



Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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Template updated 03/2023

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| District: Aroostook | Date: 09/01/2025 |
| **Office of Readiness and Response: District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; PH Emergency Preparedness, Data, Research and Vital Statistics | |
| Agendas and minutes available on district’s webpage: APHC Quarterly Meeting Minutes 05.06.2025 | |
| Council Education Topic: “Transforming Maternal Health (TMAH) and Perinatal Rural Regional Planning Meeting” | |
| Guest Presenters: Kelly Bowden , MS, RN, Perinatal Regional Planning Liaison, Office of MaineCare Services Maggie Jansen , MPH, RN, Maternal & Infant Coordinator, Office of MaineCare Services Ann Cyr , Maternal Child Health Coordinator/Family Leadership Liaison, Maine CDC | |
| ➤ Dates of note in Aroostook District: ➤ Next DCC Meeting: 11/05/2025 ➤ Next Aroostook Chapter of Maine HCC Meeting: 10/09/2025 ➤ Next APHC Aging Committee Meeting: TBD ➤ Next APHC Steering Committee Meeting: 10/01/2025 ➤ Next APHC Care Management Committee: 11/12/2025 | |
| Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues: ➤ Aroostook Chapter HCC: Healthcare Facility Emergency Evacuation Training ➤ Completed Letter of Support for Pines Health Services FQHC funding. ➤ Completed Letter of Support for Homeless Services of Aroostook funding. | |
| Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues: | |
| In-district or multi-district collaborations: ➤ Attended (Epidemiology): Washington County Passamaquoddy Sipyak Health Fair ➤ Planned attendance (Public Health Systems, Epidemiology, Public Health Nursing): Cary Medical Center & Pines Health Services Health Fair in Caribou on September 27, 2025 ➤ Planned attendance (Public Health Systems, Epidemiology, Public Health Nursing): Maliseet Elder Fall Health Clinic in Houlton on September 26, 2025 ➤ APHU Monthly Bulletin Board Topics: ○ June: National CPR Awareness Week ○ July: Summer Food Safety – 4 Simple Ways to Prevent Food Contamination ○ August: Myth or Facts: Safe Sleeping for Infants | |

District Name: Aroostook

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22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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- (1) Participate as appropriate in district-level activities to help ensure the state public health system in each district is ready and maintained for accreditation; and
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- September: National Recovery Month

**** Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

Disease reporting Contact Information: Phone: 1 - 800 - 821 - 5821 (24 hours a day)

➤ HANS

- 06/18/2025: Measles Updates and Domestic Travel Recommendations
- 06/27/2025: Updated rule for the Control of Notifiable Diseases and Conditions
- 06/30/2025: Seasonal Arbovirus Updates for Healthcare Providers
- 07/03/2025: Tuberculosis Reporting and Billing Updates
- 07/10/2025: HIV and Other Infectious Disease Testing in Pregnant Persons
- 07/15/2025: Maine DEP Issues Extended Air Quality Alert for Northern Maine Until July 16
- 07/25/2025: COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations
- 07/29/2025: Local Powassan Virus and West Nile Virus Activity
- 07/30/2025: Bicillin L-A Recall and Recommendations for Syphilis Treatment
- 08/13/2025: Air Quality Alert for Wednesday, August 13
- 08/27/2025: Case of Congenital Syphilis in Maine and Recommendations for Prevention

**** Division of Public Health Nursing**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

➤ June-September 2025

- 274 client visits
- Working on starting up a new support group geared towards new families
- Assisting Presque Isle School district in their Flu vaccine clinics in the last week of September.
- October 28 – Ashland School Flu Clinic
- Speaking with NMCC Nursing students on September 25th relating to PHN services and scope of care.
- Reposting Houlton PHN II position.
- Tammy completed Peri Mental Health Certification. She will be sitting for the exam over the upcoming months.
- Team interest in Maine’s Transforming Maternal Health (TMAH) initiative.
- Birthing class at Northern Light AR Gould has started up.
- PHN staffed Mobile Health Clinic on September 4th.
- Finalized elder scope of service and updated all related policies and procedures.

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**** Division of Environmental and Community Health:** Drinking Water Program, Health Inspection Program, Radiation Control Program, Environmental and Occupational Health Program

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

Drinking Water Program:

- District H, (Aroostook, Penobscot, Washington, Piscataquis, Somerset)
 - 14 Sanitary Survey Inspections Completed
 - 4 New Well Inspections
 - 6 New Well Approvals
- District G:
 - Inspector position – vacant
 - District G inspector is currently covering this district as well.
 - 100 inspections due, committed to completing at least 30 of these that were due in 2024, by December 2025.
- Several funded projects around Aroostook County in various stages between engineering design and bid award with anticipating Notice to Proceed soon:
 - Fort Kent – Distribution System Improvements
 - Houlton – HWC Phase 2 Water Main Replacement
 - Madawaska – 7th Avenue Water Tank Painting Project
 - Presque Isle – State Street Transmission Main Replacement
- Applications are now open for the 2026 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, and we will be accepting applications through Friday, October 10, 2025.

Health Inspections Program: *data retrieved from Maine.gov Health Inspection Website

- 40 Inspections completed between June 01, 2025 - September 01, 2025
 - Body Piercer: 1
 - Campground Tier 2: 1
 - Eating and Catering: 3
 - Eating and Lodging: 3
 - Eating Place – Mobile: 12
 - Eating Place – Takeout: 1
 - Eating Place Tier 1: 2
 - Eating Place Tier 2: 4
 - Eating Place Tier 3: 3
 - Lodging Tier 2: 2
 - Pool/Spa: 1

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- SR Citizen Meals: 1
- Tattooist: 2
- Youth Camp – Resident <100 Campers: 4

Division of Disease Prevention: Maternal Child Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Tobacco & Substance Use Prevention and Control, Women, Infants and Children

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

➤ **Highlight completed activities conducted by Maine Prevention Network Contractor/ Subcontractors during April – June 2025**

