



Shelby City
Health Department
Live Healthy. Stay Healthy.

**THIS IS
PUBLIC
HEALTH**

2024

**Shelby City
Health Department**

Annual Report



A Message from the Health Commissioner:



Dear City of Shelby Residents,

It is my pleasure to share our health department's annual report for 2024. Thank you, community members, for supporting our health department. Our department and its dedicated employees continue to make strides to provide public health services to the jurisdiction that we serve. Shelby City Health Department (SCHD) continues to make strides in meeting Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) standards and measures, with the goal of achieving re-accreditation in 2027. Over this past year, we applied for and received over \$110,000 in state and local grants to maximize the use of local levy dollars for programs/services.

SCHD has expanded our visibility and support throughout the community to meet the on-going needs of our residents, as well as meet the demands for national public health accreditation. Our Environmental Health division met inspection deadlines in all mandated programs. "Proudly, we are approved" by the state health department to continue providing state mandated programs and services to our community.

Toward the middle of 2024, SCHD welcomed our new Environmental Health Director, Gillian Olsen, REHS/RS to the team. The SCHD team has been instrumental in managing day-to-day affairs of the health department, as well as addressing disease and health concerns in the community.

Throughout 2024, staff members attended health fairs and special events to promote public health and provide outreach within our community. The Director of Nursing/Health Education intends to continue to provide free health screenings (blood pressure, blood sugar) at various locations throughout the community. SCHD is committed to strengthening our community and state partnerships, making public health a top priority through a very proficient and trained workforce.

In 2024, staff members attended several trainings and educational conferences in order to keep up to date on current trends and issues. We strive to ensure our staff is well informed and well trained, so they can provide the highest level of service to our community.



We strive to be an accurate source of information for the community, staying involved with residents through monitoring and surveillance of communicable disease cases.

We have been successful in utilizing social media (Facebook, Instagram, and X) to reach out to the community, keeping the community engaged, educated, and informed. We also used news media to disseminate and promote health information, mosquito spraying schedules, and community events and Everbridge to communicate public health alerts.

We regularly update and improve our website, www.shelbycityhealth.org, to provide the community and residents with the most current health department information, education, and other pertinent material. We will continue to promote health and wellness through hand washing, drug prevention, safe sex, and vaccinations as the cheapest and most effective methods to control communicable diseases. Our health department expects to accomplish even more in 2025 through innovation, collaboration, new ideas, and an increased presence in the community.

With the leadership and guidance from our Mayor, Mr. Steven Schag, Chair of the Board of Health, the health department looks forward to 2025 being a busy and productive year. The health department works closely with the Advisory Board whose members are appointed by the Board of Health for a 3-year term. We appreciate the past and current members of the Advisory Board. This committee gives the health department a much needed outside vantage point, allowing for recommendations from citizens on matters related to the health department. The advisory committee meets quarterly. SCHD collaborates actively with local and state agencies, as well as with other health departments to improve access to resources and timely dissemination of public health information to the community.

2024 proved to be a significant year across the board for the Shelby City Health Department. Our nationally accredited health department continues to demonstrate a consistent and continued commitment to strengthening community partnerships, which enables us to better serve our community. Accountability, standards, and accreditation builds sound trust in public health. Importantly, the residents of Shelby can rest assured that their local health department is meeting national and state standards for performance and quality. SCHD is committed to continuous improvement initiatives.

We welcome your ideas and suggestions. Please feel free to contact our department to become more involved in public health.

Sincerely,

Ajay Chawla, MD FACP



LIVE HEALTHY. STAY HEALTHY.



Shelby City Health Department Mission, Vision and Values:

Mission:

To protect, promote, and improve the health of our citizens through integrated state, county, & community efforts.

Vision:

To create a culture of health and wellness where Shelby residents can enjoy the many benefits of their community and to be one of the healthiest cities in the state of Ohio.

Values:

Promoting health through innovation, collaboration, accountability, responsiveness, and excellence.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



Shelby City Health Department
43 West Main Street Shelby, OH 44875
Phone (419) 342-5226
Fax (567) 275-0440
www.shelbycityhealth.org

Steven L. Schag
Mayor
Board of Health, SCHD Administrator
steveschag@shelbycity.oh.gov

Ajay Chawla, MD FACP
Medical Director
Health Commissioner
ajaychawla@shelbycity.oh.gov

