Outreach & Education Group

Division of Environmental Health Assessment

Regional Offices

District Offices
Provide environmental health services to 21 counties without full-service health departments

Center for Environmental Health
Office of the Director

Division of Environmental Health Protection

Bureau of Environmental Radiation Protection
Bureau of Water Supply Protection
Bureau of Occupational Health & Exposure Investigation
Bureau of Community Environmental Health & Food Protection
Bureau of Toxic Substance Assessment
Bureau of Environmental & Occupational Epidemiology
Bureau of Occupational Health & Injury Prevention
Health may be affected by the air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat or the contaminants we touch. Chemicals, radiation, microbes, or anything in the physical world has the potential to affect our health. At the Center for Environmental Health, our scientists, engineers, sanitarians, physicians, educators, researchers and other public health professionals work together to prevent and reduce New Yorkers' health risks at home, work, school and play. This directory describes the environmental health responsibilities and activities for each division, bureau, and program group within the Center.

NYSDOH regional offices and local health departments (NYSDOH district offices, county health departments, and the New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene) are listed on pages 10 and 11.

**Telephone Directory**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department/Group</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Health Information Line</td>
<td>800 458-1158</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office of the Director</td>
<td>518 402-7500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outreach &amp; Education Group</td>
<td>518 402-7530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division of Environmental Health Assessment</td>
<td>518 402-7511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Environmental &amp; Occupational Epidemiology</td>
<td>518 402-7950</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bureau of Toxic Substance Assessment</td>
<td>518 402-7800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Occupational Health &amp; Injury Prevention</td>
<td>518 402-7900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation</td>
<td>518 402-7860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division of Environmental Health Protection</td>
<td>518 402-7500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Community Environmental Health &amp; Food Protection</td>
<td>518 402-7600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Water Supply Protection</td>
<td>518 402-7650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Environmental Radiation Protection</td>
<td>518 402-7550</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A NYSDOH duty officer is available during non-working hours (holidays, nights, and weekends). The duty officer receives and refers, as necessary, official communications from the Governor’s Office, NYS Police, NYS Office of Emergency Management, or other agencies. In addition, the duty officer handles calls from the general public reporting urgent public health concerns.

**Center E-mail Address**

ceheduc@health.ny.gov

**Center for Environmental Health Web Site Information**

www.health.ny.gov/environmental/
The Office of the Center Director provides overall executive direction for environmental health programs. In addition to supervision of central office staff, the office works closely with regional office staff to coordinate the oversight of environmental health program activities implemented by the Department’s nine district offices, 36 county health departments, and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

The Group maintains communication with Center staff and the public to raise awareness, increase understanding, and respond to concerns about environmental health issues. The Group is responsible for:

- coordinating the Center’s response to the public regarding environmental health issues;
- coordinating community involvement and public participation for a wide range of programs across Center bureaus and divisions;
- identifying educational and outreach needs for diverse audiences;
- developing key messages and designing and preparing information packages;
- creating fact sheets, brochures, flyers, posters, videos, presentations and graphic displays;
- managing the Environmental Health Infoline and the center mail log; and
- overseeing the Center’s emergency preparedness and response program.

The Center maintains a toll-free environmental health information line to encourage and simplify communication with the public. The number is 1-800-458-1158. The infoline is staffed Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. After-hours callers can leave a message. Calls are routed by computer from an electronic menu, or operators will route the calls.
The Division evaluates the health effects of people’s exposure to chemical, physical and microbiological agents in food, soil, water, air and consumer products. It carries out exposure and health effects studies of people who have been exposed to these environmental agents, and it identifies and studies practices that put workers or the public at risk for injuries or adverse health effects. The Division maintains environmental disease registries and uses registry data to conduct research and design public health interventions. The Division uses mapping and other tools to display data, for health professionals and the public, on chemicals in the environment and on diseases. These tools increase understanding of changes over time and across New York State. Through these activities, the Division informs people about possible health risks and how to reduce or eliminate them.