- **Tobacco Prevention:**
 - **Focus Area: Prevention**
 - INDEPTH: Fort Kent (6), MSAD 33 (1), Fort Fairfield (4)
 - Catch My Breath: Caribou Community School (736), Fort Kent (5), MSAD 33 (1), Fort Fairfield (97)
 - Restorative Circles: Caribou Community School (736), Summit Academy (80), MSAD 33 (1), Fort Fairfield (97), Fort Kent (3),
 - Photovoice: Summit Academy (80)
 - **Focus Area: Second-Hand Smoke**
 - Education: Aroostook Recovery Center of Hope, Early Care and Education Aroostook Conference (60), Presque Isle Fire House Open House (60), UMPI Pride Event (5), Annual Maliseet Health Fair Event (290)
 - Technical Assistance: Revive Wellness, AMHC, Madigan Health Services, County Yankee, Bittersweet Thyme, Lisa’s Hair Designs, Town of Houlton, Community Living Association, FA Peabody Insurance, Ivey’s Motor Lodge, Cary Library, Rebecca’s Cut & Style
 - Workplace Policies: Purely Essential Wellness, Massage by Rosie O, Hair by Lexi, Nails by Destinyrae, Glow n’Go Beauty Bar, Revive Wellness, Madz Style, Jeremy Raymond State Farm Agent,
 - **Focus Area: Treatment Services**
 - Zoom Presentation:
 - My Life My Quit: Caribou Community School (859), Fort Kent High School (1), Purely Essential Wellness (1), Massage by Rosio O (1), Hair by Lexi (1), Nails by Destinyrae (1), Glow n’Go (1), Revive Wellness (1), Madz Style (1), Jeremie Raymond State Farm (1), Madigan Health Care, County Yankee, Bittersweet Thyme, Lisa’s Hair Design, Town of Houlton, Community Living Association, Ivey’s Motor Lodge, FA Peabody Insurance, Cary Library, Rebecca’s Cut & Style, Valley Unified (1), Fort Fairfield School (97), UMPI Pride Event (131), Annual Maliseet Health Fair (290)

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- **Substance Use Prevention (SUPS):**
 - ACAP supported safe storage efforts both in the recovery setting and for cannabis dispensaries throughout the county.
 - Staff attended the Northern Light Employee Health Fair to distribute prevention resources as well as safe storage boxes and medication disposal pouches.
 - Staff facilitated Prime for Life classes at the Aroostook County Jail.
 - Staff hosted restorative circles with 30 students at the Dawn F Barnes Elementary School.
- **HEAL (Healthy Eating, Active Living):**
 - To date, HEAL Lead has worked with 12 schools to support nutrition security with support for their food cupboards and gardening initiatives with great progress specifically from Easton School. Easton School has now completed construction of 3 raised garden beds on site and is working with Mi'kmac Farms for a donation of seedlings and vegetable plants. The fresh produce will be utilized in the kitchen during the school year.
 - HEAL lead worked with AR Gould, ACAP Coaching Staff and the PI Rec Department to organize the first Party as the Pad Event of the summer at the community Splash Pad run by the city of Presque Isle. Additional physical activities were provided such as a story walk and yard games also providing ACAP Comprehensive Service opportunities. Our ACAP mobile service unit was also on site to provide any other services families need including WIC registration. Hospital staff provided sun safety sunscreen stations and information with sun hats and glasses for the children who attended. This is also the location where the summer feeding program takes place. Approximately 80 children and families attended.
 - The HEAL Lending Library has been utilized for multiple community events, including rotary events, Earth day events, and school physical activity opportunities. Our story walks seem to be utilized the most. This quarter we worked with a community 5k event for Mental Health Awareness and also a classroom at Pine Street Elementary planning a smoothie taste session for the students. Items are also booked with Madawaska school to include an upcoming story walk and many more throughout the summer.

Maine CDC Administration: CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Health Equity

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- July: Disability Pride Month
- July APHU Bulletin Board Topic: Summer Food Safety
- 07/14/25: Nurture ME Webinar: Sad Dads Club: Grief Support for Loss Dads
- 07/16/2025: Workforce Solutions for Nonprofits
- 07/17/2025: Democracy is a Public Health Issue: Tools to Support Nonpartisan Voter Access

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- 07/23/2025: Intimate Partner Violence Safe Tables and Webinar Series
- August APHU Bulletin Board Topic: Safe Sleep for Infants
- August is National Immunization Awareness Month.
- 08/05/2025: Noncitizen Policy for OFI Benefits
- 08/08/2025: OFI 101: MaineCare, SNAP, TANF, and More
- 08/12 – 08/14/2025: Inclusion Maine Conference
- 08/21/2025: Nurture ME Monthly Webinar Series
- 08/21/2025: MaineHealth: SDOH Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity Community Convening
- September APHU Bulletin Board: National Recovery Month
- 09/05/2025: Governor Mills Monthly Opioid Response Seminar Series
- 09/12/2025: OFI 101: MaineCare, SNAP, TANF, and More
- 09/17/2025: 2025 for Maine State Breastfeeding Coalition’s Fall Conference
- 09/18/2025: 2025 for Maine Immunization Program’s Respiratory Season Webinar

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| District: Cumberland | Date: 9/25 |
| ** Division of Public Health Systems: District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; PH Emergency Preparedness, Data, Research and Vital Statistics | |
| Agendas and minutes available on district's webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district2/council-main.shtml | |
| Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues: | |
| ➤ DCC Meetings: | |
| September 19 th , 2025, hybrid, in-person in Bridgton | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speakers include Jamie Borque on the Office of Injury and Violence Prevention, and Kelley Bowden and Maggie Jansson on the Transforming Maternal Health grant and program | |
| Executive Committee met several times over the summer working on: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SOP for making expenditures of existing funds held by fiscal agent ➤ Leadership succession planning and job descriptions for EC members (including treasurer and membership coordination) ➤ New member orientation took place on July 8th ➤ Monthly newsletters have been circulated (July, August, September) | |
| In-district or multi-district collaborations: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CDPHC collaboration with MaineHealth on SDOH discussion series (focus: housing supports and SDOH) ➤ Oral health and vision pop-up clinic at Congolese Community of Maine with Portland Public Health, School Oral Health Program, and Maine CDC on June 13th ➤ Cumberland district vaccination coordination group continues to meet, ensuring school-based clinics are covered, and duplication of effort is avoided, in cooperation with MaineHealth, Northern Light, Midcoast Hospital, Portland Public Health, DOE, MIP, and other partners ➤ Quarterly District meeting of the Healthcare Coalition took place September 4th with a presentation from CCEMA on winter preparedness. ➤ Cumberland DL and CRI consulted with USPS on Anthrax emergency planning September 10th | |
| ** Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program | |
| Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ West Nile Virus was detected in pool testing in Portland, and in two birds in Windham ➤ Individual hospitalized in Cumberland with suspected Eastern Equine Encephalitis ➤ DIS continues to call for sustained education for the public & providers to include syphilis testing in routine health exams, especially for pregnant people | |