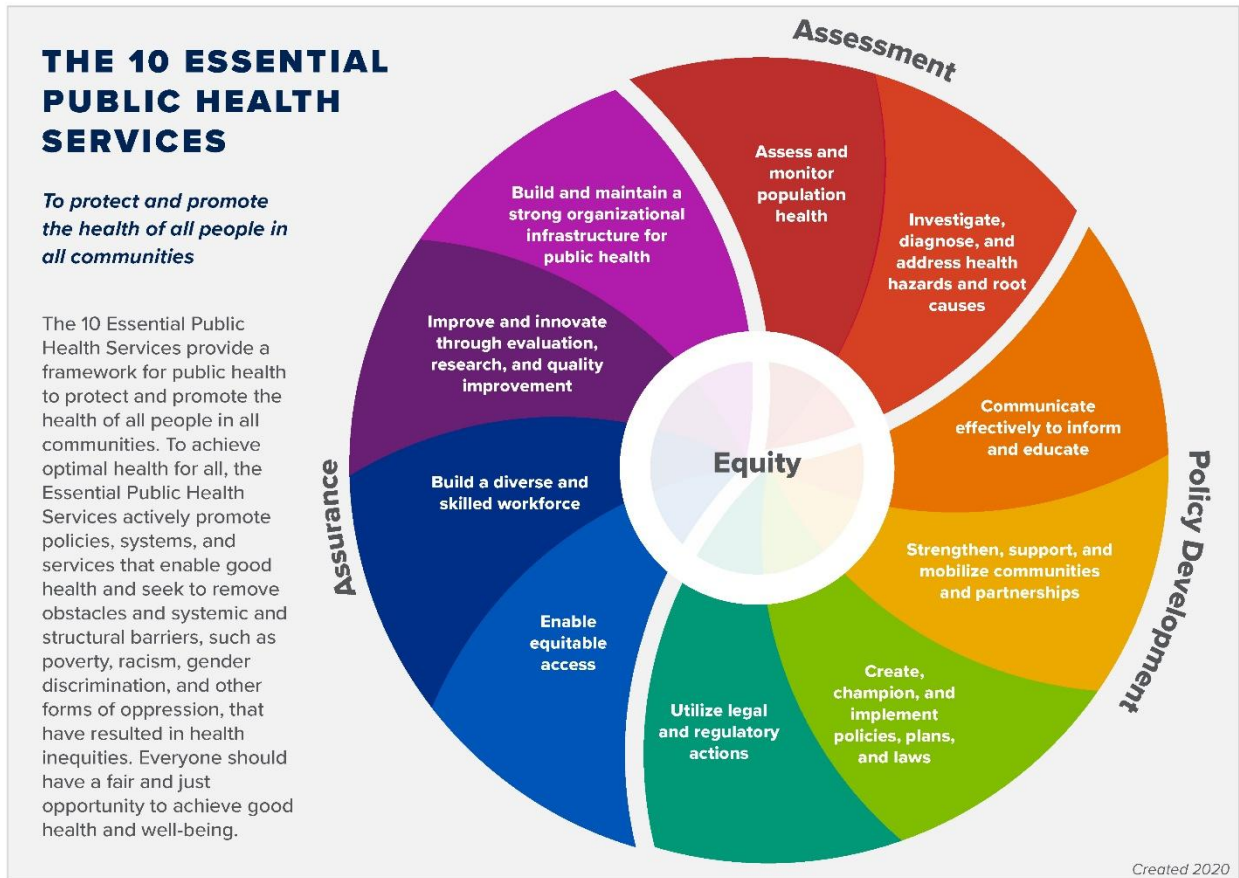
Gillian Olsen, REHS
Director of Environmental Health
gillianolsen@shelbycity.oh.gov

Lisa Kilgore, RN
Director of Nursing/Health Ed.
lisakilgore@shelbycity.oh.gov

Sue Shenberger
Administrative Professional
sueshenberger@shelbycity.oh.gov



10 Essential Public Health Services:



The Essential Public Health Services describe the public health activities that should be undertaken in all communities. These essential services are defined by the National Public Health Performance Standards Program (NPHSP) and include the following 10 services:

1. Assess and monitor population health.
2. Investigate, diagnose, and address health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. Communicate effectively to inform and educate the community about health.
4. Strengthen, support, and mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
5. Create, champion, and implement policies, plans, and laws that support health efforts.
6. Utilize legal and regulatory actions to protect health and ensure safety.
7. Enable and emphasize equitable access to health services.
8. Build a diverse and skilled public health workforce.
9. Improve and innovate services through evaluation, research, and continuous quality improvement.
10. Build and maintain a strong organizational infrastructure for public health.



Departments & Services



Environmental Public Health:

The environmental public health staff consists of a full-time Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS)/Environmental Health Director, and one full-time Administrative Professional. These staff members provide inspections, education, and enforcement of environmental health laws and rules. Specific environmental programs that are covered by the staff include: Food Safety, Public Health Nuisance Abatement, Rabies Control, Body Art Businesses, Public Swimming Pools, Manufactured Home Park Inspections, School Environment Inspections, Smoke-Free Workplace, Mosquito Control program, Household Sewage Treatment Systems, and Private Water Systems.

Food Safety:

The food safety program continues to be one of the most significant of the environmental health programs. Food Service Operations (FSOs) and Retail Food Establishments (RFEs) continue to upgrade their equipment/facilities and more importantly, their food safety practices and knowledge with education and guidance from the health department. Shelby currently has 72 licensed food establishments (which includes 10 vending machines and 3 mobile food trucks) and 4 more planned to open in the coming year. Two establishments closed in 2024. The department conducted 168 food inspections in 2024. This number includes pre-licensing, standard, complaint, critical control point, process review, consultation, and follow-up inspections. The best way to prevent the spread of foodborne illness is washing your hands properly. We provide education and consultations on the importance of hand washing, sanitation, and food safety.



Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA)-Food Recalls:

Shelby City Health Department informs the residents (as needed) regarding food recalls and has an active website link for more information. The health department is committed to preventing foodborne illness and promoting food safety. Please visit <https://shelbycityhealth.org/food-safety-inspections/> to see the most recent recalls.



Public Health Nuisance Abatement:

185 public health nuisance complaints were investigated in 2024. Public health nuisance complaints vary per year, although we have seen a decrease over the years. The volume of complaints usually increases in the warmer months. Site visits, and follow-up inspections are performed for **all** complaints.

SCHD collaborates with Bob Deane, the City of Shelby’s Code Enforcement Officer, in response to complaints as well. Bob has been instrumental in dealing with exterior property maintenance issues/compliance, as well as the accumulation of solid wastes and junk. There were a total of 410 Violations throughout the City in 2024.

Most of the complaints received are regarding the accumulation of vegetation/tall grass, solid waste/garbage. The accumulation of vegetation/tall grass can cause a large problem with mosquito breeding and therefore causes mosquito-borne diseases. The accumulation of solid waste/garbage can attract rodents and other pests. A significant number of the complaints are abated or dismissed after working with property owners, enforcing nuisance abatement regulations/ordinances, and/or through public education. However, the health department works with the Shelby City Law Director/Prosecutor when compliance/clean-up does not occur.

SCHD held its annual “**Clean Up Days**” in May 2024 to help residents rid their properties of trash, junk, and unwanted items free of charge. This event was very successful. SCHD disposed of 110 tires, and 290 yards of accumulated junk, garbage, and solid waste through the event. Costs of the event include \$8,250 for limb and branch pick-up, \$5,609 for dumpster rentals/services, and \$780 for tire disposal services.