Bureau staff study, monitor and evaluate the effects of exposure to toxic substances and other environmental factors at home, at work, and in the community. The Bureau is responsible for:

- surveillance of chronic diseases and epidemiological studies to help identify environmental risk factors;
- geographic information system maps of disease and risk factors;
- surveillance and research of congenital malformations;
- registries of people exposed to environmental risk factors to monitor their health status over time;
- exposure investigations to identify and reduce environmental health risks; and
- public education regarding environmental and occupational exposures and health risks.

The Bureau has six sections:

- Community Exposure Research, Steven Forand, MA, MS
- Birth Defects Lifespan Studies, Aida Soim, PhD
- Birth Defects Registry & Surveillance, Michele Herdt, MPH, PhD
- Birth Defects Research, Marilyn Browne, PhD
- Environmental Health Surveillance, Vacant
- GeTSMarT CEH Resource, Sanjaya Kumar, MS
Bureau staff assess the potential for exposures and risks when people come in contact with toxic substances through air, water, soil and food.

**Bureau staff:**

- assess exposures and health risks associated with contaminated sites;
- evaluate pesticides to determine their potential to pose significant risks to public health;
- develop annual sportfish and game consumption advisories;
- perform indoor air quality assessments for schools and other public buildings;
- assist in the development of drinking water and ambient water standards and guidelines;
- assess potential public health impacts of electric generating facilities, incinerators and other sources of air contaminants;
- manage the emergency oil spill relocation program; and
- provide information for responding to instances of chemical and biological releases/exposures.

**The Bureau has three sections:**

- **Prevention and Sustainability**  
  Henry Spliethoff, MS
- **Exposure Characterization and Response**  
  Pat Fritz, M. Eng
- **Risk Assessment**  
  Thomas Johnson, PhD
Bureau staff monitor and address occupational illness and both occupational and non-occupational injuries, provide work-site consultation services and oversee a statewide network of clinics specializing in diagnosis and prevention of occupational diseases. Staff keep track of where, to whom and why injuries occur across the state and use this information to develop injury prevention programs. Staff respond to questions and concerns regarding:

- work-related illness, injury, death and hazardous exposure;
- certification and training of asbestos-removal workers;
- reporting to environmental disease registries for:
  - heavy metals exposures (lead, arsenic, cadmium, mercury);
  - occupational lung diseases (asthma, asbestosis, silicosis, etc.); and
- prevention of injuries, through projects related to:
  - vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle safety;
  - fall prevention;
  - teen driver education; and
  - suicide prevention.

The Bureau has five sections:

- **Occupational Intervention**
  - Hillary Waterhouse

- **Asbestos Safety Training and Occupational Lung Programs**
  - Karen Cummings, MPH

- **Epidemiology and Surveillance**
  - Alicia Fletcher, MPH

- **Injury Prevention Programs**
  - Gina Gillooley, MPH
Bureau staff investigate the potential for human exposure from environmental contamination, primarily at inactive hazardous waste sites and brownfield sites. For every state, federal superfund, brownfield and voluntary clean-up site, a Bureau specialist is assigned to coordinate and communicate health-related activities. In addition, Bureau staff prepare public health assessments for federal superfund sites under an agreement with the federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). Staff also conduct exposure investigations as part of the state’s Cancer Surveillance Improvement Initiative.

The Bureau includes one unit and manages sites across NYS in nine DEC regions:

- DEC Regions 1,9: Charlotte Bethoney
- DEC Regions 4,5 and 8: Justin Deming, PG,MS
- DEC Regions 3,6: Maureen Schuck
- DEC Regions 2,7: Scarlett McLaughlin, PG
- Reporting & Management Unit: Kate McLaughlin

DEC Regions
The Division houses the Center's regulatory programs designed to minimize environmental health threats and provides policy directives and implementation guidance to city/county health departments and state, regional and district offices. The programs protect the State's residents and visitors by enforcing health and safety regulations relating to drinking water quality, food safety in restaurants, beach and swimming pool safety, children's camps, radiation protection, lead poisoning prevention, migrant farm worker housing, indoor tanning, tattooing and exposure to tobacco smoke.