District Name: Cumberland

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| Disease reporting Contact Information: Phone: 1 - 800 - 821 - 5821 (24 hours a day) |
| ** Division of Public Health Nursing |
| <p>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active TB cases continue to be a focus for our Cumberland PHN team -PHN and Portland Public Health are cooperating on contact tracing related to TB in congregate living sites • Informal conversation about TB for partners in the aftermath of reporting on shelter-related cases held by DL with PHN participation 9/12 |
| ** Division of Environmental and Community Health: Drinking Water Program, Health Inspection Program, Radiation Control Program, Environmental and Occupational Health Program |
| <p>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Boil Water Order issued for housing association in Naples on 8/29 for routine maintenance ➤ Do Not Drink orders were issued for a school in Windham (high lead levels) on 8/19, and at a daycare center in Naples (system failure) on 7/21 ➤ August 19th marked the year anniversary of Maine’s largest spill of PFAs in Brunswick. Click here for an article on what has happened since then, and EPA enforcement news from 9/11/25 ➤ Cumberland DL is participating in the Division of Environmental Health’s General Tracking Advisory Board <p>Health Inspections Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6/17/25 annual Youth Camp field training. • 2025 Rodent Academy presentation on 8/28/25. • Maine Food Safety Workgroup 9/23/25. • HIP Quarterly Staff Meeting 10/21/25. • Laurie Davis Inspector Supervisor retired & Stuart Leckie promoted to Inspector Supervisor. • HIP Inspector for outside Portland (District L) position to be posted September 2025. |
| Division of Disease Prevention: Maternal Child Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Tobacco & Substance Use Prevention and Control, Women, Infants and Children |
| <p>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cumberland DL is participating in the Maine CDC Maternal and Child Health Wellness Coalition ➤ Cumberland DL participates in the State Refugee Advisory Council ➤ Cumberland DL participated in 5/6/25 Maine Department of Health & Human Services/Community Health Worker Steering Committee meeting ➤ Cumberland DL participates in the Region 1 Homelessness Council ➤ Cumberland DL participates in the Lakes Region Collective Action Network ➤ Cumberland DL participates in bi-weekly MEMA Feeding Mainers meeting |

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➤ Highlight completed activities conducted by Maine Prevention Network Contractor/ Subcontractors during May-July 2025:

- HEAL staff at Portland Public Health established a partnership with FarmDrop, an online farmers market platform that will be sponsoring a pilot for early care and education (ECE) sites by fundraising and coordinating deliveries of local produce. The HEAL team has recruited two ECE organizations to participate in the pilot, reaching 9 sites. Launch is planned for August.
- HEAL staff at Portland Public Health collaborated with Portland Trails Inclusion Manager to host a free guided story walk for multilingual families at one of the city’s shelters, reaching over 30 participants. They plan to expand and sustain this partnership moving forward to increase availability and accessibility of outdoors programming.
- HEAL Team Lead facilitated youth engagement with the Town of Bridgton’s Open Space Plan through a survey distributed throughout the winter and spring that gathered priorities and goals from students for the town’s natural and recreation spaces. At the end of the school year, the HEAL lead supported two student advocates in summarizing and presenting results at a town Select Board meeting.

Tobacco and SUPs:

- Cumberland Public Health has consolidated all aspects of MPN work into their own office, and three former sub-grantees will no longer be funded to do their sector specific work – Portland Public Health was the last of these, as Tobacco work transferred in-house to Cumberland County Public Health.
- DL received the following report from MPN:
 - # of stakeholders educated 381
 - # of stakeholders engaged 17
 - # of youth engaged 63
 - # of youth quit tools supported 3
 - # of communications disseminated 4
 - # of coalitions/stakeholders developed or engaged 24
 - # of materials updated 1
 - # of mass-reach health communication interventions implemented 10
 - # of clinical organizations collaborated with 0
 - # of sites that received outreach related to Maine QUITLINK 1
 - # of schools engaged 7

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| # of secondhand smoke mass-reach health communication interventions implemented | 2 |
| # of employers engaged | 7 |
| # of tobacco retailers engaged | 20 |
| Maine CDC Administration: CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Health Equity | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ OPHE will be partnering with local organizations on contracted community needs assessments ➤ OPHE issued a newsletter in September with events of interest for partners | |
| Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ HCC has identified that in order to address a perceived weakness (from the recent Hazards Vulnerability Assessment) a table-top exercise for a power outage will be held at the next chapter meeting in December. | |

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|---|---------------------------------|
| District: Downeast (Hancock & Washington Counties) | Date: September 18, 2025 |
| | |
| Division of Public Health Systems: District Public Health; Rural Health and Primary Care; Oral Health; Public Health Emergency Preparedness; and Data, Research and Vital Statistics | |
| Agendas and minutes available on district's webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district7/publications.shtml | |
| ➤ Downeast Public Health Council Meeting Dates for 2025 (third Friday of the month at new time 10:00 am to 12:00 pm): January 17, March 21, May 16, July 18, September 19, and November 21. | |
| <p>July 18, 2025 Meeting Zoom Meeting with 27 participants Topic: Council business included an update of the district plan and committee work that will be given time at the September meeting. Kawther Mohamed, our public health educator, shared the recent newsletter and the work on our Facebook page. Maria Donahue provided an update of the June 12 SCC Meeting. Most of the meeting was a training by Tom Meuser, PhD, who is a Community Educator and Consultant for the Maine Bureau of Highway Safety. The training was focused on Older Adults Driving Safety and Mobility Training.</p> | |
| <p>September 19, 2025 Meeting In Person Meeting in Steuben ➤ Topic: The agenda includes a Public Health Unit presentation by the Drinking Water Program and a presentation on the Community Outreach Initiative on Dementia. The second half of the meeting will be breakout for the four committees to prioritize their one-year objectives, strategies, and activities for the Downeast Public Health District Infrastructure Improvement Plan. This will meet our 2025-2030 health infrastructure improvement plan and develop our annual district report. In addition, in working with partners in Hancock County, we have identified one common goal, objectives and activities that all partners will work on for one to three years.</p> | |
| <p>Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues: ➤ The Downeast Public Health District has been recognized nationally as an Age-Friendly Public Health System by the Trust for America's Health and the John Hartford Foundation: https://afphs.org/recognized-leaders/</p> | |

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Public Health
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- Collaborate with Hancock County EMA, Washington County EMA, Downeast Chapter Health Care Coalition, and Downeast MRC to offer training, courses, and exercises with a focus on a radiological event and the operation of a point of dispensing site for medical countermeasures.

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- Develop Downeast Medical Reserve Corps Unit Volunteer Handbook and Recruitment Strategies; determine plan for aligning MRC with Downeast Public Health Council and Downeast Health Care Coalition Planning.
- Well Water Quality and promotion of well testing in communities and providing support to overcome barriers to it.
- Downeast District will be one of the focus areas for the new Maine DHHS MaineCare Transforming Maternal Health Model Initiative.
- Partnership led by Beth C. Wright Cancer Resource Center to host two Living with Cancer Conferences in Washington County on October 3 and Hancock County on November 7.

