



Environmental Health Bureau



Environmental Health Bureau Organization Structure



MDHHS Mission

MDHHS provides opportunities, services, and programs that promote a healthy, safe, and stable environment for residents to be self-sufficient.

MDHHS Vision

Develop and encourage measurable health, safety, and self-sufficiency outcomes that reduce and prevent risks, promote equity, foster healthy habits, and transform the health and human services system to improve the lives of Michigan families.

EHB Goal

Apply the best available science to end or prevent injury from environmental, chemical, and physical hazards, and promote equity for the people of Michigan.

Directors

Environmental Health Bureau Director

- Kory Groetsch
- groetschk@michigan.gov
- 517-284-4804



Divisions & Sections

[BUREAU OPERATIONS OFFICE](#)

Division Director: Michelle Chambers

[FINANCIAL SERVICES OFFICE](#)

Division Director: Hope Bartlett

[DIVISION OF TOXICOLOGY & RESPONSE](#)

Division Director: TBD

Toxicology & Assessment

Marcus Wasilevich (until August 1)

Community Education & Outreach

Chris Finch

Chemical Planning & Response

Gerald Tiernan

[DIVISION OF EPIDEMIOLOGY, DATA ANALYTICS & EVALUATION](#)

Division Director: Betsy Wasilevich

Enviro Epidemiology & Analytics

Anthony Oliveri

Enviro Health Surveillance

Tom Largo

Biomonitoring, Epidemiology and Response

Melissa Millerick-May

[DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY SERVICES](#)

