

The Journal



Spring, 2012
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Worthy of note:

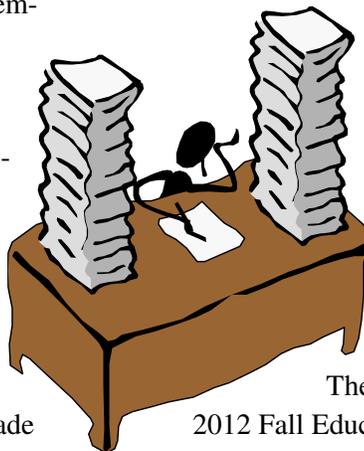
- Remember the Spring Conference on April 25 at Ft. Harrison State Park.
- Check out the Fall Educational Conference information on page 9.

From the President's desk

I am honored to serve as the President of the Indiana Environmental Health Association. 2011 has wrapped up quickly and 2012 is moving along at a brisk pace.

I would like to personally thank all of the members and staff who worked to make the 2011 Fall Educational Conference a huge success. There were great speakers, great food, wonderful fellowship, and the beautiful surroundings of the Potawatomi Inn and Pokagon State Park made for a relaxing retreat. The Silent Auction event raised over \$1,200, which

will be dedicated to replenish the COPED scholarship fund. This will allow more members to apply for scholarships to attend training events including IEHA conferences! Thank you to all who participated.



The 2012 Fall Educational Conference is shaping up to be just as great. This year's location

will be in beautiful downtown Bloomington, Indiana. Be sure to watch for fall conference announcements as they are released, and sign up early. I also expect to see all of our members participating in the 2012 Spring Conference coming up on April 25^h located at the Ft. Benjamin Harrison conference center, The Garrison.

Please see the IEHA website for registration information for both of these exciting events <http://iehaind.org>.

Josh

From the editor

From my totally unbiased opinion, there are 14 pages of fascinating and informative reading in this Journal!

Read how inspectors

dealt with the enormous challenges of the Super Bowl, and how one chapter adopted a highway.

And do you think bugs are a recent prob-

lem? Learn how your ancient ancestors dealt with bugs.

As always, input and contributions are welcome.

Ed

Is it possible to keep mold away?

“We live with mold spores. They’re always present, lying dormant, waiting until conditions are right,” says Virgil Von Tobel, owner of Von Tobel Services in Rensselaer. Von Tobel talked to members of the Wabash Valley Chapter recently about how to deal with mold issues, and ways to prevent mold from growing.

What are the “right” conditions? Von Tobel stressed that three conditions are required for any mold to grow, moisture, a food source, and the proper temperature. Moisture is the most important factor. As for food, mold likes cellulose like paper and wood.

Molds are naturally present, often the result

of dying trees and leaves outdoors. The mold spores can float in the air and if they land on a wet surface, can begin to grow within 4 days if the temperature is warm, says Von Tobel.

Property owners must be alert to wet conditions inside buildings. Leaks from roofs and indoor pipes should be fixed as quickly as possible. Even without leaks, on-going high humidity with inadequate ventilation can also prompt mold growth.

If mold growth is discovered, it might require remediation by a professional with the proper equipment. The worst



Black and white molds are shown here, growing on wood. Mold may grow in many other colors including red, pink, and blue. (EPA)

thing to do, Von Tobel says, would be to try to dry a moldy area with a fan. That would spread mold spores everywhere.

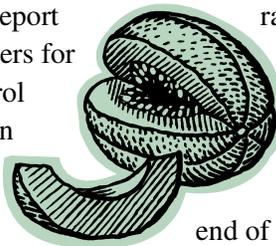
At least, the moisture problem leading to the mold must be identified and corrected. This might include improving ventilation and fixing condensation issues.

Ed Norris

“Three conditions are required for mold to grow, moisture, a food source, and the right temperature. Moisture is the most important.”

Listeria outbreak U.S.’s deadliest

The final report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show the food-borne illness outbreak caused by listeria contamination of cantaloupes from a Colo-



rado farm was the worst in 100 years.