In-district or multi-district collaborations:

- AMHC, district hospitals, district federally qualified health centers, and Healthy Acadia lead a broad network of substance use services, specifically to opioid treatment and recovery in both counties.
- AMHC and local business partners piloting a mental health awareness and first aid training at high customer sites in Calais to recognize and minimize suicide ideation and other mental health incidences.
- Healthy Acadia with broad coalition of partners is facilitating a Maine Rural Community Health Improvement Partnership (R-CHIP) to assess readiness and develop outcomes regarding sustainable and affordable housing, both emergency (e.g., winter warming centers) and long-term housing units.
- Working Communities Challenge focused on reducing child poverty in Washington County. One of these contributing projects is rebuilding the Washington County School Consortium and assessing resources to schools by surveying organizations in Washington County that provide services or resources to schools.

Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- Rabies in animals and tick-borne disease prevention (Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, babesiosis, Borrelia miyamotoi disease, and Powassan encephalitis).
Maura Lockwood, District Epidemiologist

Disease reporting Contact Information: Phone: 1 - 800 - 821 - 5821 (24 hours a day)

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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Division of Public Health Nursing

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- PHN Staff are looking to collaborate with schools in fall 2025 on school located vaccine clinics, offering influenza and catch-up vaccines.
- PHN Staff have completed the four-course Community Disaster Preparedness for Healthcare Certificate.
- PHN Staff are conducting maternal and child health assessments and initiating an older adult health assessment.

Cynthia Grass, PHN Supervisor

Division of Environmental and Community Health: Drinking Water Program, Health Inspection Program, Radiation Control Program, Environmental and Occupational Health Program

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- Inspections from June 23 to September 15 included:
 - Hancock County=38 inspections including restaurants and lodging, tattooist, body piercers, pools/spas, campgrounds, and youth camps.
 - Washington County=21 inspections including lodging and restaurants, pools/spas, and sporting camps.
- Consultation on impacts on well water from a mass casualty incident functional exercise.
- Ongoing consultations with Health Inspections on local food preparation concerns and complaints.

Lisa Silva, Program Director, Health Inspection Program, and Amy LaChance, Program Director, Drinking Water Program

Division of Disease Prevention: Maternal Child Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Tobacco & Substance Use Prevention and Control, Women, Infants and Children

➤ Highlight completed activities conducted by Maine Prevention Network Contractor in 2024: *Healthy Acadia staff provide the prevention work in Downeast.*

Healthy Eating, Active Living (HEAL)

- ❖ Promoted the Smarter Lunchroom Scorecard with Ellsworth Middle School, Sumner Middle/High School and Sedgwick at School Nutrition Workgroups in collaboration with Full Plates Full Potential. Provided Maine Fishermen’s Association samples and Gulf of Maine Research Institute classroom curriculum.
- ❖ Provided physical activities at community events including EM Root Conference, Elementary School Family Day for Milbridge, Addison and Harrington, and the Schoodic Scenic Byway Celebration. Registered and arranged free participation for Jonesport-Beals Elementary school staff for 262 Summer Mileage Club.
- ❖ Supported Pride Festival and Juneteenth Commemoration events with the Lactation Station pop-up tent and breastfeeding resources.

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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- ❖ Three ECE sites completed Go NAPSACC Self-assessments including goals to improve physical activity and nutrition. We assisted Mano en Mano's new childcare *Rayitos de Sol* with their nutrition goal by helping install a vegetable/herb garden and raised beds. They also joined the MDOE Harvest of the Month (HOM) pledge for ECE sites.
- ❖ We conducted significant outreach and support around the Maine Senior Farm Share Program, helping over 260 seniors to participate.
- ❖ We have held meetings of the Hancock and Washington Food Security Networks, offering opportunities for networking and mutual support.

Substance Use Prevention

- ❖ Staff coordinated a large non-profit and advocacy fair as part of Ellsworth's Pride festival.
- ❖ Staff participated in Maine Public Health Association's Hall of Flags event with Maine Prevention Network peers, allowing an opportunity to connect with policymakers and educate on the prevention work happening locally.
- ❖ Hosted a training for students at College of the Atlantic, highlighting various topics regarding substance misuse prevention.
- ❖ Healthy Acadia conducted youth leadership activities with the Cherryfield Recreation Project, including a youth-led visioning session. The team also supported career exploration and employment opportunities for youth and youth recruitment with a workshop at George Stevens Academy, focused on goals following high school.

Tobacco Prevention

- ❖ Prevention of tobacco: program data went through a thorough cleaning process, including the aggregation of data.
- ❖ During the quarter, 158 activities were reported for Q2 compared to 122 for Q1; 7,889 people were reached in Q2 compared to 887 for Q1; no disparity population reach reported; and activity output reporting improved.

Maine Youth

- ❖ No report this time.

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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Maine CDC Administration: CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Health Equity

- State Health Improvement Plan: committees have been formed for priorities who will meet during 2025.
- Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health: reorganization of SCC with new bylaws, membership committee, orientation packet, and annual goals with quarterly meeting agendas.

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- Alignment of emergency preparedness work, including trainings and exercises, between public health district, Downeast Medical Reserve Corps Unit, Health Care Coalition, and County Emergency Management Agencies.

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Update

Midcoast District (Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc & Waldo Counties)

Date: September 18th, 2025

Office of Readiness and Response includes District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP), Data, Research and Vital Statistics (DRVS)

Agendas and minutes available on District’s webpage:

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district4/publications.shtml>

Midcoast Public Health Council:

The Midcoast Public Health Council (MPHC) held an in-person meeting on September 9th, at Aldermere Farm in Rockport, ME. The meeting featured speakers from the Maine Prevention Network (MPN) discussing Substance Use Prevention activities occurring in the district. Jamie Bourque, Director from the Office of Injury and Violence Prevention (OIVP) discussed the mission and priorities of the newly created office within the ME CDC. Dr. Puthiery Va, Director of the ME CDC was also a featured speaker and shared the current issues facing the State of Maine. The meeting brought together over 45 members and partners together to plan the Midcoast District Infrastructure Plan.

The MPHC Steering Committee Meeting is scheduled for October 21st, 2025, and the SC will be focusing on the feedback received from the District Council meeting breakout sessions and the District Infrastructure Plan.

Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:

- The Midcoast Public Health Unit (PHU) will meet on. The PHU meeting will focus on opportunities for collaboration within the Public Health Unit (PHU).
- Midcoast Public Health Educator is working with PHN and partners to plan a Community Baby Shower in Waldo County on October 4th, 2025. The event is aimed at connecting birthing families and caregivers to essential resources in the local community.
- Midcoast Public Health Educator has completed the MPHC Membership Crosswalk for the Midcoast Public Health Council and will be focusing on recruiting members for the upcoming annual membership election in Feb 2026.