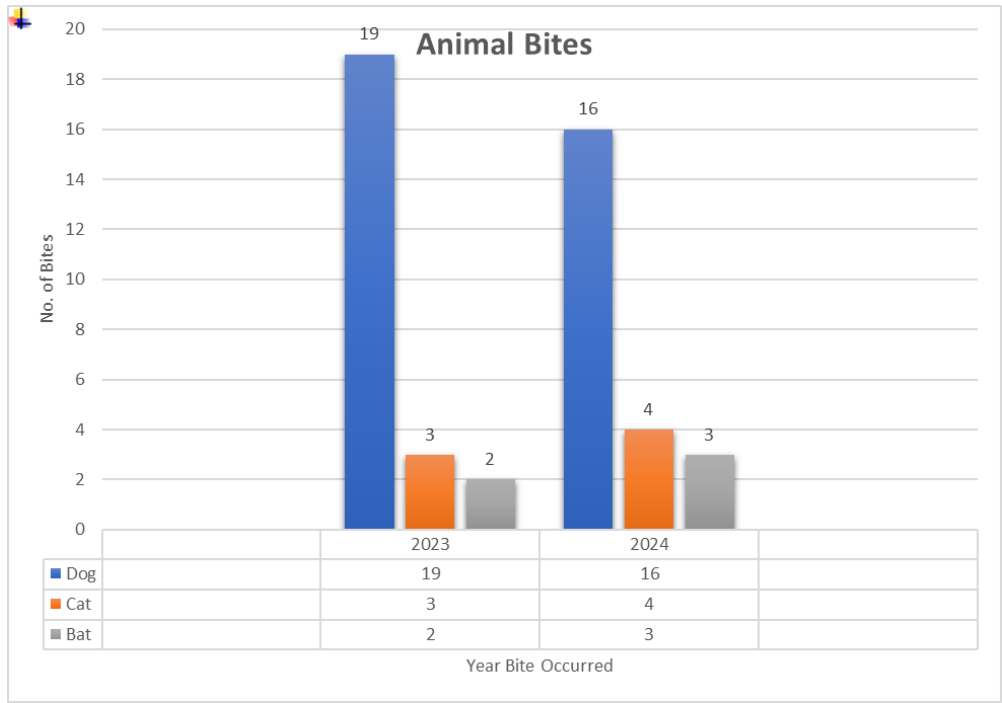




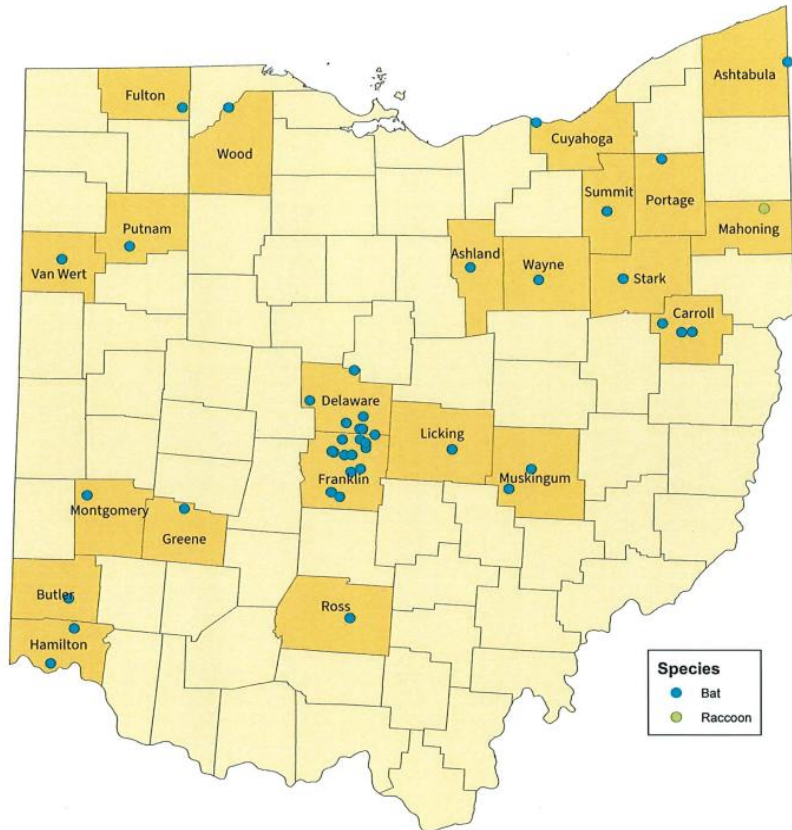
Rabies Control:

There were 23 reported animal bites/exposures in 2024. That includes 16 dog bites, 4 cat bite/open wounds, and 3 bat bites/exposures. Following a reported animal bite/open wound exposure, SCHD works with animal owners to ensure their pets are properly quarantined and vaccinated against rabies in an effort to prevent disease transmission. SCHD performed 23 rabies investigations/quarantines. Keeping current on your pet's rabies vaccination is key to prevention of rabies. Although, in 2022, Ohio reported several cases of animals (bats & racoons) testing **POSITIVE** for rabies, Shelby City continues to have **NO** reportable cases of rabies in wild animals or pets.





Animal Rabies Incidence by Species, Ohio, 2024





Body Art/Tattooing Businesses:

Body art in Ohio is regulated under the authority of Chapter 3730.01 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) and Chapter 3701-09 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). The city of Shelby also follows a city ordinance to approve body art facilities.

Ohio defines “Body Art” as the practice of physical body adornment, including tattooing, permanent cosmetics and/or body piercing. Tattooing is permanently placing marks on or under the skin of a person with ink, dye, or pigment. This includes procedures such as permanent makeup, micropigmentation, or microblading. The city of Shelby currently has 3 licensed body art establishments, one of which is also licensed to perform body piercings.



Public Swimming Pools:

The public swimming pool rules were established to create minimum standards throughout Ohio, for the design, installation, operation, and maintenance of these facilities in order to protect the public from injury, minimize the potential for disease transmission, and provide a safe and healthy aquatic recreational environment.

Eight (8) inspections were performed at the 4 licensed recreational facilities in our city. Complaints and illnesses/diseases associated with public pools are also investigated by the health department. The City of Shelby licensed and inspected the newly constructed spray grounds which is located downtown in the Black Fork Commons area. The spray ground was completed in late 2023.





Manufactured Home Parks:

As warmer temperatures are arriving, annual inspections of manufactured home parks begin. In Ohio, inspections are carried out by either the Division of Industrial Compliance or by a local health district that has contracted with the division to perform inspections. Annual inspections are done to ensure that manufactured home parks are being maintained in a safe and sanitary manner and in compliance with the division’s rules.

Our department has a memorandum of understanding with the Ohio Department of Commerce to conduct inspections at the 4 licensed manufactured home parks within the city of Shelby. Inspections are completed once per year by our department and reimbursed by the State of Ohio. However, the Ohio Department of Commerce is responsible for enforcing all violations that are observed and/or noted.



Department of Commerce

77 S. High Street, 20th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215

Smoke-Free Workplace Law:

The law states a proprietor must take reasonable steps to prohibit smoking including, but not limited to, asking people to quit smoking when people are smoking in an establishment.

Our department continues to investigate smoking complaints called into the Ohio Smoke-Free Workplace complaint line, 1-866-559-6446. Five smoking complaints were received by the health department in 2024.





School Environments:

School buildings, facilities, and grounds are inspected routinely twice a year by SCHD, as required by Ohio law. Environmental recommendations and corrections are made as the school's budget allows for it. Ohio Department of Health continues to encourage all schools to implement programs within the school's administration to create sustainable school environments and promote health of students and staff.

The health department has and continues to work with and provide guidance to our local schools concerning communicable diseases.



Private Water Systems:

All water haulers shall register annually with the board of health in which the applicant's principal place of business is located and shall not deliver water to a private water system before they have been registered and inspected by the local health department.

Our department received 1 water hauler registration and performed a regulatory inspection of the truck for safety and sanitation standards/requirements.





