-management education program for people with chronic health problems or people who take care of others with chronic health problems. In Camden County, the CDSMP is

known as *Take Control of Your Health*. New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDHSS) provide statewide guidance and oversight for CDSMP. In collaboration with Camden Area Health Education Center and other community partners, the Health Department presents a series of workshops, which are given once a week for six weeks, in community settings such as senior centers and housing sites throughout the County. This program, is facilitated by two trained leaders, one or both of whom have chronic diseases themselves. These sessions enables people with chronic illnesses to learn ways to self-manage their condition and take charge of their life.

Topics covered include: 1) techniques to deal with problems such as frustration, fatigue, pain and isolation, 2) appropriate exercise for maintaining and improving strength, flexibility, and endurance, 3) appropriate use of medications, 4) communicating effectively with family, friends, and health professionals, 5) designing and maintaining a healthy eating and exercise plan and 6) learning how to evaluate new treatments. In addition, program participants learn decision-making, action planning, and problem-solving skills. Each participant in the workshop also receives a copy of the companion book, *Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Conditions*, and an audio relaxation tape, *Time for Healing*.

### ***A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls***

Many older adults experience a fear of falling. People who develop this fear often limit their activities, which can result in physical weakness, making the risk of falling even greater. A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls is a program designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among older adults.

A Matter of Balance includes eight two-hour sessions for a small group led by a trained facilitator. This nationally recognized program was developed at Boston University.

During the class, participants learn to:

- View falls as controllable
- Set goals for increasing activity
- Make changes to reduce fall risk at home
- Exercise to increase strength and balance

A Matter of Balance is a program that emphasizes practical strategies to manage falls. Classes are held 2 times a week for 4 weeks for 2 hours each or 1 time per week for 8 weeks. This program is based on *Fear of Falling: A Matter of Balance*. Used and adapted by permission of Boston University.

### ***Health EASE***

HealthEASE was created in New Jersey to coordinate and expand health promotion and disease prevention services for older adults at the local level, with the goal of promoting, supporting and sustaining older adults in living healthier, more independent lives. HealthEASE targets older adults at all levels of the health spectrum, from those experiencing no health issues to those with multiple chronic diseases and physical limitations.

Wellness Series - “Action Steps to Better Health”

- Keeping Up the Beat: Heart Health
- Bone Up: Standing Tall Against Falls

- Your Health: Osteoporosis
- Keeping Your Mind Sharp
- Be Wise About Your Medications
- Move to Get F.I.T.

These one hour free programs will engage your members/community in fun, interactive wellness activities to promote independent and healthy living.

36 workshops were conducted in 2013

**92 Workshops Total**



## **Special Child Health Services**

The Special Child Health Services Program assists families with children who have developmental delays and health needs birth through age 21. This program was originally established in 1928 as the result of the Birth Defects Law (1926). The Crippled Children Program was created with the intent to treat orthopedic conditions. Since that time there have been a number of changes in the law that now include children identified under the State Birth Defects Registry and more recently (2007) the addition of children identified through the Autism Registration.

This program is County based and provides Nursing Case Management. The County Case Management Unit serves as the entry point into health care and related services to facilitate cooperation among agencies. Families often need assistance with multiple tasks from identifying their child's basic needs to finding appropriate providers. Nurse case managers work with both children and their parents. These professionals assist families through the maze of the health services system and other related systems for the purpose of meeting individual needs. Specifically, the case managers assist with obtaining hearing aids and orthotics; payment of catastrophic bills; support groups; home nursing care; education and other needs.

Any child under the age of 21 is eligible for services that has a birth defect, a serious illness, has difficulty walking, talking, and understanding or is at risk of developing a handicapping condition. Services are provided regardless of financial status.

## **Southern Regional Specialty Chest Clinic**

The Southern Regional Specialty Chest Clinic was initiated in 2008 by Camden County Health Department at the request of New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. The program is staffed by both County Health Department and Cooper University Hospital. Cooper University Hospital provides Infectious Diseases Specialists who are well versed in the treatment of Active Tuberculosis of the Lungs and non-pulmonary sites. This group is headed by Henry Fraimow, MD, who is a member of the State TB Medical Advisory Board.