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Update

Public Health
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In-district or multi-district collaborations:

- The Midcoast Public Health Educator has been attending the Transforming Maternal Health (TMaH) Rural Regional Planning office hours meeting to learn more about the grant opportunity for public health districts to focus on increasing access for coordinated perinatal health services in rural areas in the state of Maine.
- The Midcoast District Chapter of the Health Care Coalition of Maine (HCC) is scheduled to meet on September 24th, from 2-3pm via Zoom.

** Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program

- Infectious Disease Epidemiology continues to do case and outbreak investigations as well as consultations for stakeholders and members of the public. ID Epidemiology has received several concerned calls from the public about federal changes in the vaccine and CDC recommendations.

** Division of Public Health Nursing

Public Health Nursing (PHN) has been busy with multiple projects across the district.

- PHN Nurses in the Midcoast District are working with Waldo Maine Families and Waldo YMCA to begin a perinatal support group. The “Bumps and Babies” support group will begin on October 4th, 2025 and meet in person at the Waldo County YMCA in Belfast from 12:30-2pm. For more information on this support group please email Brianne.Fokine@maine.gov. The group will focus on connecting families with local community resources.
- PHN will be offering vaccinations at the Recovery Rally at Rockland Harbor Park on Friday September 26th, 2025.
- PHN is participating in a Maternal Mobile Health Clinic at Midcoast Maine Community Action (MMCA) in Rockland on Sept 24, and in Damariscotta on Oct 8th, 2025.
- PHN will be represented at the CDC table at the Common Ground Fair in Unity, ME from September 19th-21st, 2025.

** Division of Environmental and Community Health: Drinking Water Program, Health Inspection Program, Radiation Control Program, Environmental and Occupational Health Program

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Update

Division of Disease Prevention: Maternal Child Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Tobacco & Substance Use Prevention and Control, Women, Infants and Children

- Highlights of completed activities conducted by Maine Prevention Network (MPN) Contractor/Subcontractors during April-June 2025:

Midcoast Substance Use Prevention (SUP) Activities include:

- MPN staff made significant strides in promoting substance use prevention through community outreach and education. Staff in **Knox and Waldo County** implemented a cannabis safe storage survey to inform future work around safe storage and other relevant cannabis prevention information.
- MPN staff in **Lincoln County** completed a four-part classroom program with students in the Medomak Alternative Program, focusing on topics such as alcohol and cannabis use impact on brain development, mental health, and stigma reduction.
- MPN staff in **Sagadahoc County** staff provided “first aid” kits to Mid Coast Hospital’s Family Birthing Center, which contained resources including medication pill boxes to support medication safety.
- MPN Staff in **Sagadahoc County** presented Mt. Ararat High School to 45 students on MIYHS data and how Mid Coast can support the school with SUP programming. Another presentation to the Mid Coast Hospital’s Board of Directors, a decision-making group, focused on Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) priorities, including a focus on substance use prevention.

Midcoast Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Activities from June-August 2025:

- **Sagadahoc County** successfully hosted the 3rd Annual Bike and Pedestrian Lunch & Learn, bringing together representatives from two towns. Six participants discussed barriers, opportunities for collaboration, and strategies to connect communities through improved bike and pedestrian infrastructure.

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Update

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- **Sagadahoc County Tobacco Prevention Staff** promoted My Life, My Quit (MLMQ) and Maine QuitLink (MQL) at Brunswick and Topsham National Night Out events, providing over 100 materials to attendees.
- **Lincoln County HEAL Staff** participated in four Set for Success events, providing frisbees, kites, and resources on healthy eating and meal planning for more than 600 students.
- **Lincoln County HEAL Staff** promoted healthy eating and family wellness through over seven unique messages and campaigns, featuring programs like Maine Senior Farm Share and Sunbucks, while also celebrating National Breastfeeding Month and emphasizing access to nutritious foods.
- **Lincoln County HEAL Staff** partnered with local breastfeeding champions to supply 15 breastfeeding support kits for distribution at community classes for new and expecting parents. These kits include supplies for postpartum and working parents, along with information on local parenting groups and the MSBC back-to-work toolkit
- **Knox County HEAL Staff** successfully hosted a Knox County Food Council kickoff event where 30-35 people attended. 4 breakout groups were held to discuss existing gaps and resources, ideas for council-led projects, and the future structure of the council.
- **Knox County and Waldo County HEAL Staff** distributed our Breastfeed Support Survey to internal managers and directors at Pen Bay Hospital to evaluate our departments' adherence to MaineHealth's recently adopted Lactation Policy Distributed 15 post-partum breastfeeding support kits to local community partners.
- **Waldo County Tobacco Staff** tabled at Waldo County Senior Appreciation Day, spoke with people about tobacco and distributed MQL materials to the 120 attendees

Maine CDC Administration: CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Population Health Equity (OPHE), and Environmental Testing Laboratory

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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Template updated 03/2023

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| District: Penquis Public Health Council | Date: 09-14-2025 |
| ** Division of Public Health Systems: District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; PH Emergency Preparedness, Data, Research and Vital Statistics | |
| Agendas and minutes are available on the district's webpage: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dates of note in Penquis District: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next DCC Meeting: 11/05/2025 | |
| Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flu Season Preparation: Strengthening Immunization Efforts & Community Outreach • Preparing for Flu Season: Communications & Readiness • Access to Heating Assistance: Heating Program Updates | |
| Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ➤ HIV case cluster response | |
| In-district or multi-district collaborations: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCC work on communications and cybersecurity | |
| ** Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 18, 2025: Maine CDC advises travelers to measles-risk areas to get extra vaccine doses (infants before 12 months, second dose earlier for kids, and two doses for unvaccinated adults). • June 27, 2025: Maine CDC updated the Notifiable Conditions List to improve tracking and response to disease threats. • June 30, 2025: Clinicians should consider mosquito-borne viruses (including imported ones like Dengue, Zika, Yellow Fever) in patients with fever, meningitis, or encephalitis. • July 10, 2025: Clinicians should offer HIV testing in the third trimester of pregnancy, especially for patients at higher risk. | |

District Name: Aroostook

**** Indicates the presence of Maine CDC Field Staff assigned to the District Public Health Unit**

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

- July 15, 2025: Air quality alert issued for northern Maine due to wildfire smoke (Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups) through July 16.
- July 29, 2025: First 2025 detections: Powassan virus in a resident (Hancock County) and West Nile Virus in a bird (York County).
- July 30, 2025: Pfizer recalled some Bicillin L-A lots; Maine CDC advises saving remaining supply for treating syphilis in pregnant patients.
- August 13, 2025: Ozone levels reached “Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups” along the coast and in western/eastern Maine.
- August 27, 2025: First 2025 case of congenital syphilis in Maine; all pregnant persons should be tested for syphilis early, in the third trimester, and at birth.
- September 3, 2025: Maine CDC issued guidance for health care staff exposed to or sick with respiratory viruses (COVID-19, flu, RSV).
- September 8, 2025: First hantavirus case in Maine since 2011; only the second case ever reported in the state.
- September 9, 2025: First 2025 human case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in Maine; mosquito-borne disease risk raised to high statewide, severe in four counties.
Disease reporting Contact Information: Phone: 1 - 800 - 821 - 5821 (24 hours a day)

**** Division of Public Health Nursing**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

➤ District 6 PHN updates:

PHN has been busy with a variety of referrals that include Maternal Child Health, Older Adults, Tuberculosis, as well as working with our community partners on the HIV/HCV response in the city of Bangor. The following are several areas that we have been focused on and that we have done within the Penquis district within this past quarter. Our hopes are to continue to gain education so that we may best serve the beautiful communities of the Penquis District.

