



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Cooperative Public Health Service Activities in Charlemont -- 2014

Charlemont is a comprehensive member of the CPHS, a health district based at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments. CPHS activities in Charlemont during 2014 included:

- The Regional Health Agent conducted 31 Title-5 (septic) related activities including Soil Evaluations for on-lot septic systems, septic system plan reviews including site visits, issuing Local Upgrade Approvals and DSCP (septic) permits, completing final inspections or re-inspections of septic system installations, and preparing Certificates of Compliance.
- Charlemont residents received 22 free tick tests in 2014 through a district grant, a savings of \$1,100. 35% of ticks tested in member towns carried the Lyme pathogen, and an additional 6% tested positive for either Anaplasmosis or Babesiosis. Staff provided tick prevention materials and helped residents access grant funded tick testing as needed.
- The district released its first Community Health Needs Assessment, a comprehensive look at the health status and needs of Charlemont residents.
- The Regional Health Agent attended 7 regular Board of Health meetings.
- Staff assisted with implementation of Web-based, digital on-line permitting system and trained BOH members on how to use the system and issue annual permits.
- The Regional Health Agent conducted 51 retail food inspections or re-inspections and continued to assist Charlemont residents and businesses with compliance with the Food Code.
- 19 Charlemont food service employees received food safety training at a deep discount through a district ServSafe and Chokesaver certification.
- The Regional Health Agent provided technical assistance to the Board of Health with the implementation of their local septic regulations and private well regulations, including assisting homeowners to test their well water at the time of property transfer.
- The Public Health Nurse provided medication and chronic disease self-management services throughout the year, holding regular hours for all district residents in four community sites. The nurse is also available for home visits for those who need them.
- The Regional Health Agent permitted or inspected 6 new or replacement Water Wells, including conducting site visits.
- The Public Health Nurse coordinated vaccine and supplies assisting town officials from Charlemont, Hawley, Rowe, Heath and Monroe to implement a Hawlemont Region Emergency Dispensing Site drill, at which 46 area residents, including 26 Charlemont residents, were vaccinated for flu with the help of community staff and volunteers.
- The Regional Health Agent conducted 3 family-type campground inspections, 1 pool inspection, and 3 routine motel/lodging house inspections.
- The Regional Health Agent conducted 6 housing inspections or re-inspections, conducted 1 lead paint determinations or lead paint law compliance follow-up inspections, and represented the Board of Health at 1 Housing Court appearance.
- The Public Health Nurse held eight monthly walk-in wellness clinics at Charlemont Federated Church where 25 area residents made 60 visits with the nurse for health

screening services, including 19 Charlemont residents who made 50 visits with the nurse. At regularly scheduled clinics and wellness events, The Public Health Nurse provided town residents with reference materials and health self-management supplies such as medication schedules, pill sorters, personal health records and Files of Life provided by grants from Baystate Franklin Medical Center and Franklin County Home Care Corp.

- The Regional Health Agent worked closely with the Board of Health, State Representative Paul Mark, and the Dept. of Environmental Protection to secure approval for the well at the proposed new Cold River Café, including a trip to the State House to advocate on behalf of the town.
- The Nurse offered mercury thermometer collection and exchange, sharps disposal and sharps container exchange in collaboration with the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, processing 80 sharps and 12 thermometers for the district in 2014.
- The Public Health Nurse completed all state-mandated infectious disease investigation, reporting and case monitoring. Follow-up was provided as needed for 15 reported local and 112 regional incidents of communicable illness.
- The Public Health Nurse provided coordinated vaccine and supplies for a Charlemont Council on Aging Senior Center Flu Clinic serving 57 area residents, including 36 Charlemont residents, with the help of community volunteers.
- The Nurse made 5 visits to home-bound Charlemont residents to deliver flu vaccine.

Charlemont's representatives to the CPHS Oversight Board are Rob Lingle and Doug Telling, Board of Health Members.



For more information: <http://frcog.org/program-services/cooperative-public-health-services/>