Sewage Treatment Systems:

Updated statewide household sewage treatment system rules went into effect January 1, 2015. SCHD environmental health staff spent a lot of time planning for the implementation of the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Program for the city of Shelby residents who have their own private sewage treatment systems. Residents on West Main Street with household sewage treatment systems were issued temporary operational permits until the new Main Street Sewer Project was complete. The West Main Street sewer project grant started construction in 2020 and has since then wrapped up. The grant helped with expenses for laterals, collapsing of old septic systems, and indoor plumbing (if required).

The health department is working with the city on new sewer projects to be completed in the future. The Mickey Road sewer project will move several homes to public sewer once it is completed. The health department will issue temporary operation permits for the septic systems included in this project until the next phase of sewer construction commences.





Mosquito Control:

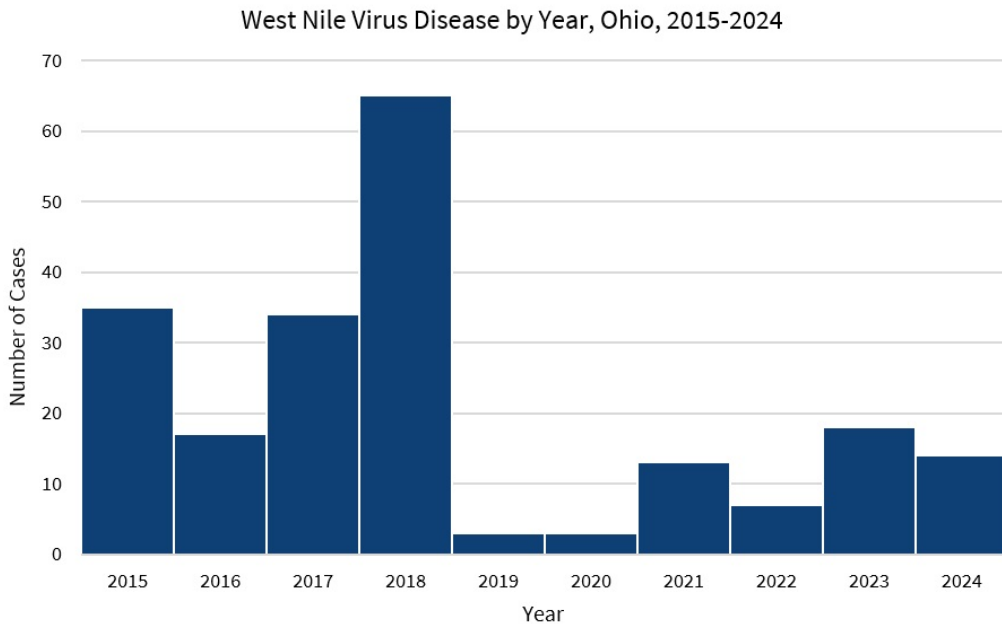
The Shelby City Health Department collaborates with the City of Shelby Street Department to provide mosquito control. With the help of the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), we implement education, surveillance, trapping, and adult mosquito control when necessary. The health department contracted with a part time surveillance person during the 2024 mosquito trapping season to trap mosquitoes and send them to the state for identification and testing.

In 2024, the City of Shelby submitted 1,213 mosquitoes for testing. Four (4) pools of mosquitoes tested **POSITIVE** for West Nile Virus (WNV). SCHD responded by placing an informational news article on WNV in the Globe, and posting information on social media, as well as focused spraying efforts in the WNV positive areas of the city. In comparison, in 2023, the health department saw three (3) WNV positive pools/samples. SCHD saw a significant decrease in the numbers of mosquitoes tested in 2024.

**2024 Ohio Mosquito Surveillance Summary, as of 10/15/24
City of Shelby**

Mosquitos Identified	Mosquitoes Tested	Mosquito Pool Reported	WNV Positive Pools
1,213	1,027	42	4

State of Ohio Data Provided by ODH:



Source: Ohio Department of Health.



Public Health Nursing & Health Promotion:

The nursing staff consists of full-time public health nurse/Director of Nursing/Health Education. The nursing and education services include community health education, health screenings, health promotion and outreach, and communicable disease monitoring.



Health Promotion/Education/Outreach:

Health promotion and education is an informational link to the community and the media. Services include education, outreach, programs on risk reduction and healthy lifestyles, health screenings for public and private employees, and providing resource materials on various public health topics.

SCHD provided education and outreach regarding department programs and services at events throughout the county in 2024. Some of the events/locations included health screenings and informational presentations at the Library and Community and Senior Center, as well as providing information at local fairs/festivals.





Chronic Disease Management:

SCHD regularly posts health related articles/information on several media outlets regarding healthy eating, exercise, and tobacco cessation. Our department strives to educate our valued community on the continued importance of managing chronic diseases such as obesity, diabetes, heart disease, and cancer. Through health assessments and continuous quality improvement, SCHD will strive to improve chronic disease management, outreach, and collaboration with the community through our website, programs, social media, and our local newspaper. The public health nurse works with the Daily Globe newspaper to feature an article twice a month called the “Healthy Corner”. The “Healthy Corner” posts healthy recipes and exercise tips for leading an active lifestyle. SCHD continues to work with our community partners, especially those involved in the Healthy Shelby Coalition, to address chronic diseases.