Events:

istrict Name: Aroostook

2

**** Indicates the presence of Maine CDC Field Staff assigned to the District Public Health Unit**

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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Baby & ME Groups: Dover-Foxcroft, Millinocket and Old Town (Our groups continue to grow and expand in these areas. Our partnerships with the local libraries have been incredible).

Penobscot Parenting Expo- November 14, 2025
Maternal Mobile Health Clinics in Greenville and Millinocket
Vaccine Clinics at various rural school locations

Special/Other Projects/Meetings:

Hosting Boston College Students and Staff in Piscataquis County (2nd year)-November
Helping Hands with Heart-Piscataquis County
Bi-Annual PHN Meeting-held in October 2025
PHN/Maine Families Quartely Meeting held in Brewer, ME
MHIRN-Weekly meeting
START Meeting
Domestic Violence Task Force
Maine State Breastfeeding Coalition
Bangor Breastfeeding Coalition
Maine Newborn Screening Committee

Education:

Rutgers Tuberculosis Training
Motivational Interviewing Training
Bloodborne Pathogen Training
Perinatal Orientation & Education Program certification
TEEX Training: FEMA Certification for Community Disaster Preparedness for Healthcare- Supervisor has attained certification and additional PHN II will attain by Spring 2026.

**** Division of Environmental and Community Health:** Drinking Water Program, Health Inspection Program, Radiation Control Program, Environmental and Occupational Health Program

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

➤ **Health Inspections**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- 6/17/25 annual Youth Camp field training.
- 2025 Rodent Academy presentation on 8/28/25.
- Maine Food Safety Workgroup 9/23/25.
- HIP Quarterly Staff Meeting 10/21/25.
- Laurie Davis, Inspector Supervisor, retired & Stuart Leckie promoted to Inspector Supervisor.

istrict Name: Aroostook

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22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Public Health
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- HIP Inspector for Farmington (District O) position to be reposted September 2025.
- HIP Inspector for outside Portland (District L) position to be posted September 2025.
- Pending a retirement, HIP Inspector for the Biddeford area/Sanford (District Q) position to be posted

Division of Disease Prevention: Maternal Child Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Tobacco & Substance Use Prevention and Control, Women, Infants and Children

Q2 2025 Tobacco Prevention – District 6 Highlights

- 67 activities reported (↓ from 84 in Q1)
- 91,425 people reached (↑ from 9,977 in Q1)
 - Boost driven by new smoke-free policy at Penobscot Ice Arena (~75,000 annual visitors)
- 2 new comprehensive smoke-free policies implemented (impacting ~75,800 people)
- Improved data quality for disparity and output reporting
- Key focus areas:
 - Settings: 29 in schools, 9 in healthcare, 13 other
 - Target groups: Youth, general population, adults
 - Disparity populations: Youth, rural, low-income
 - Outputs: 814 recorded, including 308 youth engaged and 237 communications shared

Chronic Disease Prevention – HEAL Updates (May–July 2025)

Healthy Eating

- Piscataquis County hosted a Free Produce Pop-Up Market with the Piscataquis Regional Food Center
 - Over 1,300 lbs of local fruits and vegetables distributed
 - 152 produce bags given to employees and community members
- A garden was established at Little Organics Learning Center in Dover-Foxcroft
- HEAL coordinator has provided support to start gardens at four ECE programs in total

Active Living

- SeDoMoCha in Piscataquis County ran a Summer Physical Activity Club (Club 262)
 - 86 students completed a combined 2,608 miles

Lactation Support

- Penobscot County: The Mom Connection group meets bi-weekly at Millinocket Memorial Library
- Piscataquis County: Baby & Me group meets weekly at Thompson Free Library in Dover-Foxcroft
 - End-of-quarter attendance: seven mothers and their infants

strict Name: Aroostook

4

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22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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Substance Use Prevention Highlights

August 2025 (for period April-June 2025)

- District 6 hosted a Youth Positive Action Team Summit, with 125 youth participants who attended sessions on substance misuse, mental health promotion, youth mattering, healthy relationships, and more.
- Hosted a young-adult chem-free night in Greenville to allow for young adults together socially as an alternative to substance use, filling a gap vocalized by local young adults.
- Staff participated in Maine Public Health Association’s Hall of Flags event with Maine Prevention Network peers, allowing an opportunity to connect with policymakers and educate on the prevention work happening locally.

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

➤ **Highlight completed activities conducted by Maine Prevention Network Contractor/ Subcontractors:**

Maine CDC Administration: CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Health Equity

Maine CDC Administration – Weekly Highlights

- Cooler weather is a reminder to plan for seasonal vaccinations
- Maine joined Northeast states to improve regional public health efforts
- West Nile Virus found in Portland mosquitoes and birds in Kennebec, Sagadahoc, and York Counties
- Public urged to prevent mosquito bites
- Toxicology team visited a Maine farm to test a new soil safety tool; more info coming soon
- Maryann Harakall presented on Maternal & Child Health in Gardiner
- Tobacco team participated in Department of Education Conference
- Aug 26: Bridget Denis to recap public health legislation
- Aug 13: Erin Arneson discussed heat-related illness and worker safety

Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory

No updates

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

➤

strict Name: Aroostook

5

**** Indicates the presence of Maine CDC Field Staff assigned to the District Public Health Unit**

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

strict Name: Aroostook

6

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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Template updated 02/2024