Division Director: Carin Speidel

Lead Certification & Compliance Assurance

Jennifer Shutts

Residential Environmental Services

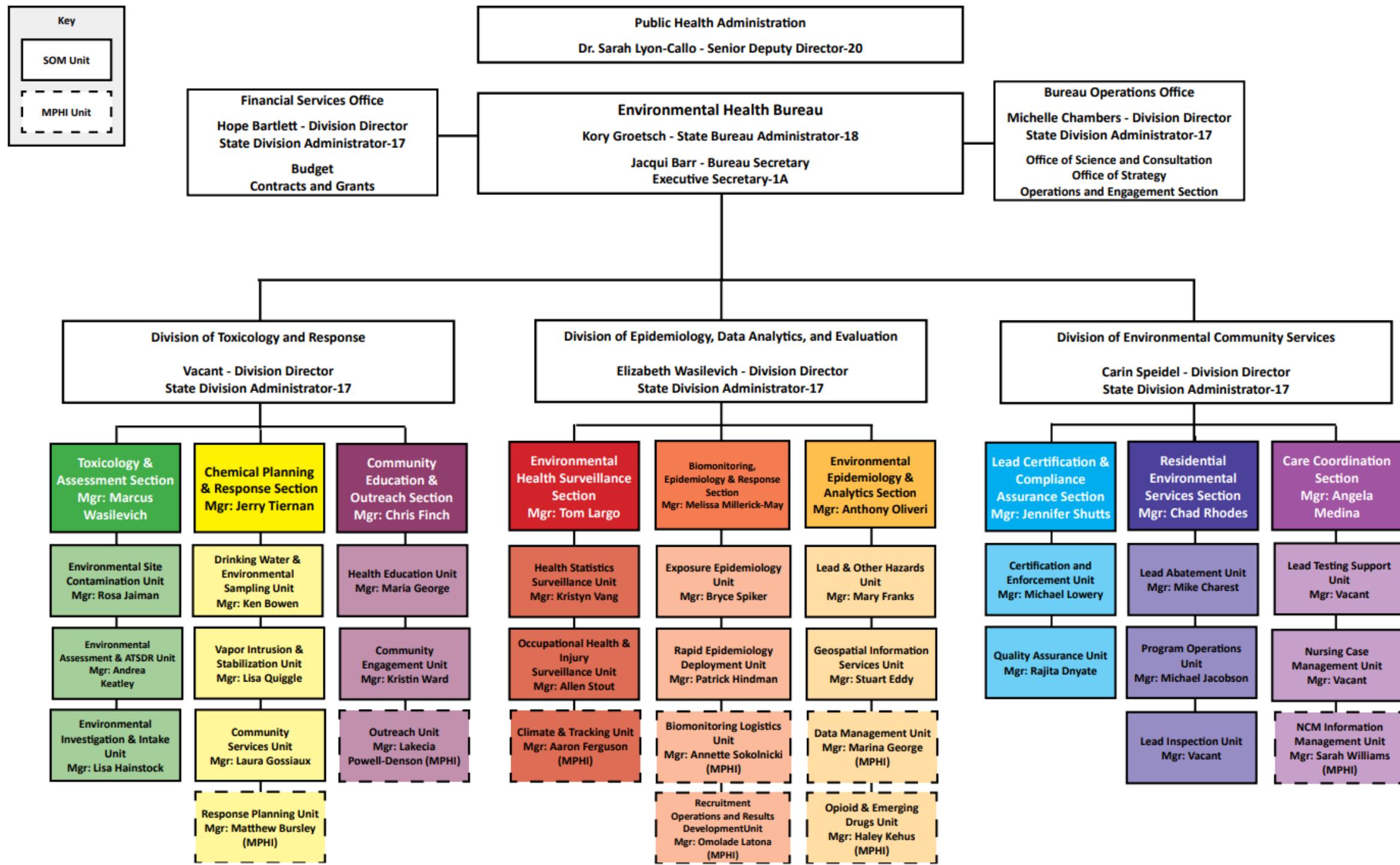
Chad Rhodes

Care Coordination

Angela Medina

Emergency Contacts

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Environmental Health Incident/Emergency | Gerald Tiernan Lisa Quiggle MITOX Hotline | 517-388-7471 517-582-5868 800-648-6942 |
| Need Assistance and Don't Know Who to Call? | EHB operators can quickly connect you to an Environmental Health Subject Matter Expert | 800-648-6942 |
| Outside of State Business Hours: M-F 8AM to 5PM | MDHHS On – Call | 517-335-9030 |



Division of Environmental Community Services

| Section | Description | Manager |
|---|--|--|
| Care Coordination Section (CCS) | <p>The Care Coordination Section is responsible for administration of child case management and family support services to address lead exposure prevention and response. This section includes the following: Nursing Case Management Unit, Lead Testing Support Unit, and NCM Information Management Unit.</p> | Angela Medina medinaa@michigan.gov 517-897-5203 |
| Lead Certification and Compliance Assurance Section (LCCA) | <p>The purpose of the Lead Certification and Compliance Assurance Section is to protect public health through lead-based paint training, certification and regulatory compliance while ensuring internal quality standards.</p> | Jennifer Shutts shuttsj@michigan.gov 517-599-7297 |
| Residential Environmental Services Section (RESS) | <p>The Residential Environmental Services Section is responsible for administration of home lead exposure prevention safety net programs. This section includes the Lead Abatement Unit, the Lead Inspection unit, and the Program Operations Unit.</p> | Chad Rhodes rhodesc2@michigan.gov 517-599-6737 |

Division of Epidemiology, Data Analytics, and Evaluation

| Section | Description | Manager |
|---|---|--|
| Biomonitoring, Epidemiology and Response Section (BEaRS) | <p>Collects and assesses exposure and biomonitoring (blood and urine) data for the purpose of identifying risk factors for, and confirming human exposure to, environmental contaminants. Findings from research and surveillance projects and programs (MiChEM) serve to inform statewide initiatives and response activities. Operates the Emerging Health Threats program responding to non-infectious disease outbreaks and supports site emergency response efforts.</p> | Melissa Millerick-May millerickmaym@michigan.gov 517-388-8275 |
| Environmental Epidemiology and Analytics Section (EEA) | <p>Provides critical epidemiological support to surveil, identify, and respond to opportunities for public health interventions regarding opioids, emerging drugs and lead in children, water, and homes. This section also manages data and provides geospatial and visual analytics for EHB.</p> | Anthony Oliveri oliveria1@michigan.gov 517-648-5624 |
| Environmental Health Surveillance Section (EHS) | <p>Develops, maintains, and analyzes surveillance data on health issues related to environmental and occupational exposures. Utilizes data to identify need for intervention. The section's Michigan Environmental Health Tracking (MiTracking) Program makes a wide variety of environmental data available to the public through its data query system, such as, air quality, community public drinking water, climate change, and lead exposure.</p> | Tom Largo largo1@michigan.gov 517-284-4806 |