The outbreak that began at the end of August is now considered over, but not before 146 illnesses in 28 states, including 3 ill-

nesses and one death in Indiana. Thirty two people have died.

Listeria was found in and around a packing shed on the farm and the outside of the cantaloupes but not in the fruit itself.

IUPUI plans school of public health

The Indiana University Board of Trustees and the Indiana Commission on Higher Education have approved the development of a new school of public health on the IUPUI campus. Over the past few years, the Department of Public Health (DPH) has rapidly expanded the size and scope of its faculty and staff in preparation for this

change later this year. This will enable the School of Public Health at Indianapolis to increase teaching, research and service opportunities for all of its academic programs.

Two examples of continuing education opportunities sponsored by the DPH are the annual joint National Public Health

Week conference and the 2012 Environmental Summit. The National Public Health Week conference is April 3 & 4, and the Environmental Summit is May 4 at the Campus Center on the IUPUI campus. Go to www.publichealthconnect.org for information.

David McSwane, HSD

Your ancestors kept bugs at bay

There is evidence that ancient humans had bug problems, not unlike that of present day folks.

Humans 77,000 years ago would look forward to a good night's sleep on beds made of grass and leaves, after a hard day of hunting and gathering.

Author Lyn Wadley of the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, says a lot of animals make their own beds. But what surprised archaeologists excavating a rock shelter in South Africa, was the evidence that humans used plant bed-

ding 50,000 years before it was discovered anywhere else.

The team Professor Wadley headed spent a decade researching a site near the Uthongathi River where people lived from time to time as long as 80,000 years ago. It seemed to be a complex society using stone tools. The team found layers of plant material on a cave floor, mostly grasses, sedges, and rushes, which could not have grown in the dry shelter. Most likely, the plant material was brought in from the nearby river.

So how did these an-

cient humans rid their bedding of infestations? Evidence indicates that they burned it.

Wadley believes that the plants made a clean area for sitting, eating, and sleeping and the discovered plants showed signs of burning, which would have killed pests and diseases.

Of the trees in the area, only Cape laurel was used. Its leaves gives off insecticidal chemicals, which would have warded off bugs such as mosquitoes.

Ed Norris

(info from NewScientist.com)

“As long as 80,000 years ago, societies used stone tools and layers of plant materials for sitting, eating, and sleeping. Plants were burned to kill bugs and disease.”

Super bowl challenges inspectors

The Super Bowl is the highly anticipated sporting event including pricey commercials, a spectacular half time show, lots of excited fans, and celebrities from all over the world.

"As a public health employee, Super Bowl XLVI meant a lot more," says Kelli Whiting, Coordinator of Temporary Events for the Department of Food and Consumer Safety at the Marion County Public Health Department (MCPHD).

For the past year Kelli put together an inspection plan for Super Bowl XLVI which took place at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis on February 5, 2012. Kelli's regular job is to organize, license and

inspect the temporary food establishments at approximately 280 events of all sizes. "From the Indy 500 or NCAA Championships to Indy



Left to right, Carol Hurley, Dana Taylor, Kim Wolfla, Dave Lebrock, and Kelli Whiting are ready to inspect food vendors at Super Bowl XLVI.

Pride Fest or Irish Fest, any event that is open to the public involves our department," she says. So when Indianapolis became host of the Super Bowl XLVI, Kelli says in some ways it was just

another event.

During the Super Bowl, Food Safety Inspection Officers conducted 264 routine restaurant inspections, 83 follow-up inspections, 97 temporary food inspections, serviced three complaints, and closed down two illegal food operations in the downtown Super Bowl zone. MCPHD inspectors disposed of 390 pounds of pasta, 10 pounds of cooked rice, 109 pounds of refried beans, 163 pounds cooked poultry, and 265 pounds of cooked meat, after finding that these items were all improperly cooled.

On game day, MCPHD had 14 FSIO's
(Continued on page 13)

"As a public health employee, Super Bowl XLVI meant a lot more to me."

Who serves on a committee?

Standing Committees are subordinate groups operating under the parent, Indiana Environmental Health Association (IEHA) and their function and scope are spelled out in the IEHA constitution and by-laws. Serving on a subcommit-

tee is one of the privileges of an IEHA membership.

