

Georgia Department of Public Health's Environmental Health Section and Mosquito Control - Chris Rustin

- A. EH mission
 - 1. Inform public of environmental health hazards
 - 2. Prevent illness by monitoring, assessment, and risks
 - 3. Inform the public
- B. Missions of EH and mosquito control are similar
- C. EH mandates
 - 1. Food services
 - 2. Public swimming pools
 - 3. Tourist accommodations
 - 4. Sewage
 - 5. Portable sanitations
 - 6. Rabies
 - 7. Tattoo studios
 - 8.
 - 9. Lead
 - 10. Healthy homes
 - 11. Chemical hazards
 - 12. Non-public water supply
 - 13. Emergency preparedness
 - 14. Control of mass gatherings
 - 15. Surveillance and response - pest species, including mosquitoes
- D. GDPH
 - 1. 18 Districts
 - 2. 159 County Boards of Health
- E. EH workforce
 - 1. 30 at state office
 - 2. 18 EH district directors
 - 3. 8 regional lead/healthy homes/communicators
 - 4. 380 county EHS
- F. History
 - 1. 1786 - first health officer located in Savannah
 - 2. 1900-1970
 - a) Infectious disease control
 - b) Mosquito control an important part of this program
 - c) Septic and sewer
 - d) Garbage reduction with proper disposal
 - e) Others
 - 3. Canals
 - a) Rice cultivation in early 1800s
 - b) Transportation of goods
 - c) Yellow fever epidemics
 - (1) 1817 - prohibited rice cultivation near city
 - (2) Drainage of wetlands by ditching
 - d) 1876 - commission on Drainage Canals
- G. Current reality
 - 1. Increased calls
 - a) Bed bugs
 - b) Mosquitoes
 - c) Fleas

- d) Head lice scabies
- 2. Mostly from renters and multi family housing
- 3. Problems at schools
- 4. Tourism
- 5. Legislatures
- H. Assets
 - 1. Subject matter expertise
 - 2. Trailer
 - a) Surveillance capacity
 - b) Response equipment
 - 3. Static sampling sites
- I. Technical consultations
 - 1. Mosquito complaints
 - 2. City projects
- J. Statewide partnerships
 - 1. Consistent message
 - 2. Credible websites
 - 3. Complaint investigations and referrals
 - 4. Code enforcement
- K. EH programs with mosquito control
 - 1. West Nile Virus
 - a) In the beginning there was funding
 - b) EH were the eyes and ears of PH
 - 2. Programs with some vector control
 - a) DeKalb BOH - vector control
 - b) Albany public Health District - some limited control
 - c) Richmond County - IPM
 - d) Columbus HD - surveillance and some control
 - e) Chatham County Health Department - works with mosquito control
 - 3. Predicting problems with available data
- L. New and emerging problems
 - 1. Diseases
 - 2. Climate change
- M. Challenges
 - 1. Funding
 - 2. CDC focus
 - 3. Fear of chemicals
 - 4. Public complacency
 - 5. Loss of programs