Division of Toxicology and Response

| Section | Description | Manager |
|---|---|--|
| Chemical Planning and Response Section (CPRS) | Carries out much of the on-site work for EHB, including both environmental sampling and community services (filter distribution, etc.). The section provides support to local, state, and federal partners in the event of public environmental health disasters, like oil spills and other hazardous chemical releases. | Gerald Tiernan tiernang@michigan.gov 517-388-7471 |
| Community Education and Outreach Section (CEO) | Supports EHB in the areas of health education, community outreach, and engagement services. Centralizing communication activities in the section ensures consistent application of the best available social science and public health practices throughout EHB with the goal of informing residents of actions that can be taken to prevent or limit exposures to environmental hazards. | Chris Finch finchc2@michigan.gov 517-285-7323 |
| Toxicology and Assessment Section (TAS) | Supports EHB activities with expertise in toxicology and risk assessment. The section's work includes assessing and making public health determinations for Superfund sites, PFAS sites, and other sites with environmental contamination. | Marcus Wasilevich wasilevichm@michigan.gov 517-388-4569 (until August 1) |

Environmental Health Bureau Framework



Identify

Investigate

Intervene

Environmental Health Assistance



Air



Community



Food



Water



Soil



Home



Environmental
Health Threats
Response

Lead Exposure
Response
Assistance

PFAS Response
Program

Harmful Algae
Bloom (HABS)
Program

Mercury & Health
Program

Eat Safe Fish and
Wild Game
Program

MI Environmental
Public Health
Tracking
(MiTracking)

MI Climate &
Health
Adaptation
Program

Biomonitoring
and PFAS Health
Studies

Care for MI
Drinking Water
Program

Environmental
Health for Health
Care Providers

Regional Community Model



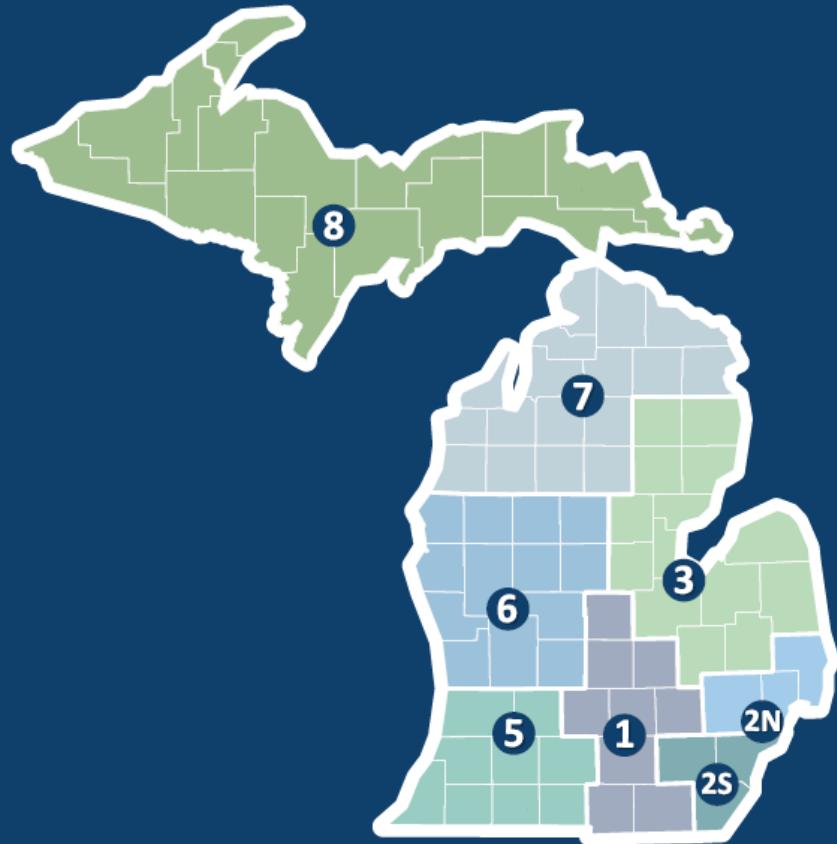
Purpose

- To be proactive in raising awareness and educating Michiganders about potential health hazards in the places where we live, work, and play.

Benefits

- EHB is committed to identifying potential health hazards, investigating health effects, and intervening with education and action.
- By regionalizing our community engagement and outreach teams, we build networks of relationships to grow trust within communities, which will support our efforts to share public health recommendations.
- Reducing racial and ethnic health disparities is an “all-hands-on-deck” effort. Earning the trust of community members through regional engagement and outreach prompts feedback that helps us properly direct resources toward reducing health disparities.