The TB Nurse Case Manager, for Cooper University Hospital, acts as a liaison between the State TB Program, Cooper University Hospital, and the Camden County DHHS. The Case Manager provides nursing assessment, teaching and monitoring of the patient with TB. She also conducts contact investigations, to provide early detection of new TB cases and treatment to exposed

clients with latent TB infection. The County Health Department provides additional staffing for nursing and support services. All those seen in the Southern Regional Specialty Chest Clinic benefit from a “one stop shopping” model, as we provide Mobile x-ray services, on site lab technician, Sputum Induction booth, Physician and nursing assessments, and provision of needed medications.

The Regional Clinic provides expert TB Consultation to surrounding counties who may have drug resistant TB or extra-pulmonary TB, or clients who have difficulties during their treatment. The Regional Clinic provides service to patients and case managers from Atlantic Co., Atlantic City, Gloucester, Burlington, Salem, Cumberland, Ocean, Cape May, Mercer and Middlesex counties, in addition to our own cases here in Camden County. The patients receive their medications on a daily basis by DOT, Directly Observed Therapy. In addition, they are monitored closely for medication tolerance and side effects. This enables a thorough treatment plan, and ensures that treatment is completed as the Standards of Care require. The TB clinic also provides medical assessment to those new immigrants who have been flagged by the CDC for evaluation once in our country.

### **Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program**

The Camden County Bioterrorism Unit has been in existence for over 10 years. Currently the program is led by our Health Emergency Notification Coordinator and also includes a Health Risk communicator, an Epidemiologist and practicing pharmacist under the direction of the County Health officer.

The purpose of the BT program is to ensure immediate and adequate response to any acts or threats of bioterrorism, infectious disease outbreak and other public health threats or emergencies. On a scheduled basis the Unit acts to keep response plans up to date, provides education and ongoing training to all department staff, and uses response drills to improve timeliness and evaluate our proficiency. Planning, training and exercising for an all hazards approach allows us to prepare for a wide range of emergencies. Response drills exercise various aspects of our work which include but not limited to monitoring disease patterns, communicating risk and providing information to contain the spread of disease, prophylaxis for at risk persons using oral medications or immunizations, receiving and distributing supplies and medicines to the hospitals and our medical community.



Our Medical Reserve Corp Management of approximately 270 volunteers receives regular training which includes Health Education, use of Health Alert Network, Risk Communication, Exercise/Train/Evaluation, Planning with County Partners. Partners include County Emergency Management, local Hospitals, County Prosecutor’s Office, County Office of Education, and Regional County Health Departments along with several others.

## **ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

The Camden County Substance Abuse Unit primary responsibility is to information and referral, prevention, education, and the County's ability ensure treatment services are available to eligible County residents. Allocations for programs and services are based upon results of the County's tri-annual Comprehensive Substance Abuse Plan and Municipal Alliance plan.



Those assessments highlight areas of concern, as well as, strategies to serve at-risk populations and reduce substance abuse in the community. The unit contracted with 15 agencies that were able to provide education, prevention, and a full range of treatment services.

The Municipal Alliance Program coordinates alcohol and drug prevention activities across participating municipalities.

Lastly, the County Alcohol and Drug Director is accountable for overseeing and monitoring the Intoxicated Driver Resource Center's service to residents convicted of DUI offenses.

## **Division of Environmental Health and Consumer Health Services:**

### **Emergency Response (Hazardous Materials)**

#### ***County Environmental Health Act (CEHA)***

Camden County Department of Health is certified by NJDEP to perform investigation, enforcement, and regulation of air pollution, solid waste disposal, recycling enforcement, emergency, and terrorism response, hazardous waste storage and disposal, underground storage tanks, surface and ground water pollution, and noise. In addition to directly providing these services, Camden County coordinates Hazardous Materials Emergency Response services through inter-local agreements with five local fire/hazmat units.

