

SANITARIANS' NEWS



WVAS SANITARIANS MID YEAR CONFERENCE SPRING 2023

Oglebay Resort, Wilson Lodge, May 16-18.

465 Wilson Lodge. Wheeling, WV 26003

Register by May 1, 2023.



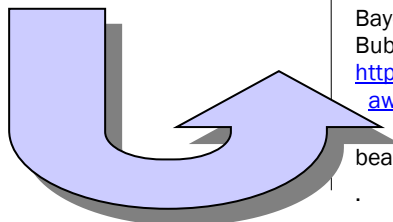
INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- CFP/FDA Food Code - 2
- NEHA Exam Changes- 2
- Legislative Update- 2
- DHHR Split- 3
- EPI , Board of Sanitarians- 4
- Training Opportunities - 5
- Threat Prep News- 5
- Mid-Year Conference - 1, 5
- Mid-Year Event Schedule- 5
- Credits- 6
- WVAS Information- 6

Any photos, stories, or any good news? Share in the next issue by reaching out to Nick King,

Nicholas.B.King@wv.gov

GET INVOLVED WITH WVAS!



Nominate!

Know anyone that deserves recognition for their contributions to environmental health? Nominate them for the Steve Bayer, Recognition, Citizen, or Bubba Award. Info is found at <http://www.wvdhhr.org/wvas/awards.asp> or contact Awards Committee Chair, Gillian beach (Gillian.R.Beach@wv.gov),

Run for Office!

Elections of Executive Council occur once a year during WV Public Health Conference in the Fall. Serve your fellow sanitarians for a two year term as Member at Larger or run for Vice President and serve a year as VP and a year as President. If you are interested in running reach out to Cara Harding at charding@berkeleywv.org.

Join the AOS (or Renew Membership)!

Register before April 1, 2023 for the \$15 membership due. Membership dues the resto of the year are \$20.

Visit <https://wvaos.org/membership> for more info.

News Liaison Committee

EH Cloud

The framework for the first three systems is being built. A date has not been set for moving the data to the new system.

Things should move forward quickly after the first few groups are imported.

Sanitarian Training Class

A permanent change has been made to sanitarian training class to move the full class to late winter/early spring. Another sewage program class will be offered in September and food program in October.

Procedure Review

The public health sanitation division is reviewing procedures and updating them as needed. This is an ongoing process as time allows.

A new procedure was developed called A-28 Supreme Court of Appeals Decision-Sanitarian filing a Complaint with Magistrate Court. It is a copy of the opinion that was issued and was made into a procedure to make it easier to find.

F-18 Registration for Persons, Firms and Corporations Conducting Beer Line Cleaning was revised due to a rule change by ABCA..

Legislative Update

2023 Legislative Session Major Public Health Bills

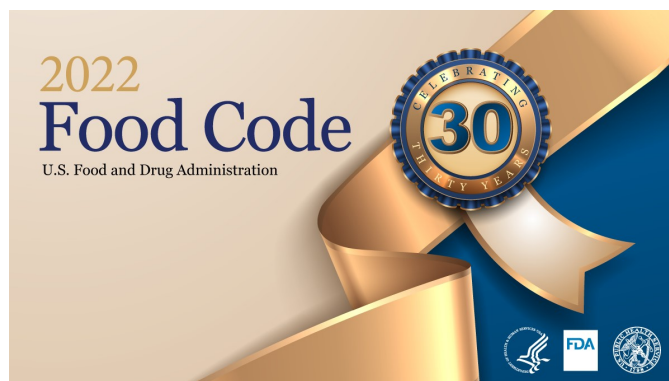
1. **House Bill 2978:** eliminating local board of health requirements for food handler cards. Introduced Jan 24, 2023 by Del. Foster.
2. **House Bill 3092:** Mobile Food Permit Reciprocity. Mobile food units only need to be permitted by their county of residence. Introduced at the same time as HB2978.
3. **Senate Bill 126:** Splitting WV DHHR into three separate entities: the Department of Health, Department of Health Facilities, and Department of Human Services. Passed by the Senate on Jan. 11th, sent to House. Similar to House Bill 2006 which will be covered later.
4. **House Bill 3204** Food Truck Freedom Act. Similar to HB 3092 but has a larger set of requirements such as a statewide database on Mobile Food Units. Unclear how out of state vendors would be handled.
5. **House Bill 3430** Prohibiting the Bureau of Public Health from assessing a fee on local health departments for the Center for Local Public Health.
6. **House Bill 2648** Modifies requirements for bars to allow dogs in 64CSR17. This bill will allow all restaurants to have the option to host dogs as long as the facility has liability insurance for dog incidents, accident clean up procedures, and dog friendly signs.