Regional Community Model



Strategies

- Conversations and presentations virtually and in-person.
- Brainstorming sessions to find opportunities to support one another to help protect the health of the community.
- Existing activities EHB messaging can easily be included (ex: listservs, mailings).
- Identifying new opportunities (ex: learning demonstrations).
- Giving back to the community (volunteering).

Regions

- Geographic regions are based on existing Michigan Emergency Preparedness regions.
- Regional Team includes Regional Community Engagement Coordinators and Regional Outreach Technicians.
- Team members live in, work in, or have a personal connection with the regions they serve.

As liaisons between MDHHS-EHB and local organizations, we strive to:



Work with regional collaborators to supplement on-going local efforts to promote and protect the health of the community.



Identify opportunities to engage the community and local organization in relevant EHB programs.



Create opportunities for the community and local organizations to provide feedback about local EHB initiatives.



Keep communities updated about emerging EHB resources and opportunities.



Communicate local environmental emergencies and work with local partners to coordinate response.

Regional Community Engagement Coordinators



Regional Community Engagement

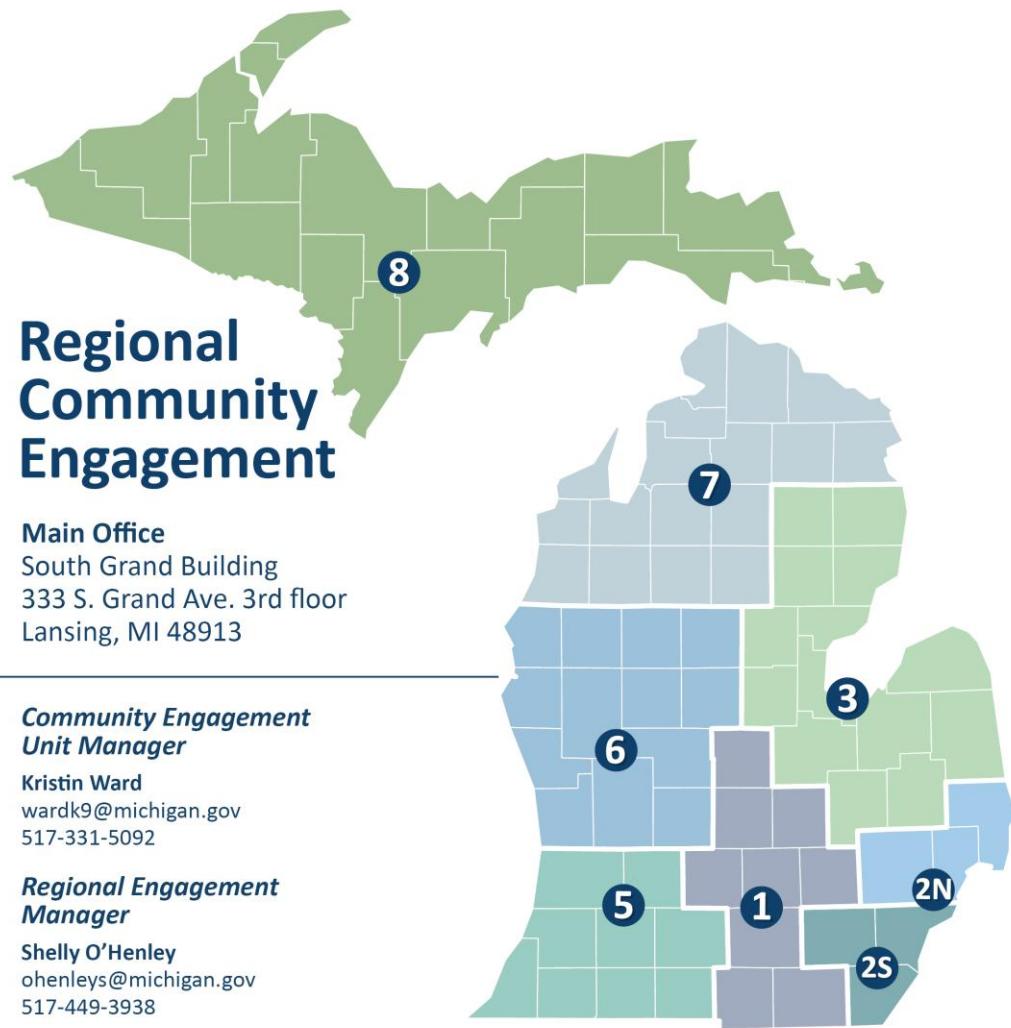
Main Office
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Community Engagement Unit Manager