Camden County's Hazardous Materials Response Unit is responsible for development and maintenance of standardized hazardous materials (*Hazmat*) and CBRNE (*Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive*) emergency response capability, capacity, and competence. Camden County Department of Health and Human Services has highly trained and equipped personnel that respond to Hazmat and CBRNE emergencies and conduct environmental investigations in coordination with the N J Department of Environmental Protection (*NJDEP*), the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services (*NJDHSS*), and the N J State Police (*NJSP*) Special Operations Section.

The Hazardous Materials Response Unit provides exceptional hazardous materials and environmental response services to the citizens of Camden County. The unit handles a broad range of complaints each year from private citizens, business interests, industrial facilities, and other public agencies. They vary in nature from small residential spills of household chemicals and heating oil to large-scale industrial spills, fires, illegal dumping and over the road accidents involving cargo spills or releases of motor vehicle fluids. Our hazmat unit is available to respond to any Hazmat/CBRNE incident in Camden County on a 24 hour per day /365 day per year.

The Hazmat Unit continues to be involved in domestic preparedness planning for the county. The Unit Director regularly participates in planning meetings with Camden County OEM.

Based on planning initiatives, response protocols may be revised to improve our response capabilities. Coordination with the county OEM and Fire Marshall has resulted in an integrated network of primary and secondary departments for mutual aid including Hazmat/CBRNE response and mass decontamination.



Neutralizing an acid spill in Camden County

## Food Surveillance

The Food Surveillance Unit's purpose is the prevention of food borne illness which may derive from retail food establishments. To deliver this purpose this unit focuses its inspection efforts to facilities that may present a greater risk of food borne illness. This approach and enforcement of NJAC 8:26 are known as Risk-Based Inspection. Retail establishments must be inspected as least once during each year, school facilities are inspected twice each year.

Additionally, a 24/7 Non-Hazardous Emergency Response system is in place to respond to fire and/or natural disasters involving food and/or health care facilities where a potential for contamination of food products exists.

Annually retail food inspections are performed utilizing tablet computers. Inspection findings are captured and recorded during the course of each inspection and uploaded in real-time to our web-based inspection system.

### Benefits of Digital Inspections

- Increased Productivity and Accountability.
- Electronic Record Management and Access.
- Provides Public Records Request (OPRA).
- Standardized Inspection Methods and Reporting.
- Improved Compliance.
- Reduction in Enforcement Actions.

### Constituent Benefits

- Educates consumer on inspection process and outcomes.
- Reports inspection results on facilities of consumer interest i.e. child's day care or school, local market, favorite restaurant, etc.



GET THE DISH ON CAMDEN COUNTY  
RESTAURANTS AND SCHOOL CAFETERIAS  
VISIT THE NEW ONLINE RESTAURANT INSPECTION SITE AT  
[camdencounty.com](http://camdencounty.com)

- Reports on emerging food related events i.e. food related bioterrorism, food recalls, facility closures, and food related outbreaks.

### **Industry Benefits**

- Standardized inspection format easy to read, interpret, and translate.
- Critical violations are printed first with timelines for correction.
- Establishment with a good inspection history will see increased business.

## **Multiple Dwelling Housing Inspections**

### ***State Local Cooperative Housing Inspection Program (SLCHIP)***

The Camden County Health Department's Multiple Dwelling Housing Unit is an authorized agent of the NJ Department of Community Affairs Bureau of Housing Inspections. As an authorized agent the Unit is responsible for ensuring that hotels, motels and multiple-family buildings of three or more dwelling units operating within Camden County are properly maintained and do not pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of their residents, nor the community in general.

These objectives are achieved by licensed multiple dwelling inspectors conducting five year cyclical and compliance inspections of all hotels, motels and multiple dwellings. Condominiums, Cooperatives and Mutual Housing Corporations fall within the definition of multiple dwelling, and as such, are subject to its provisions.

In addition to the Environmental Programs highlighted above the following services are also provided:

*Air Pollution Control, Community Noise Control, Pet Shop & Kennel Inspections, Public Health Nuisance Complaints, Right To Know (RTK), Public Recreational Bathing & Youth Camps, Residential Underground Storage Tank, Pesticide Investigation, Solid Waste Program, Tobacco Enforcement, Body Art, Water Quality.*



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



Making It Better, Together.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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