At this time there are no new bills introduced concerning the Board of Sanitarians.

FDA Releases 2022 Food Code

Major Differences between 2022 and 2013

1. Every PIC in charge of a facility whenever it is in operation must be a certified food protection manager. (also in 2017).
2. Sesame has been added as the ninth major food allergen.
3. 3-204.10 amended to account for food donations.
4. 5-202.12 amended to change hand sink water temp from 100 degrees F to 85 degrees F.
5. 6-501.115 Amended to include exclusions for pet dogs.



NEHA RELEASES NEW EXAM

Starting in 2020, NEHA began the process of revising the NEHA exam to reflect current environmental health technology and science but also to make the exam more about applying environmental health principles in real world situations rather than mostly about memorizing facts. Because of this, NEHA is updating and releasing new study guides. The 2021 REHS/RS study guide is currently the most recent available edition but check NEHA's website for new study guides. The exam is broken up into 15 chapters; the newest study guide includes practice exam questions that focus on applying principles to sample situations. The chapters include:

General Environmental Health	Occupational Safety and Health
Statutes and Regulations	Air Quality and Environmental Noise
Food Protection	Housing Sanitation and Safety
Potable Water	Institutions and Licensed Establishments
Wastewater	Swimming Pools and Recreational Facilities
Solid and Hazardous Waste	Emergency Preparedness
Hazardous Materials	
Zoonoses, Vectors, Pests, and Poisonous Plants	
Radiation Protection	

More info about the new study guide can be found at <https://www.neha.org/rehs-study-materials>.

DHHR to Split into Three Agencies

On Jan 1, 2024, the WV DHHR will be split into three agencies after Gov. Justice signed House Bill 2006 into law on March 4, 2023. The three departments will be the Department of Health, Department of Human Services, and the Department of Health Facilities. The Bureau for Public Health will be moved to the Department of Health. As part of the Bureau for Public Health, The Office of Environmental Health Services (OEHS), Office of Laboratory Services (OLS), and the Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Service (OEPS) will be housed under the Department of Health as well. Some offices and services such as the Division of Personnel will be used by all three departments.

FIND US ONLINE

WVAS now has a closed group on Facebook to share news and information with members. Request to join at www.facebook.com/groups/263384244100903/

WVAS also has a website at <https://wvaos.org/>

The WV Public Health Association also has a website. <https://wvpublichealthassociation.org/>

Our email is wvaos@outlook.com.



WV Board of Sanitarians News

Three Board Members (Lloyd White, Brad Cochran,Warren Elmer) along with Dave Thornton, Executive Director, attended the required Annual Seminar for WV State Licensing Boards in December 2022.

During this Legislative Session , the State Board of Sanitarians avoided a potential sunseting of the Board after several attempts over the past few years for the Board to be sunsetted. WV Code, Chapter 30-1-1a states "the fundamental purpose of licensure and registration is to" protect the public" and that is what the Board and Sanitarians do.

Three Bills passed through the Legislature during the 2023 Legislative Session: SB240-

"Requiring state board of examination or registration proceedings to be open to public inspection"; SB244- Making Rosters of individuals who obtain professional, occupational, and trade licenses , registrations, and certificates available to the public; and House Bill2967- Expediting License Applications for active military members and veterans and their spouses. These Bills are awaiting the Governor's signature to become Law. The Board may have to make some minimal adjustments to meet the requirements.

Several additional Bills were introduced that could have an effect on the Board of Sanitarians , but did not make it through the process. There is a chance that these Bills will resurface during the next Legislative session.

EPI News

Raw Milk Legalization Grows Nationwide

Throughout most of human history, milk consumption had been a deadly risk. Right before WWII, an estimated 25% of all foodborne illness outbreaks in America were caused by milk consumption. In 1864, Louis Pasteur discovered that simmering food at 212 degrees F or less for an extended period of time kills harmful microorganisms and enzymes while also extending the shelf life of food. This process, pasteurization, was first implemented to prevent beer and wine from spoiling but decades later was used to make milk safe to consume. By 1999, most liquid foods were pasteurized in some way. In 1987, the FDA banned the interstate commerce of all raw milk and mandated pasteurization of all raw milk products sold over state lines. Most states had still legalized raw milk but put severe limits on when it could be sold. However, in recent years, food freedom advocates have made strides in expanding state legalization of raw milk sales. As of 2023, the states that banned raw milk have been reduced to just one, New Jersey. In 2016, WV legalized the sale and consumption of raw milk but has limited it to only those who own a herd share. Like a company that splits its ownership into stocks which can be publicly or privately traded, cattle herd ownership can be sold as shares to the general public and allow those who have invested in the herd to consume raw milk from the herd. At the time of this writing, raw milk legalization is making its way through Georgia, Iowa, Washington, and Missouri. The map below from www.farmtoconsumer.org shows the current legislative status of raw milk in each state:

- RED: Raw Milk sales completely illegal.
- GREEN: Raw Milk legal for retail sale.
- BLUE: Farm to consumer sales legal
- Yellow: Herdshare legalized.
- Gray: Herdshares indirectly legal through lack of regulation.