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Regional Engagement Manager

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8 Trevor Quinlan
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517-243-5738

Environmental Health Bureau Programs and Projects



| Program/Project | Description | Manager/Coordinator |
|---|---|---|
| Advancing Violence Epidemiology in Real-Time (AVERT) Project | AVERT utilizes near real-time emergency department data to quickly measure the incidence of non-fatal violence in Michigan communities. Information is provided to partners in violence prevention to assist them in designing targeted interventions. | Allen Stout StoutA4@michigan.gov 517-582-2295 |
| ATSDR Site Assessment Program | The Environmental Assessment and Site Assessment Program works under a cooperative agreement with the CDC Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) to complete health assessments of National Priority Listing (Superfund) sites in Michigan and other sites of contamination. | Andrea Keatley keatleya1@michigan.gov 517-284-1273 |
| Cancer Incidence Investigations | This program identifies and investigates unusual patterns of cancer in a-sub-county areas that may be associated with environmental exposures. This work is typically performed in response to public concerns. | Katie Patterson pattersonk9@michigan.gov |
| Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) | Oversight of health services for children with elevated blood lead levels and those at risk of lead poisoning, including nursing case management, technical assistance to local health departments, support to partners for blood lead testing, blood lead test result surveillance and data sharing. | Rachel Melody melodyr2@michigan.gov 517-284-0053 |

| Program/Project | Description | Manager/Coordinator |
|---|---|---|
| Clandestine Drug Lab Cleanup (CDL) Program | <p>The Clandestine Drug Lab Cleanup Program helps provide guidance to property owners to cleanup residential properties that are contaminated with manufacturing of illicit drugs in State of Michigan. The manufacture of illicit drugs results in the release of chemicals and the drug itself into the indoor air and pose human health hazard. The program team also provides technical assistance to local health departments upon request by providing current scientific information to cleanup contaminated residential properties.</p> | Andrea Keatley keatleya1@michigan.gov 517-284-0246 |
| Drinking Water Investigation Program | <p>The program serves internal and external partners by collecting, reviewing, assessing, and disseminating water sample data related to the drinking water quality of residences in the State of Michigan on both public water supplies and private water supplies. The program also includes the MI Safe Drinking Water initiative to empower Michiganders to make informed decisions and take action to protect their health from drinking water contamination through equitable promotion, education, and engagement.</p> | Ken Bowen bowenk7@michigan.gov 517-599-8379 |
| Drug Overdose Surveillance Program | <p>This program develops, maintains, and analyzes drug overdose surveillance data to inform policy and programmatic efforts. This work also includes identifying, investigating, and responding to abnormal overdose events.</p> | Haley Kehus KehusH@michigan.gov 517-331-5300 |
| Eat Safe Fish (ESF) Program | <p>The Eat Safe Fish Program educates anglers and residents about the risks that come from chemicals found in the environment that end up in the fish. The program aims to make Michiganders feel empowered and informed when making choices about the fish they consume.</p> | Karly Brown brownk80@michigan.gov 517-335-8350 |

| Program/Project | Description | Manager/Coordinator |
|---|---|--|
| Environmental Health Education for Health Care Providers | The environmental health for health care providers program is aimed at increasing connection and alignment between public health and health care, providing support in incorporating environmental health into patient care, and increasing health care provider knowledge of environmental hazards and contaminants. | Lakecia Powell-Denson powelldensonl@michigan.gov 517-275-2027 |
| Filter Safety Net | Part of the Get Ahead of Lead strategy, the Filter Safety Net program provides a lead-reducing point of use (POU) filter and ongoing replacement cartridges to households that are part of the designated Filter Safety Net communities and include children and/or pregnant persons enrolled in Medicaid. | Laura Gossiaux gossiauxl@michigan.gov 517-290-9849 |
| Foster Care Lead Filter Assurance Program | The goal of this program is to further protect foster care children residing within residential, non-facility-based homes within the State of Michigan from the harmful effects of lead in drinking water. This goal will be accomplished by reaching out to all residential, non-facility based foster care providers in the state, including providers that have previously received a filter through EHB-supported programs, to offer filters and replacement cartridges to them. Filters and cartridges will be offered to providers that meet the GAoL eligibility criteria. Foster care providers that refuse filters will be referred to the MDHHS Children's Services Administration for follow up. | Madilyn Donaghy mdonaghy@michigan.gov 517-388-7429 |
| Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Program | The recreational harmful algal blooms (HABs) program aims to protect the public from risks associated with recreational exposures to cyanobacteria and their toxins in Michigan waterbodies. | Alex Rafalski rafalskia@michigan.gov 517-881-1046 |

