



Jefferson County General Health District

— Prevent. Promote. Protect. —

Quarterly Newsletter

Program Updates

JCGHD Aims to Increase Flu Vaccinations through Quality Improvement Initiative

The JCGHD Nursing Staff and Preparedness Coordinator are leading a Quality Improvement (QI) project to increase flu vaccination rates in Jefferson County. According to data from the CDC, it is estimated that fewer than half (44%) of adults in Ohio received a flu vaccine during the 2025-2026 flu season. The national average was similar, with 46% of adults in the United States receiving a flu vaccine during the same period.

JCGHD administered 332 flu vaccines in 2025, a significant decrease from the 539 vaccines administered in 2024. To move back toward the 2024 total, JCGHD aims to administer 400 vaccines in 2026. Achieving this goal would represent an incremental improvement of approximately 20%. For a full list of flu shot clinics, please see the Upcoming Events section.

Landfill Odor Complaint Trends

The JCGHD Environmental Health Division continues to monitor odor complaints at Apex Landfill operated by Interstate Waste Services (IWS). Odor complaints increased significantly throughout July (44) and August (54). These totals more than tripled the number of complaints received during the same months in 2025.

Through bi-weekly meetings with IWS and routine odor patrols conducted by JCGHD inspectors, it was determined that the elevated workforce was a major contributing factor to the increase in odor complaints. Since IWS has moved operations to a lower workforce, odor complaints have stabilized. In September, JCGHD received 24 complaints, which is several fewer than the number received during the same period last year.

Please remember that while JCGHD regulates the facility and works to ensure compliance with environmental regulations, we do not direct the landfill's day-to-day operations. JCGHD takes its regulatory responsibilities seriously and remains committed to addressing community concerns. To report an odor complaint, please call 1-888-878-7919.

Staff Shout Out!

Sanitarian-in-Training Dave McFarland will become a fully credentialed Registered Environmental Health Sanitarian this October. After two years of training and passing the examination, we are thrilled to have Dave working in Jefferson County as an REHS!

Employment Opportunity

WIC is looking for their next Breastfeeding Peer Helper! If you have experience with breastfeeding, are enthusiastic about breastfeeding, and want to help other mothers enjoy a positive experience, this could be a great opportunity for you. Applications are available until October 16 at <https://jchealth.com/employment-opportunities/>

2026 Communicable Disease Report

Disease Type	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	TOTAL
Anaplasmosis	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Campylobacteriosis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	9
Chlamydia	11	18	15	14	9	9	15	12	12	115
COVID-19 Hospitalization	24	7	11	3	0	0	1	0	0	46
CP-CRE / CPO	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	5
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0	0	0	1	13	1	0	15
E. coli	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3
Giardiasis	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Gonorrhea	2	4	1	4	0	2	2	0	4	19
Hepatitis B	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	5
Hepatitis C	3	3	5	8	3	8	2	2	5	39
Influenza hospitalization	31	13	13	4	1	0	0	0	0	62
Legionnaires' disease	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Lyme disease	0	4	5	11	11	11	29	7	9	87
RSV Hospitalization	11	8	7	3	1	0	0	0	0	30
Salmonellosis	0	1	1	1	1	2	1	0	2	9
Streptococcal disease, group A	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3
Syphilis	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Varicella	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Yersiniosis	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
TOTAL	85	59	61	51	29	36	63	37	39	460

Do you know the stages of Lyme Disease?

STAGE 1: Early Localized Stage

- Timing: Occurs within a few days to a month after a tick bite.
- Symptoms: Erythema Migrans (bullseye rash), Flu-like Symptoms, Localized Pain

STAGE 2: Disseminated Stage

- Timing: Can occur days to months after the initial tick bite.
- Symptoms: Multiple Rashes, Neurological Issues, Cardiac Symptoms, Arthritis

STAGE 3: Late-Stage

- Timing: The disease may develop months to years after the initial tick bite if untreated.
- Symptoms: Arthritis, Neurological Issues, And Other Chronic Symptoms (patients may experience prolonged fatigue, sleep disturbances, and muscle pain, although these are less common and less extensive than sometimes portrayed)

Source: DocsMedicalGroup.com

Measles Update

Jefferson County has not reported a confirmed case of measles; however, JCGHD continues to monitor measles activity across Ohio and the nation. With confirmed cases reported in several neighboring counties this year, now is the time to make sure you are protected. Contact the Jefferson County General Health District today to learn about vaccination options.

Upcoming Events

Flu Shot Clinics and Events

Buckeye Local High School
Wednesday, October 7
4 – 6 pm

WTOV 9 Fall Senior Expo at St. Florian Hall
Thursday, October 8
8:30 am – 1 pm

YSU Steubenville
Thursday, October 8
2 – 5 pm
(Former truck school lot: Enter on John Scott HWY)

YSU Steubenville
Friday, October 9
9 am – 12 pm
(Former truck school lot: Enter on John Scott HWY)

Edison Local High School
Wednesday, October 14
4 – 6 pm

Jefferson County JVS Fall Festival
Thursday, October 15
5:30 – 7 pm

JCGHD – Toronto Office
Monday, October 5 & 26
9 am – 3 pm
(Closed for lunch 11:30 am – 12:30 pm)

Ohio Valley Health Center: Health Fair
Wednesday, October 28
10 am – 1 pm



Chamber of Commerce Career and Education Day 2026



In September, the JCGHD received a generous donation of diapers from the Heart of Ohio Diaper Bank.



WIC staff hosted a Breastfeeding Awareness Month event in August and attended First Friday on Fourth to promote our services in September.