Although non-members may attend any standing committee meeting as a guest, they may not cast votes or hold an elective office. Those

functions are extended to members.

If a non-member has enough interest to attend such meetings on a regular basis, why not join IEHA? The membership rate is quite reasonable!

Get stuff you want, help IEHA

It won't cost you an extra cent, but it can help your state organization.

GFS Marketplace, part of Gordon Food Service, is offering to provide a 1% rebate back to IEHA for purchases made by members and friends, as part of its FUNFUNDS program.

One must first register at the service desk of any GFS Marketplace location and receive a card.

Present this card while checking out, and 1% of the purchase will be credited to your association. There is no cost for the card.

A flyer describing the program along with a registration form, was included in member renewal packets mailed in January.

If one prefers to register via the company's website, visit <http://www.gfs.com/funfunds>

or call 800-968-6525.

Include the number #2494278 and "Indiana Environmental Health Association." The form with the member mailing contains all the necessary information.

One doesn't have to be an IEHA member to join. Family and friends may participate. You may also earn a discount coupon just for signing up.

Northeast members see bison farm

A meeting last fall took the Northeast Chapter to Cook's Bison Ranch in Wolcottville in LaGrange County. After an informative talk by the owner about bison, the group toured the 83 acre ranch with a tractor ride to see where the Bison are fed.

Members were able to touch and observe bison in their environment. The group returned to the farmhouse to see a movie about Cook's Bison Ranch, and have lunch featuring bison foods.



Above, members of the Northeast chapter visit Cook's Bison Ranch that included lunch featuring bison products. Right, members were able to get close enough to bison during their tour to pet and feed them.



"The tour included a tractor ride to see bison up close and actually touch and observe them in their environment."

NW chapter visits state's only bog

Last summer, Northwest chapter members hiked along the three-quarter mile trail through Indiana's only true bog, Pinhook Bog. Pinhook Bog is located just south of Michigan City in La Porte County and is part of the National Park Service. (A bog is defined as wet, spongy ground with soil composed mainly of decayed vegetable matter.)

Formed approximately 14,000 to 15,000 years ago when the Wisconsin Glacial ice sheet retreated from this area, the bottom of the bog consists of an impervious clay layer and receives all of its water from rain and the surrounding watershed.



Northwest Chapter members listen as a National Park Service Ranger explains some of the features of the Pinhook Bog in Northern Indiana.

Perhaps the most distinctive form of vegetation growing in the bog is

(Continued on page 7)

"The popular law required that food package labels clearly show the country where the food product originated."

US loses its COOL with WTO

Following challenges by Mexico and Canada to the Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) law passed by the U.S. Congress in 2008 as part of the Farm Bill, the World Trade Organization (WTO) has ruled that it is "TBT," a Technical Barrier to Trade.

The law, popular with Americans, required that food package labels clearly show the country where the product originated. But since the US had signed a trade agreement in 1979 to prevent technical barriers to

trade, Mexico and Canada successfully argued that COOL violated that agreement.



"There has been widespread concern that this provision could empower a WTO panel to second-guess the U.S. Congress, courts and public by elevating the goal of maximizing trade flows over consumer and environmental protection," said Todd Tucker, research director for Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch.

"This ruling shows that consumers' concerns were well-founded."

The US may appeal the decision, or could just ignore it, but that could mean that Canada or Mexico could ask for tariffs to offset losses.

Groups from agriculture to environmental are upset and concerned about the WTO decision, which many believe violates Americans' right to know the origins of their food.

Ed Norris
(information from Public Citizen and

Food Safety News)

EHSs respond to Ala. tornadoes

The severe tornadoes that swept through Alabama on April 27, 2011, destroyed more than 6,000 square miles and claimed 248 lives. With power out and water systems and other public infrastructure destroyed following the storms, environmental health specialists were challenged to keep diseases from spreading as citizens dealt with unrefrigerated foods, waste, unfiltered water, and sewage. Many specialists were ready for the challenge thanks to training they received at the FEMA Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) in Anniston.