| Program/Project | Description | Manager/Coordinator |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| Home Lead Services Program | <p>The Home Lead Services Program helps families identify and remove lead hazards from homes through a variety of services including lead inspections, lead abatement and navigation of services. To qualify for services, eligibility is based on submitting a complete lead services application, Medicaid or household income status, and home location. Additionally, this Program includes grants to communities to administer local lead hazard control programs.</p> | <p>Michael Jacobson JacobsonM@michigan.gov 517-643-2346</p> <p>Mike Charest CharestM@michigan.gov 517-599-6431</p> |
| Lead Certification Program | <p>Issues accreditation and certification to individuals interested in teaching lead abatement courses and becoming certified to conduct lead abatement investigations and activities. Program issues scholarships for lead abatement training as funding allows and publishes a public list for hiring certified professionals/firms, training course, and examination information.</p> | <p>Jennifer Shutts Shuttsj@michigan.gov 517-599-7297</p> <p>Michael Lowery LoweryM4@michigan.gov 517-897-0955</p> |
| Lead Enforcement Program | <p>Oversees lead abatement and renovation education activities performed under the Public Health Code, Lead Abatement Act, and Lead Hazard Control Rules. A strong focus remains on education and coaching to improve compliance amongst the regulated community and maintain transparency for legal expectations. Program oversees X-Ray Fluorescence device inventory and maintenance. Program contains XRF devices that local health departments can loan to perform lead-based paint investigations.</p> | <p>Jennifer Shutts Shuttsj@michigan.gov 517-599-7297</p> <p>Michael Lowery LoweryM4@michigan.gov 517-897-0955</p> |
| Lead Inspection Program | <p>Provides a free home lead inspection to homes where children or pregnant persons reside in a community who is or has experienced an action level exceedance for lead in their drinking water supply OR where children under six years of age reside with an elevated blood lead level.</p> | <p>Tyler Maraskine MaraskineT@michigan.gov 517-335-8152</p> |

| Program/Project | Description | Manager/Coordinator |
|---|--|--|
| Lead Poisoning Prevention Funds (LPPF) | <p>The Lead Poisoning Prevention Fund was created to fill a critical gap for homeowners and income property owners who don't qualify for free MDHHS lead abatement services. The fund offers low-interest loan opportunities up to \$50,000 for state-wide individuals who are interested in having lead abatement work completed on their properties.</p> | Imoni Williams Williamsl4@michigan.gov 517-331-7536 |
| Lead Soil Shop | <p>This program conducts lead soil shops as part of various community events across Michigan each year. The program provides real-time lead in soil results (parts per million) from soils sampled by residences and brought to our event. Residences can also obtain educational and gardening materials related to reducing exposure to lead in soils.</p> | Jeremy Waechter waechterj@michigan.gov 517-243-5074 |
| Mercury Spill Response Awareness and Education Program | <p>The Mercury Spill Response Program offers a MDHHS hotline to report mercury spills. The program is able to respond to several aspects of a mercury spill including consultation and screening. We also provide health education materials online, including resources for responders.</p> | Aaron Cooch coocha@michigan.gov 517-331-1745 |
| Michigan Chemical Exposure Program (MiCHEM) | <p>MiChEM (pronounced: my-chem) is a statewide biomonitoring program focused on a representative sample of Michigan adults. MDHHS will evaluate exposures and measure concentrations of certain chemical in the blood and urine of these adults. This program aims to establish a statewide baseline level of exposure to environmental contaminants.</p> | Darren Donnelly donnellyd2@michigan.gov (517) 331-4538 |