Bureau of Community Environmental Health & Food Protection

Program areas include:

- children's camps;
- food service facilities;
- public beaches, swimming pools and recreational aquatic spray grounds;
- migrant farmworker housing;
- hotels and motels;
- adolescent tobacco use prevention;
- clean indoor air act (tobacco smoke);
- ultraviolet tanning facilities;
- tattooing and body piercing;
- childhood lead poisoning prevention program;
- primary prevention of lead poisoning;
- campgrounds and agricultural fairgrounds;
- public health nuisances;
- mobile home parks; and
- mass gatherings.
The Bureau has five sections:

- **Food Protection**  
  Darby Greco
- **Recreational Environmental Health**  
  Jim Maurer
- **Housing Hygiene**  
  Thomas Carroll
- **Tobacco Enforcement**  
  Steve Martin
- **Program Standardization Evaluation and Reporting**  
  Melissa Brewer

**Bureau of Water Supply Protection**  
Room 1110
518 402-7650  
Fax 518 402-7599
Director  
Vacant
Assistant Directors  
Kristine Wheeler, PE & Tina Hunt, PE

Bureau staff regulate the operation, design and quality of public drinking water supplies and commercial bottled water suppliers; assure water sources are adequately protected; administer the State Drinking Water State Revolving Fund that provides financial assistance to public water suppliers; train and certify drinking water system operators; develop standards and other policy for realty subdivisions, individual water supplies and individual wastewater systems (septic systems); review recreational bathing facility designs, oversee the implementation of the Protection against *Legionella* and the Lead Testing in School Drinking Water regulations and conduct research on emerging drinking water issues. Staff respond to questions and concerns regarding:

- reports of water-related illness;
- drinking water quality, advisories or problems with a water provider;
- drinking water treatment and the design of water treatment systems;
- drinking water system security, emergency preparedness and response;
- drinking water related research and environmental risk assessment;
- drinking water related critical infrastructure protection and geographic information system support;
- practical ways to reduce exposure to possible contaminants in drinking water;
- watershed protection;
- water system improvement funding;
- small water system technical assistance;
- bottled and bulk water provider certification;
- drinking water treatment and distribution system operator certification;
- realty subdivisions, private residential water and onsite wastewater treatment systems;
- recreational bathing facilities design.
- oversight of NYC’s Filtration Avoidance Determination;
- harmful algal blooms; and
- *Legionella* and legionellosis outbreaks.
The Bureau has seven sections:

- **Design**        Michael Montysko, PE
- **Operations**    Bill Gilday, PE
- **Residential Sanitation** Stephen Marshall, PE
- **Water System Control & Analysis** David Dziewulski, PhD
- **Information Systems/Compliance** Scott Alderman, PhD, PE
- **New York City Watershed** Patrick Palmer, MPH
- **Professional Certification** Jane Thapa, PE

**Bureau of Environmental Radiation Protection** Room 1201

518 402-7550 Fax 518 402-7554
Director  Alexander Damiani, MS, MPH
Assistant Director  Robert Dansereau

The Bureau regulates the public health aspects of ionizing radiation and is the lead state program for responding to radiological emergencies. Work includes:

- registration and inspections of facilities that use radiation producing equipment;
- licensing and inspection of facilities using radioactive materials;
- licensing and registration of radiologic technologists;
- home testing for radon and radon reduction measures;
- addressing public question/concerns on radiation, including electromagnetic radiation;
- assessing potential public health threats from radiologically contaminated sites; and
- responding to radiation emergencies or incidents.