As graduates of the Environmental Health Training in Emergency

Response (EHTER) course at the CDP, Tim Hatch, environmental program and logistics director from the Alabama Department of Public Health, and Haskey Bryant, environmental health specialist from the Jefferson County Health Department in Birmingham, both knew how to address the tornado-caused environmental health challenges.

“EHTER is a course that challenges environmentalists to think about disaster response,” Hatch said. “During the tornadoes in April, normal food inspections were not happening. In Alabama we had power outages, unsafe drinking water, waste disposal, and sev-

eral other infrastructure issues that affected environmental health. EHTER forced us to plan to have an environmental strategy before the disaster.”

As the storm passed through Mississippi, that state’s emergency management office contacted Alabama to report the dangerous storm system. The tornadoes affected Alabama in two waves and by the time the storm had passed, large cities and small towns throughout the state were affected.

“A large part of my job is food inspections, but during a disaster normal operations change,”
(Continued on page 9)

“ETHER is a course that challenges environmentalists to think about disaster response.”

Pinhook Bog (continued)

(Continued from page 6)

the sphagnum moss, which grows across the surface of the water and floats like a mat above it.

A portion of the trail consists of a boardwalk perched above this floating mat of sphagnum moss. It is this boardwalk

that allows one to intimately view the plants inside the bog, most notably the carnivorous pitcher plants, pink lady’s slipper orchid, and tamarack trees.

Due to the extreme safety issues associated with the bog, visits are only available through

ranger guided tours. For tour information, contact the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Visitor Center at (219) 926-2255 or call (219) 395-1882. Or visit <http://www.nps.gov/indu/photosmultimedia/pinhook-bog.htm>.

Julie Cuson

NW Chapter adopts highway

IEHA's Northwest Chapter has joined the Adopt-A-Highway program with the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), thanks to the efforts of Dean Schmidlapp from the Marshall County Health Department.

Chapter members selected a two-mile stretch of US 6 extending from St. Joseph County into LaPorte County and are required to clean the area four times each year including once in early spring and once each fall.

More information about the Adopt-A-Highway program may be found at www.in.gov/indot/2598.htm

Patty Nocek



Pictured above are members of the Northwest Chapter who participated in the group's late fall cleanup last November. Notice the IN-DOT sign identifying the chapter's two-mile stretch of highway sponsorship. On the right are some of the bags of trash filled during the day's event.



“Chapter members selected a two-mile stretch of US 6 between St. Joseph and LaPorte Counties to clean up four times each year.”



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Save the date!

**The 2012 IEHA Fall Educational Conference
“Going Green’s Impact On Public Health”
will be held in the
Bloomington Monroe County Convention Center.**

Conference Dates: September 24 - 26

Pre-conference activities: September 23

**Lodging is in the adjacent Courtyard by Marriott
310 S. College Ave., Bloomington, IN 47403.**

Reservations:

812.335.8000 (direct) or 888.321.2211

**You must mention the IEHA Conference to get the room
rate of \$89.00 per night.**

Note: Rate is only good until August 25!

**For more information, contact
Christine Stinson, President Elect, at
765.730.4064, or via email at**

christinedely@hotmail.com.

Or visit www.iehaind.org.

*“You can make
your reservations
now for the IEHA
Fall Educational
Conference. Be
sure to mention
IEHA to get the
conference rate.”*

EHS response (continued)

(Continued from page 7)

said Bryant. “After the tornadoes it was all uncommon. EHTER brought the big picture together. Without the EHTER course, I would not have been as capable.”

The April tornadoes

required Alabama environmentalists to apply critical skills to maintain a healthy environment as waste mounted and spoiled food amplified the potential for illness. Drinking water became a luxury as water lines could not maintain pressure and water became unsafe.

“This was the worst natural disaster to strike Alabama,” said Hatch. “I know that it could have been worse, but without trained individuals, our response would have been worse.”

From Jason LeMaster

(Edited from CDP Alumnus and used with permission)

Members making news

David Lamm, long time Legislative Liaison for IEHA recently completed the “Walk to Defeat ALS” sponsored by the Indiana Chapter of the ALS Association. “Team Lamambo” with Captain Nancy Lamm raised \$2,580, well above their goal of \$1,000.