| Program/Project | Description | Manager/Coordinator |
|---|---|--|
| Michigan Climate and Health Adaptation (MICHAP) Program | To support a climate-resilient public health system by investigating climate-driven health risks, identifying needs for successful climate and health adaptation, and collaboratively implementing climate adaptation strategies. | Caroline Helsen helsenc@michigan.gov |
| Michigan Environmental Public Health Tracking (MiTracking) Program | MiTracking makes data on Michigan-specific environmental hazards, human exposure to these hazards, and health effects available to the public via an online data query system. | Libby Trubac trubacl@michigan.gov 517-335-4661 |
| Michigan Multi-site Health Study (MSS) | The Multi-Site Study (MSS) is a study coordinated by the Center for Disease Control's Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) in partnership with MDHHS. It is happening in seven communities across the U.S., including the same Michigan communities as MiPEHS. The goal of MSS is to learn more about the relationship between PFAS exposure and health outcomes among different populations. | Melissa Jaiman-Cruz jaimancruzm@michigan.gov 517-230-0638 |
| Michigan PFAS Exposure and Health Study (MiPEHS) | MiPEHS (pronounced: my pez) is a longitudinal study that investigates exposures to PFAS and their relationship with health outcomes in the Michigan communities of the City of Parchment and Cooper Township in Kalamazoo County and the Rockford/Belmont Area in Kent County. | Melissa Jaiman-Cruz jaimancruzm@michigan.gov 517-230-0638 |

| Program/Project | Description | Manager/Coordinator |
|--|---|---|
| Michigan Safe Siting (MiSS) Program | MiSS is a statewide initiative to help childcare providers identify possible environmental dangers in and around the care location before it becomes a licensed childcare facility. The MiSS program is part of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's (ATSDR) nationwide Choose Safe Places for Early Care and Education program. | Karly Brown brownk80@michigan.gov 517-335-8350 |
| North Kent County Exposure Assessment (NKCEA) | NKCEA is a regional effort that studied the relationship between drinking water with PFAS and the amount in the human body. The research study involves collecting blood samples from people in the northern Kent County area whose drinking water wells were found to have PFAS. | Rachel Long longr5@michigan.gov 517-290-9686 |
| Occupational Health and Injury Surveillance Program | This program conducts surveillance on fatal and non-fatal injuries, whether they are unintentional (e.g., motor vehicle crashes) or intentional (e.g., homicide, suicide), to track trends and identify high risk groups. This information is made available to the public and the MDHHS Injury and Violence Prevention Section for their work to design effective interventions. | Allen Stout StoutA4@michigan.gov 517-582-2295 |
| Oscoda Area Exposure Assessment (OAEA) | MDHHS's OAEA project is an investigation of exposure to certain chemicals in the blood and urine of residents of the Oscoda area, including heavy metals, PCBs, and PFAS. The OAEA is carried out as one part of the Michigan biomonitoring surveillance program named the Michigan Chemical Exposure Monitoring program, or MiChEM. | Chris Rudski RudskiC@michigan.gov (517) 243-1932 |

| Program/Project | Description | Manager/Coordinator |
|---|---|--|
| Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Site Response | MDHHS works alongside partner agencies as part of MPART (Michigan PFAS Action Response Team) site response, at locations where PFAS contamination is being investigated. | Contact Regional Engagement Coordinator (see slide 4) |
| PFAS in Firefighters in Michigan Surveillance (PFOMS) | PFAS are commonly used in Class B firefighting foam and firefighting protective gear. The PFOMS (pronounced: p-foams) project is a statewide initiative with the primary goal of determining concentrations of PFAS in the blood of Michigan firefighters. The findings of the PFOMS project will help inform decision making about how to minimize firefighters' exposure to PFAS. | Darren Donnelly donnellyd2@michigan.gov (517) 331-4538 |
| Public Health Drinking Water Program | The PHDWP works as a safety net, beyond existing regulations, to further protect the people of Michigan from chemical and environmental hazards in drinking water. MDHHS is both authorized and obligated to protect public health by the Michigan Public Health Code (Act 368 of 1978). | Kaitlyn DeFouw defouwk@michigan.gov 517-285-3644 |
| Statewide Drinking Water POU Filter Clearinghouse | The statewide drinking water point of use (POU) filter clearinghouse is operated to provided rapid deployment and necessary operation and maintenance of POU filters when deployed as an intervention to reduce exposure to environmental health threats from drinking water. | Laura Gossiaux gossiauwl@michigan.gov 517-290-9849 |
| Vapor Intrusion and Air Contaminate Program | MDHHS works with partner agencies to evaluate public health exposures resulting though exposures to chemical vapor intrusion into homes and/or buildings or though point source emissions. MDHHS also provides health communication to occupants regarding exposures and provides relocation assistance while residences are being mitigated. | Gerald Tiernan tiernang@michigan.gov 517-388-7471 |