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| District: Western | Date: 9/18/25 |
| ** Division of Public Health Systems: District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; PH Emergency Preparedness, Data, Research and Vital Statistics | |
| Agendas and minutes available on district's webpage . | |
| <p>Dates of note in Western District:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In-person DCC meeting in Oxford County on October 21, 2025 <p>Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continued education/speaking opportunities for community partners. ➤ Continued outreach and growing DCC membership. ➤ Steering Committee working on drafting District work plan <p>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Working with public health unit to identify district needs and address cross cutting collaborations surrounding public health preparedness. ➤ HCC meeting quarterly. Set up leadership roles for Western District Chapter. Participated in medical surge exercise in May. Hazard Vulnerability Workplan created. ➤ Established Lewiston/Auburn Community Forums in partnership with OPHE, continuing quarterly. Met in September to discuss respiratory vaccines as well as school vaccines with presenters from: MIP, PHN, IDE, and DOE ➤ PHU vaccine team met with Maine Immunization Program to discuss school vaccine compliance in Western District ➤ PHU working with IDE to improve childhood vaccine flyer on September 24, 2025 <p>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assisting in Orderable Materials Project. End goal: streamline ordering process across MECDC programs. | |
| ** Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program | |
| <p>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</p> <p>Epidemiology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Monitoring arboviral activity throughout the state | |

District Name: Western

1

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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Infectious Disease Prevention:

- No reports

Immunization:

- No reports

Disease reporting Contact Information: Phone: 1 - 800 - 821 - 5821 (24 hours a day)

**** Division of Public Health Nursing**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- New parents support group “Bumps and Babies” started June 4th in Lewiston. 1 year anniversary of Bumps and Babies program in Franklin County.
- Schools in all three counties have submitted vaccine clinic requests for flu/covid vaccine through partnership with PHN and DOE

**** Division of Environmental and Community Health:** Drinking Water Program, Health Inspection Program, Radiation Control Program, Environmental and Occupational Health Program

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- West Paris had after action report meeting to address boil water advisory that was issued

Division of Disease Prevention: Maternal Child Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Tobacco & Substance Use Prevention and Control, Women, Infants and Children

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

Substance Use Prevention:

- Healthy Oxford Hills supported the creation of a Youth Advisory Group/Board Toolkit through the Maine Prevention Network Youth Engagement Cohort, which will serve as a valuable resource for prevention partners statewide.
- The District 3 Team, in partnership with Maine Youth Action Network, hosted a comprehensive prevention event at Hebron Academy, reaching 288 students. The event included a keynote presentation by Healthy Oxford Hills which highlighted local MIYHS data, and also offered grade-specific breakout sessions. Hebron Academy staff were also trained to lead middle school programming.
- The River Valley Healthy Community Coalition team supported the Dixfield Church and Food Pantry in updating their substance use policy to be more comprehensive.
- Healthy Community Coalition developed and delivered a new substance use policy to Webster Library in Kingfield, and initiated work policy work with four businesses in Farmington.

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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- Staff participated in Maine Public Health Association’s Hall of Flags event with Maine Prevention Network peers, allowing an opportunity to connect with policymakers and educate on the prevention work happening locally.

Tobacco:

- 241 activities reported for Q2 2025 compared to 179 for Q1. 16,361 people reached in Q2 2025 compared to 12,889 for Q1. Overall quality of reach reporting, especially for disparity population, is greatly improved. Continued policy work is comparable to accomplishments in Q1.

Chronic Disease Prevention:

- In July, Healthy Oxford Hills (HOH) staff continued to promote the Bumps and Babies mom group. HOH staff posted reminder posts to social media to let moms know when the in-person groups were and what the spotlights were. HOH staff facilitated one of the Bumps and Babies groups and had a guest from the Alford Grant join to share information to the moms about the Alford Grant for their babies.
- Healthy Androscoggin staff promoted the Androscoggin Bumps & Babies Breastfeeding Support Group through social media, outreach to Central Maine Healthcare, and local doulas.
- In July, HOH staff supported the Bethel, Fryeburg, and Norway Farmers' Markets by assisting with SNAP transactions and educating participants about Maine Harvest Bucks. Postcard outreach proved effective, with over 10 redemptions in Bethel and 2 in Fryeburg. Social media efforts reached 3,073 people for the SNAP/EBT market posts (53 likes, 25 shares), and 1,534 people for Bumper Crop promotion (21 likes, 10 shares).
- The District 3 School Nutrition Workgroup continues to meet based on the availability of local nutrition directors. Currently, all school nutrition directors in Androscoggin County are actively engaged in the workgroup.

Maine CDC Administration: CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Public Health Equity

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- No reports received

** Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL):

District Name: Western

3

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- No reports received

District Name: Western

4

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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Template updated 03/2023

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| District: York Public Health District | Date: 9/18/2025 |
| <p>** Division of Public Health Systems: District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; PH Emergency Preparedness, Data, Research and Vital Statistics</p> | |
| <p>Agendas and minutes available on district's webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district1/council-main.shtml</p> <p>➤ Dates of note in York District:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DCC is planning a ALICE (Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed) simulation on 9/26/2025 at York County Community College. If you have an interest in attending please reach out to adam.hartwig@maine.gov <p>Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:</p> <p>➤ The council is still working to attract new members.</p> <p>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</p> <p>➤ The District Coordinating Council is working on the development of the Local Public Health Systems Improvement Plan.</p> <p>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</p> <p>Public Health Unit: The District Liaison continues to coordinate the public health unit quarterly meetings to discuss ongoing projects and current issues to ensure coloration when appropriate.</p> <p>The York District Liaison is working on the next meeting for the Healthcare Coalitions, September 23rd which focused on National Weather Service forecast for hurricane season and winter for York County.</p> <p>Rural Health and Primary Care</p> <hr/> <p>Stay Updated on the Latest Developments</p> | |

istrict Name: Aroostook

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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Rural Health and Primary Care

Challenges to Health Care Access

Access to health care can be complex and becomes more of a challenge in rural and underserved areas of Maine. Challenges include:

People who have low-income and are uninsured have more trouble finding a health care provider to see them, are less likely to seek medical services, and have greater difficulty paying their medical bills.

Lack of transportation is the top, non-cost, reason people with low-income delay medical care.

Almost 20% of adults without a high school diploma do not have a regular health care provider, compared with 14% of high school graduates, 11% of those with some college, and 8% with a bachelor's degree or higher.

Compared to white adults, members of racial or ethnic minority groups are more likely not to have a regular health care provider (21% vs. 12%) and more likely to have gone without care in the prior year because of cost (17% vs. 10%).

Successes

There are areas Maine is doing well, including:

The percentage of Mainers reporting poor general health is among the lowest in the nation.

Maine ranks 2nd in the U.S. for the number of primary care physicians practicing in rural counties (99.5 per 100,000). The national average for rural counties is 54.5 per 100,000.

Maine ranks 8th in the U.S. for the number of psychiatrists practicing in rural counties. Maine has 6.2 per 100,000 residents. The U.S. rural average is 3.4.

**** Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

District Name: Aroostook

2

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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The field epidemiologist is participating and bringing value to both the public health unit meetings and the Health Care coalition meetings. This has been a great opportunity to share information about what is circulating in York County.