Barry McNulty, Hamilton County Health Department, has accepted the position of Legislative Liaison.

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24 HR EMERGENCY SERVICE

There are four active standing committees that meet on a regular schedule usually four to six times per year.

Committees name 2012 chairs

George Horning, Shelby County, Sharon Breckenridge, Madison County will head the Food Protection Committee.

Other chairs chosen include Denise Wright of

ISDH for the Wastewater Management Committee, and Jason Ravenscroft to lead the General Environmental Health Services Committee.

Jennifer Rekers will oversee the Terrorism

and All-Hazards Preparedness Committee.

Any IEHA member may attend committee meetings but only chapter representatives may vote. Contact the chairs for meeting information.

By the numbers

- **7,000,000,000+** - earth population now
- **1 in 15** - the number of people who ever lived still alive today
- **7,173** - number of known farmers' markets in the US in 2011 (USDA)
- **350** - 2011 individual members of IEHA
- **1,250,000,000** - number of chicken wings eaten on Super bowl Sunday



Career Opportunities Abound

Life-long learning is a widely held goal of public health and environmental health professionals today. The campus of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) is the ideal place to pursue educational opportunities in environmental health science or a related public health discipline.

Individuals can complete the requirements for

degrees and certificates on a part-time or full-time basis. Some courses are offered online and courses are offered both day and at night throughout the year. Continuing education (CE) programs are also offered year-round through the department's HRSA-funded Indiana Public Health Training Center.

Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH)

degree offers a nationally accredited, competency-based curriculum in environmental health science. The curriculum consists of courses in air pollution control, water and wastewater treatment, solid and hazardous waste management, environmental toxicology, food safety, occupational health and safety, and epidemiology. Students can also obtain degrees at the Masters or

(Continued on page 12)

Wastewater Management Committee

Denise Wright, Chair of the Wastewater Management Committee has announced that the IEHA website (ieha.ind.org) is being updated to provide the latest guidance documents on the Wastewater

Management page. The materials should then be consistent with Rule 410 IAC 6-8.2

IEHA members are invited to participate in future committee meetings, either in person or

by telephone. Dates are March 8, May 10, July 12, September 13, and November 8.

Meetings are from 1:00 to 3:00 PM in the IDEM Conference Room C on Shadeland Ave.

"Check out the IEHA website for the latest guidance documents on the Wastewater Management page."

Members of the Northwest Chapter who attended the IEHA Fall Educational Conference in 2010 pose with the Harry E. Werkowski Award. The award is given to the outstanding IEHA chapter each year.

(Photo by Steve Cale)



IEHA
IEHA
Fall
Conference

Career Opportunities (continued)

(Continued from page 11)

PhD levels.

The faculty in the Environmental Health Science program has a wealth of teaching, service and research experience and expertise. They have worked in the field and are able to bring real world applications to the classroom. Dr. David McSwane, Professor and Coordinator of the Environmental Health Sciences concentration, teaches courses in environmental health, food safety, and environmental health policy, and his re-

search targets environmental hazards that cause illness and injury with a specific focus on food safety and defense. He is widely published in peer-reviewed journals.

Dr. Ingrid Ritchie teaches courses in environmental chemistry, air pollution control, industrial hygiene, and laboratory techniques and data analysis. Dr. Ritchie's research interests include childhood asthma, indoor air quality, and alternative water treatment technologies. Some courses in the environmental health

science program are also delivered by adjunct faculty who work for environmental health organizations in the public and private sectors in Indiana.

IUPUI's centralized location makes it a great place to study public health and environmental health. Get more information from Dr. McSwane at 317-274-2918 or dmcswane@iupui.edu or visit the Department of Public Health website at www.pbhealth.iupui.edu.

Carole Kacius, Ph.D.

David McSwane, HSD

"IUPUI's centralized location makes it a great place to study public and environmental health."