Tobacco Programs:

The Ohio Tobacco Quit Line is now housed at the Ohio Department of Health and help to smokers who want to kick the tobacco habit. Tobacco counselors are available to help 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. Soon-to-be-former smokers can also leave a message 24 hours a day and request a time for a call back that is convenient for them. The health department is committed to partnering with other agencies to help residents seek tobacco cessation resources.

Service is available in 150 languages and TTY service is available for the deaf and hard of hearing at **1-888-229-2182**. Smokers who want to quit are much more successful when they take advantage of services such as the Ohio Tobacco Quit Line. Only 5 percent of those who try to quit smoking cold turkey are successful, compared to 22 percent who utilize the quit line. Online TOBACCO information can be found at: [Tobacco Information](#)





Vaccines/Immunizations/Wellness:

The Shelby City Health Department is currently not offering vaccines/immunizations; however, this department recommends all children and adults receive the recommended and appropriate immunizations/vaccines. Other agencies and health professionals in the city, local pharmacies, and Richland Public Health provide immunizations. The Public Health Nurse oversees our nursing department and Health Education Program for the health department. The nurse, working with the medical director, assesses chronic diseases, Covid-19, flu, health promotion/outreach, and prevention strategies for Shelby residents. The Public Health Nurse also works closely with the local schools to provide information and guidance.

Millions of people have benefited from vaccines for more than two centuries. The history of vaccines and immunization began in the 1790's with the creation of the world's first vaccine for smallpox. Public health professionals and the World Health Organization (WHO) rank immunization in the top ten health achievements of the past century. Vaccines protect infants, children, and adults from harm and premature death caused by communicable diseases. Vaccination is the single most effective communicable disease prevention strategy. The goal of vaccination programs is to eliminate vaccine preventable illnesses through immunization



It is important for adults to receive recommended doses of vaccine throughout their adult life. The Shelby City Health Department partners with Richland Public Health to offer a variety of immunizations to adults. Visit SCHD at www.shelbycityhealth.org and RPH at <https://richlandhealth.org/> for information.

Screenings for blood pressure and diabetes: blood pressure checks and diabetes screenings take place at Marvin Memorial Library, Shelby Senior Center and Park Village monthly. Please call facility for day and time as this changes monthly.