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/epi/>

Disease reporting Contact Information: Phone: 1 - 800 - 821 - 5821 (24 hours a day)

**** Division of Public Health Nursing**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- The Maine Public Health Nursing Program is fully staffed now.
 - Public Health Nurses from York and Cumberland Counties are still offering one-off catch-up vaccine clinics for school aged children.

Maine CDC Public Health Nursing: 207-287-4112

**** Division of Environmental and Community Health: Drinking Water Program, Health Inspection Program, Radiation Control Program, Environmental and Occupational Health Program**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- **Maine CDC Drinking Water Program (DWP)** works to ensure safe drinking water in Maine, to protect public health, by administering and enforcing drinking water and subsurface wastewater regulations, providing education and technical and financial assistance. Hours: Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm
- **NEWS: Capacity Development Learning Opportunity: *From Surviving to Thriving***
From Surviving to Thriving is a series of seminars for water utility operators that explores ways to increase their systems' technical, managerial, and financial capacity. Sessions will be held at locations around Maine between June and September, 2025. *From Surviving to Thriving* is co-hosted by the DWP and the Maine Public Utilities Commission (PUC), with support from the Maine Water Utilities Association (MWUA). [Click here to learn more.](#)
- **New Online Start-Up Procedures for Seasonal Public Water Systems**
The DWP is pleased to introduce a new submission option for the State-approved seasonal start-up procedure (SSUP). Seasonal water systems, using either groundwater or surface water, can now submit their SSUP information completely online. Certify completion of your SSUP easily to the DWP saving paper, time, and money. The paper SSUP forms will still be accepted, but PWSs should

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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be sure to use the 2025 revision from our website. **Remember:** Seasonal water systems must perform a State-approved startup procedure and provide certification to the DWP that they have met that requirement. Certification must be completed and sent to the DWP *before* serving water to the public. [Click here to learn more or access the new online SSUP forms.](#)

-
- **Health Inspection Program:** The Health Inspection Program exists to provide licensing and inspection services for several different types of businesses to protect the public's health. These businesses include restaurants, lodging, campgrounds, youth camps, public swimming pools and spas, tattooists, micropigmentation, body piercing, electrolysis, school cafeterias, and mass gatherings. To file a complaint, report a foodborne illness, or inquire about a Health Inspection Program-licensed establishment, please call our main number at 207-287-5671 during business hours. Our offices are open Monday through Friday from 8am-5pm excluding holidays. For emergency after hours calls, please call **1-800-821-5821**.
- The Health Inspection Program is excited to announce it is fully staffed for York Public Health District.

The Division is organized as follows:

- Division Administration (internal support, review and planning of the Division)
- Children's Licensing and Investigation Services (childcare facility licensing) (207) 287-5020
- Drinking Water Program (regulates public drinking water supplies) (207) 287-2070
- Health Inspection Program (inspection/regulation of restaurants and lodging places) (207) 287-5671
- Radiation Control Program (inspection/regulation of radiation sources) (207) 287-5676
- Subsurface Wastewater Team (plan review and approval of septic system installation) (207) 287-2070

Division of Disease Prevention: Maternal Child Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Tobacco & Substance Use Prevention and Control, Women, Infants and Children

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

Maternal and Child Health Program: For over 75 years, the Federal Title V Maternal and Child Health Program has provided States with funding to ensuring the health of the Nation's mothers, women, children and youth, including children with special health care needs, and their families. The Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant (MCHBG) supports work in Maine including the following programs.

- Maine CDC Children with Special Health Needs
- Birth Defects Program
- Cleft Lip & Palate Program
- Partners in Care Coordination
- Newborn Hearing Program
- Genetics Program
- Newborn Bloodspot Screening Program

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- Maternal, Fetal & Infant Mortality Review
- Perinatal Health
- Other Maine CDC Programs serving women, mothers and children and receiving support from the MCHBG and matching funds.
- Women’s Health
- Adolescent and School Health
- Public Health Nursing
- Injury and Suicide Prevention
- Oral Health

Substance Use Prevention: The Prevention Team is committed to preventing and reducing substance abuse and mental illness and related problems by providing leadership, education and support to communities and institutions throughout Maine. The team works to ensure that Mainers can avoid both the personal and societal costs of substance abuse and mental illness. In collaboration with Maine Prevention Services initiative, Drug Free Community Coalitions, communities, consumers, and a variety of organizations in the state, the Prevention Team provides funding, technical assistance, data, and training and develops materials and resources to educate the residents of Maine. Wellness is the foundation of a healthy, long, and productive life, and is core to the work of prevention services.

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

Maine CDC Administration: CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Health Equity

Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

The goals of the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory are to isolate, identify, analyze and monitor any biological, chemical, or radiological hazards which are capable of causing harm. We will assist other agencies in the prevention, treatment, and control of such hazards which threaten the community or environment. These essential services shall be provided cost effectively through a fee schedule established with the flexibility of making them available regardless of the public’s ability to pay. Other roles include consultation with other agencies on state policy development and the quality assurance oversight of services provided by the public and private sectors.

Core functions:

RAPID RESPONDER TO SUSPECTED OUTBREAKS AND CONTAMINATION EVENTS:

- The HETL, in concert with public health agencies and other laboratories, will have the capability to rapidly identify, track and contain outbreaks and sources of biological or chemical public health threats.

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INTEGRATED INFORMATION MANAGER:

- The HETL will provide an important link for the accumulation, blending, and distribution of scientific information in the support of public health programs. The HETL will also provide expert consultation on analytical data generated at the HETL and data generated elsewhere.

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR:

- The HETL will be a leader in epidemiological surveillance and environmental testing. Laboratory data will provide necessary information to assess and monitor environmental health. Low detection level analyses will provide an indicator of change, before significant health effects can occur.

ADVOCATE FOR APPROPRIATE AND HIGH-QUALITY TESTING:

- The HETL will be recognized as the source of quality information and serve as the standard for municipal and private laboratory performance. Certification of other laboratories will be based upon standards set here and the federal standards defined by laws and regulations.

REFERENCE SERVICE PROVIDER:

- The HETL will expand its role as the reference testing site for Maine and provide a model of efficient, low cost, quality testing that assesses public and environmental health through appropriate testing.

TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONS RESEARCH LEADER:

- The HETL will be recognized as a source of state-of-the-art technology, both technical and operational. The HETL will have direct connectivity to technological advancement within the State.
- The HETL will assist the state in test selection for investigative research.

PUBLIC SAFETY ENFORCEMENT:

- The HETL will provide analytical, technical, and enforcement capability to help control the abuse of alcohol & drugs and the attendant public health consequences.

Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL)

Central Office:

221 State St., Augusta, Maine 04333

Telephone:

207-287-2727

For more news please visit: <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/news>

strict Name: Aroostook

6

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