The Bureau has four sections:

- **Radiation Equipment**  Robert Snyder
- **Radioactive Materials**  Daniel Samson, CHP
- **Environmental Radiation/Radon and Emergency Response**  Cynthia Costello, MPH, CHP
- **Inspection and Enforcement**  Charles Burns
NYSDOH Regional and Field Structure

State District Offices carry out environmental health protection programs in the 21 counties that do not deliver environmental health services through county or city health departments. They ensure that suitable water, food, housing and recreational facilities are provided to the public. The District Offices identify, investigate, and resolve actual and potential health hazards caused by environmental factors. Regional Offices provide technical and program support, as well as monitor and evaluate implementation of environmental health protection programs in District Offices and local health departments within the regional jurisdiction.

Telephone numbers for regional, district, county and city health departments are listed below. A map of the regional and field structure is included on page 12.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Western Region</th>
<th>Buffalo, Rochester</th>
<th>585 423-8072</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional Environmental Health Director</td>
<td>Anita Bonamici</td>
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<tr>
<th>Geneva District Office</th>
<th>Patrick Toye</th>
<th>315 789-3030</th>
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<td>(Ontario, Wayne, Yates)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Hornell District Office</th>
<th>Michelle Donovan</th>
<th>607 324-8371</th>
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<tr>
<td>(Steuben, Schuyler)</td>
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| County Health Departments | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Allegany                  | 585 268-9254     |
| Livingston                | 585 243-7280     |
| Cattaraugus               | 716 373-8050     |
| Monroe                    | 585 753-2991     |
| Chautauqua                | 716 753-4769     |
| Niagara                   | 716 439-7444     |
| Chemung                   | 607 737-2019     |
| Orleans                   | 585 589-3250     |
| Erie                      | 716 898-6104     |
| Seneca                    | 315 539-1920     |
| Genesee                   | 585 344-2580     |
| Wyoming                   | 585 786-8894     |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Central Region</th>
<th>Syracuse</th>
<th>315 477-8150</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional Environmental Health Director</td>
<td>John Strepelis, ME, PE,</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Canton District Office</th>
<th>Ron Sheppard</th>
<th>315 386-1040</th>
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<td>(St. Lawrence)</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Watertown District Office</th>
<th>Sheri Ford</th>
<th>315 785-2277</th>
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<tr>
<td>(Jefferson, Lewis)</td>
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| County Health Departments | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Broome                    | 607 778-2887     |
| Oneida                    | 315 798-5064     |
| Cayuga                    | 315 253-1405     |
| Onondaga                  | 315 435-6623     |
| Chenango                  | 607 337-1673     |
| Oswego                    | 315 349-3557     |
| Cortland                  | 607 753-5035     |
| Tioga                     | 607 687-8565     |
| Madison                   | 315 366-2526     |
| Tompkins                  | 607 274-6688     |
Capital Area Environmental Health Program (Albany) 518 402-7510
Regional Environmental Health Director
Robert Swider, PE

Glens Falls District Office
(Saratoga, Warren, Washington) Anita Gabalski 518 793-3893
Herkimer District Office
(Fulton, Herkimer, Montgomery) Donald Van Patten 315 866-6879
Oneonta District Office
(Delaware, Greene, Otsego) Ed Bartos 607 432-3911
Saranac Lake District Office
(Essex, Franklin, Hamilton) Kristen Sayers 518 891-1800

County Health Departments
Albany 518 447-4620 Rensselaer 518 270-2632
Clinton 518 565-4870 Schenectady 518 386-2818
Columbia 518 828-3358 Schoharie 518 295-8382

Metropolitan Region New York City 212 417-4100
Regional Environmental Health Director Christine Westerman, MPH
(Located in Monticello District Office) 845 794-2045
New Rochelle Field Office 914 654-7000
Central Islip Field Office 631 851-3084
Monticello District Office Chris Coddington 845 794-2045
(Sullivan)

County Health Departments
Dutchess 845 486-3404 Rockland 845 364-2608
Nassau 516 227-9723 Suffolk 631 854-0000
Orange 845 291-2331 Ulster 845 340-3010
Putnam 845 808-1390 Westchester 914 813-5000

New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene 347 396-4100
For City Information 212 639-9675 or 311 within NYC