Downtown Indianapolis displayed signs of the Super Bowl everywhere one looked. The J W Marriott (left) displayed images of the Lombardi Trophy and "Super Bowl XLVI" on the sides. Lucas Oil Stadium (above), site of the game, showed "Super Bowl XLVI" and other pro football mages. All references to the home team Indianapolis Colts were removed.

MCPHD inspectors arrive in downtown Indianapolis, prepared to begin another day conducting inspections in the Super Bowl Zone. Because parking was limited, inspectors parked in a remote lot and were transported downtown by shuttle.



Super Bowl (continued)

(Continued from page 4)

at Lucas Oil Stadium conducting 192 food establishment inspections inside the stadium. In addition there were three inspectors in the downtown area inspecting 40 temporary events.

Kelli says there were other obstacles that had to be overcome that did not have anything to do with food safety. For example, where do the 18 inspectors tasked with inspecting 250 retail food establishments in the downtown square mile park?

Parking was addressed by partnering with the Department of Public Works, which allowed MCPHD to borrow their 17 passenger bus and their south West Street office parking lot to set

up a "park and ride."

Another obstacle was the credentialing of inspectors. The NFL has team hotels, media hotels and other establishments that required a person to carry a Super Bowl credential in order to enter the facility. This meant a FBI background check and submitting a photo for the credential. Sarah Popovich, ISDH Food Defense, helped to write a "Con Ops" plan stating what the mission was and why we needed to inspect these facilities during the Super Bowl.

MCPHD was permitted to have only ten credentials, which meant credentials had to be assigned and inspection schedules coordinated to ensure that there were only ten inspectors working at any time in creden-

tial areas.

Kelli reports that the hours were long (She worked 83 hours Super Bowl week.), and the massive crowds were estimated at 150,000 additional people in Indianapolis. Inspectors conducted between 30 to 75 inspections each in a 10 day period, which she describes as "a little hectic."

Kelli concludes, "We all survived and there were no significant foodborne illnesses or complaints." That's a notable feat for an event of this magnitude. MCPHD inspectors handled inspections in the Super Bowl Zone while ISDH staff covered food facilities elsewhere.

Thanks to Kelli Whiting

All Super Bowl Pictures provided by Kelli Whiting, MCPHD

"There were no significant foodborne illness or complaints, but conducting up to 75 inspections per inspector in ten days was hectic."

Newsletter of the Indiana
Environmental Health
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The Mission of the Indiana Environmental Health Association is to promote, preserve and protect environmental public health in the state of Indiana, and to encourage a spirit of cooperation among all environmental health stakeholders while serving its members in the regulatory, industry, and academic communities.

IEHA Officers

President: Josh Williams

President Elect: Christine Stinson

Vice President: Mike Mettler

Past President: Adam Rickert

Secretary: Kelli Whiting

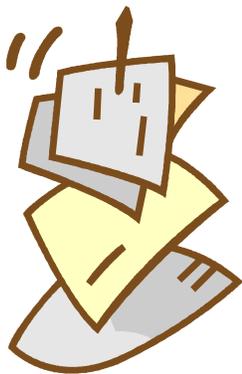
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Executive Board Secretary: Tami Barrett

Journal Editor / Publisher: Ed Norris

IEHA Weather Forecaster: Les Humid



**IEHA is an Indiana
not for profit
organization in
existence since
1951!**

The Last Page

The Indiana Environmental Health Association (IEHA) was founded in 1951 as the Indiana Association of Sanitarians (IAS). There were 16 charter members. The name was officially changed to the Indiana Environmental Health Association in 1985.

IEHA is affiliated with the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), and the International Association of Food Protection (IAFP).

IEHA is comprised of eight regional chapters. They are Central, East Central, Northeast, Northwest, Southeastern, Southern, Wabash Valley, and West Central.

There are four standing committees, which include Food Protection, General Environmental Health Services, Terrorism And All Hazards Preparedness, and Wastewater.

The operations of IEHA are governed by an Executive Board that meets

monthly. The Board and various standing committees are made up of voting and non-voting members. Information plus meeting dates, times and locations for the chapters and standing committees may be found on the IEHA website listed on this page.

All meetings are open to any member or guest but voting privileges and active participation are limited to voting members.