HEALTH
SCREENINGS





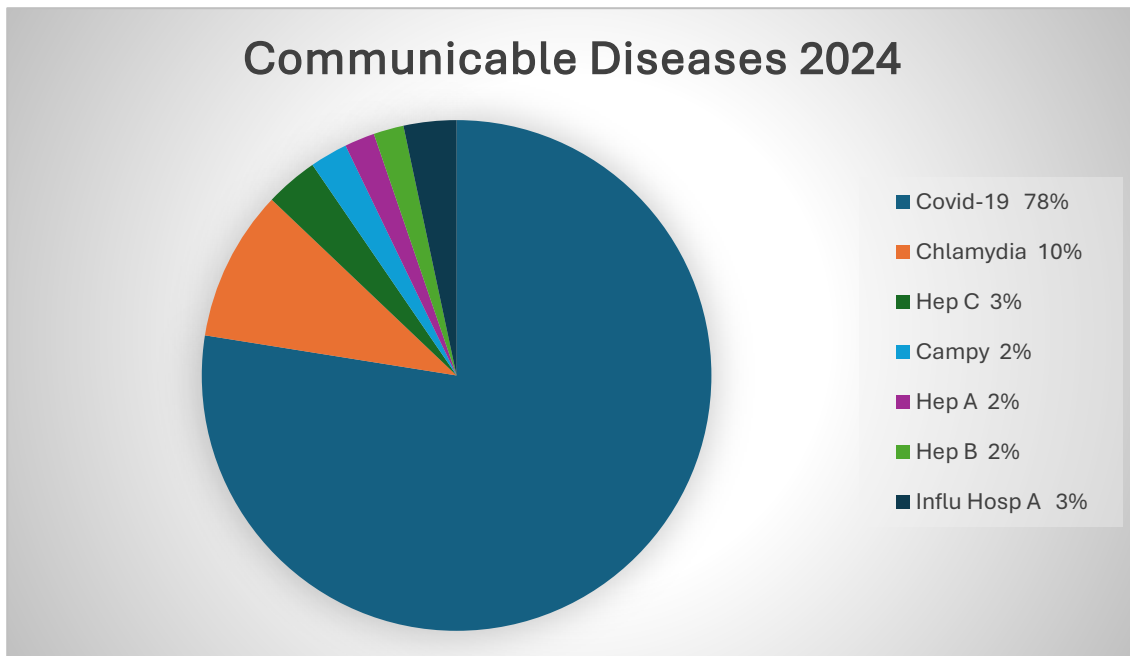
Communicable Diseases

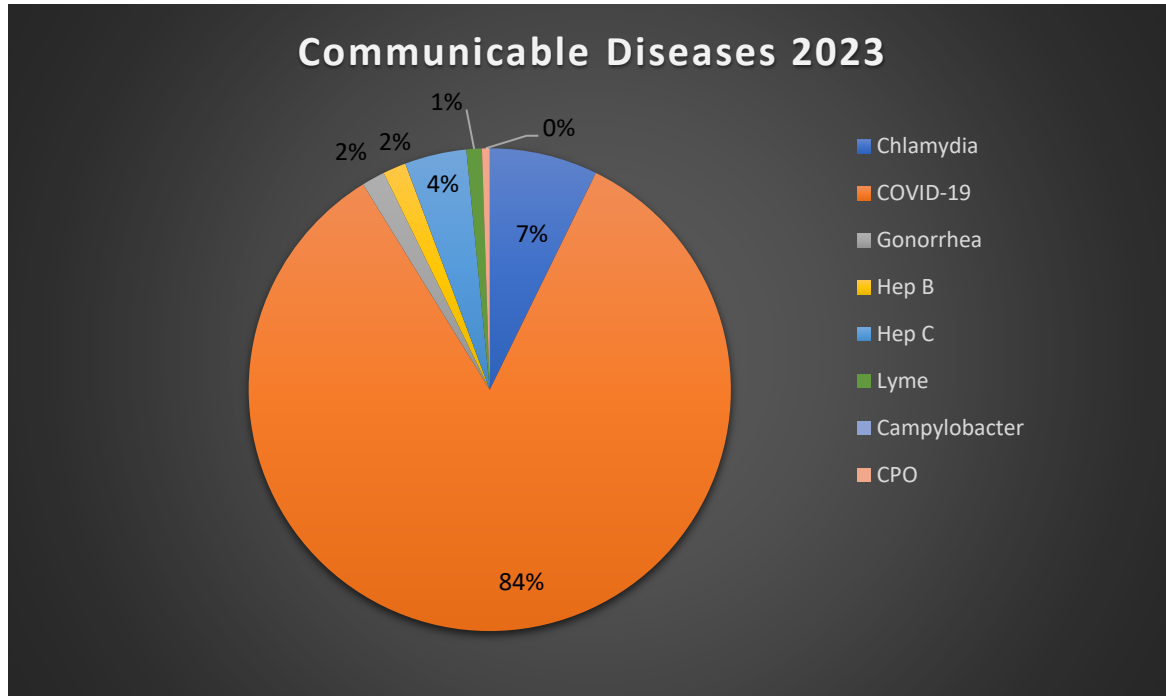


Communicable Disease Control:

The Public Health Nurse for the health department monitors and manages communicable disease surveillance for the city (i.e., STD'S, Norovirus, scabies, flu, Covid-19, etc.). The nurse works closely via the Ohio Disease Reporting System (ODRS) to identify, assess, and control the presence and/or spread of communicable disease. Reports/results are submitted by laboratories, hospitals, physicians and other health care providers. When a communicable disease is reported in ODRS for an individual, group, or cluster, the Shelby City Health Department corresponds with the affected individuals and conducts a case and/or outbreak investigation. The nurse also provides education and guidance to individuals that have been diagnosed with a communicable disease.

In 2024, the Shelby City Health Department reported an increase of individual cases of reportable communicable disease to the Ohio Department of Health. Covid-19 surveillance remained a top priority, although the department has seen a general decline in cases and surveillance overall. Hepatitis C cases continue to rise not only in Shelby, but also across the nation. The main causative factor is mandated testing of individuals from the increase in intravenous drug usage and sharing of drug paraphernalia. Measles cases were seen in several Ohio counties prompting health departments to disseminate information and conduct surveillance on exposed individuals, if necessary.





Accreditation:

Shelby City Health Department (SCHD) met Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) standards and received national accreditation in August of 2022. According to the Public Health Accreditation Board, nationally accredited health departments demonstrate a consistent and continued commitment to strengthening their community partnerships, which enables them to better serve their communities. Accreditation builds trust and transparency in public health. Importantly, accreditation assures the community that their local department is meeting national standards for performance and quality. SCHD received recognition for achieving accreditation from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), and the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). Continuing to meet standards, measuring outcomes, and achieving goals, as we work towards re-accreditation will be top priorities for SCHD in 2025.