State-by-State¹ Review of Raw Milk Laws



Mid-Year Conference Schedule Highlights

May 16

12-4 PM. Registration and meetings.

May 17

Starting May 17, sessions will be divided into two tracks. The first will be threat preparedness and grant related training. Track 1 this day will focus on a Legionella training and a session on how to develop a strong food safety program with the NEHA-RFFM grant.

The second track will be ServSafe Proctor/ Instructor training for sanitarians that want to teach and proctor the ServSafe Food Protection Manager exam. Training will occur all day on the 17th.

May 18

Both tracks and the meeting will wrap up at noon. Track 1 will do a couple of tabletop exercises with WV's Rapid Response Team

Track 2 will take the ServSafe exam.

THREAT PREP NEWS

The Public Health Crisis and Response to the East Palestine, OH Train Crash



On Feb. 3, a 150 car Norfolk Southern train carrying hazardous materials derailed in East Palestine, OH. 38 cars flipped, many of which carried hazardous materials, most notably, vinyl chloride and other chemicals that caused phosphine and hydrogen chloride to release into the air, causing damage to the environment and health of the public many miles away, including contamination of the Ohio River. About 70 agencies from Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio responded to the incident. The vinyl chloride was burned by crews in a trench to prevent more tanks from exploding. A 1-2 mile radius had to be evacuated. Residents were allowed to end evacuation when environmental agencies determined that the volatile organic chemicals (VOC's) in the air returned to a low enough level. On Feb. 9. Local health departments in the area samples private wells and other sources to help laboratories monitor VOC's in water sources. Some water districts shut off water intakes initially but did not take long reopen after environmental agencies found that contamination was not significant amount to affect drinking water unlike past spills such as the Freedom Industries spill. At the time of this writing, cleanup is still occurring; there are concerns that even though VOC's such as vinyl chloride are below EPA levels, carcinogens such as these chemicals could continue to harm the health of the community in the long term; years long health evaluations will be performed to measure this impact.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

2023 Certified Pool and Spa Operator (CPO) Training Schedule

Face-to-Face and Fusion
Cost: \$350.00

Morgantown, WV: April 24-25, 2023
(Residence Inn, 1046 Willowdale Rd. Morgantown)

Huntington, WV: May 8-9, 2023
(157 Kinetic Dr., Huntington)

Charleston, WV: May 10-11, 2023
(Sonesta ES Suites, 200 Hotel Circle, Charleston)

Snowshoe, WV: TBA

\$365 Virtual Classes available throughout the year. Contact Claudia Duncan at Cduncan865@gmail.com. Classes operated by Professional Pool Management, LLC

The 2023 Interstate Environmental Health Seminar (IEHS)

Sept. 20-23 in Jeckyll Island, Georgia, the Georgia Environmental Health Association will host the 77th annual Seminar.

More info can be found at

<https://geha-online.wildapricot.org/>

Scholarships Available for EH Professionals to Attend NEHA's 2023 AEC

NEHA is offering EH professionals an opportunity to attend the Annual Education Conference and Exhibition. The conference showcases leading innovations, research, and best practices in environmental health and how organizations from the local to federal level can apply them. This year's conference will take place in New Orleans, LA on July 31-August 3, 2023. Attending this meeting will count towards CEUs as well. The application for the scholarship can be found here.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FHLFJSP>



**West Virginia Association
of Sanitarians**

P.O. Box 334
Kingwood, WV 26537
Phone: 304-272-2137
Email: WVAOS@Outlook.com

We're on the Web
<https://wvaos.org/>

WVAS Executive Council

Elected Officers

President: Jennifer Hutson

Vice-President: Stanley Mills

Elected Members at Large: Jimmy Casdorff, David Whittaker

Appointed Members

Secretary-Treasurer: VJ Davis

Newsletter: Nick King

Legislative Committee: Brad Cochran

Nominating Committee: Cara Harding

Awards: Gillian Beach

By Laws: Mike Bolen

IEHS: Bill Nestor

Media: AJ Root

Membership: Robert Custard

Event Planning: Mark Hawkins

Credits

Editor

Nick King

News Liaison

Stacy King

WV Board of Sanitarians News:

Brad Cochran

Additional

Assistance

Jennifer Hutson

Judy Vallandingham