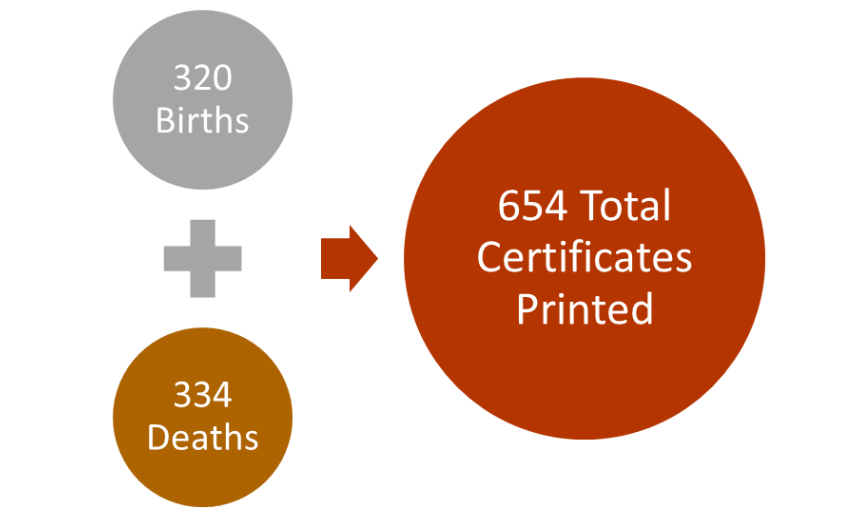
Vital Statistics:

The Vital Statistics division of the Shelby City Health Department issues certificates of any birth occurring in the State of Ohio.

Death Certificates are available for individuals beginning from 1908. City of Shelby death records occurring before 1908 are kept at the Richland County Probate Courthouse in Mansfield, Ohio.



Deaths Certificates must be obtained at the Shelby City Health Department only if the death occurred within the city limits of Shelby. All original Ohio birth and death certificates are permanently placed on file at the Ohio Department of Health in Columbus. Their web site is www.odh.ohio.gov/vs.



There were **334 death and 320 birth CERTIFICATES printed for 2024** by the Shelby City Health Department. Certified copies of certificates are available for purchase at the health department in city hall. Another service provided by the Vital Statistics division is acknowledgement of paternity affidavits. The completion of paternity affidavits is voluntary and acknowledges an existing parent and child relationship. The affidavit places responsibility for support of the child on the parent. The Vital Statistics Department also issues burial-transit permits to area funeral directors.



Budget and Finance:

The 2024 Shelby City Health Department annual budget was approximately \$460,705. The health department receives financial resources from two health levies collected with property taxes, generating about \$230,000. In 2024, the residents of Shelby voted to renew the one-million-dollar health department levy for another 5 years. SCHD balances its budget through fees collected from all the state mandated licensed facilities, birth and death certificate fees and miscellaneous fees. Thanks to the citizens for supporting and passing the levies placed on the ballot for the health department.



Other sources of income/revenue are state and federal grants and environmental contractual/licensing fees. The health department revenues support the delivery of the various services and programs offered, including community health, environmental health, immunizations, administration, vital statistics, public health nursing services for communicable disease, and public health emergency preparedness.

Public Health Preparedness:

The Shelby City Health Department is a sub-grantee with Richland Public Health in the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant. The Northeast Central Ohio (NECO) coordinator serves as the planning and training liaison between the health department and other county emergency response agencies. The coordinator assists the health department in preparing for the possible effects and aftermath of a man-made or naturally occurring disaster, such as hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, pandemics, and bio-terrorism events through training and practice exercises. The PHEP coordinator regularly conducts training exercises to test the viability of the health department's emergency response plans and ability to protect the public's health and safety.



The Director of Environmental Health and the Director of Nursing attend the Richland County Preparedness Alliance (RCPA) meetings. This alliance includes American Red Cross, Local Fire Departments and EMS, area hospitals, 211, local law enforcement agencies, and other organizations.



Technology & Media Outreach:

SCHD incorporates modern technology systems to administer the majority of its programs. A significant number of our records are kept electronically for less waste, easy retrieval, and accessibility. It is our goal to continue to move forward toward more electronic filing in the future.



The Environmental Health division utilizes HealthSpace for intake of complaints, animal bite reports, food facility inspections, and swimming pool inspections. The Ohio Department of Health awarded Accela a contract for the 2025 Environmental Health Data System Integration Project for Ohio, so all of our environmental health records will be converted to the new database. ODH pays for our user licenses for this program. Accela uses a web-based application for its database which will allow customers to apply for licenses and plan reviews online. The application will be easy to use on field laptops or tablets and will allow for digital signing of inspections and easy transmittal via email.

The Shelby City Health Department maintains Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts to connect the community to pertinent public health education information and announcements. The health department also regularly places health articles and information in the local newspaper, the Shelby Globe, to reach the community. The department utilizes Everbridge's Alert System to get urgent and specific notifications out to the public. To sign up for these notifications, go to Richland County, Ohio's website: <https://www.richlandcountyoh.gov>.

Trends/Challenges:

While the Shelby City Health Department spreads its wings for 2025, the challenges remain at the local and national level. Public health remains underfunded and depends on tax/levy dollars. For each dollar spent on public health, \$5.60 is saved on healthcare spending.

SCHD continued to spend a significant amount of time monitoring emerging communicable diseases and preparing for the next possible pandemic. Our priorities in 2025 will focus on public health education and promotion.

Thank you for your past and future support. Together, we can all make Shelby a great place to ***Live Healthy and Stay Healthy.***

Find us on:

