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

Division of Environmental Health Assessment

Bureau of Environmental & Occupational Epidemiology
Bureau of Toxic Substance Assessment
Bureau of Occupational Health & Injury Prevention
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation

Division of Environmental Health Protection

Bureau of Community Environmental Health & Food Protection
Bureau of Environmental Radiation Protection
Bureau of Water Supply Protection

Outreach & Education Group

Center for Environmental Health
Office of the Director
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**

**Environmental Health Information Line**
Office of the Director
Outreach & Education Group

**Division of Environmental Health Assessment**
Bureau of Environmental & Occupational Epidemiology
Bureau of Toxic Substance Assessment
Bureau of Occupational Health & Injury Prevention
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation

**Division of Environmental Health Protection**
Bureau of Community Environmental Health & Food Protection
Bureau of Water Supply Protection
Bureau of Environmental Radiation Protection

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](mailto:ceheduc@health.ny.gov)

**Center for Environmental Health Web Site Information**
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 of Environmental & Occupational Epidemiology

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;
- conducting surveillance, epidemiological studies and health services research for birth defects and muscular dystrophies;
- maintain a geographic information system, GIS support to Center initiatives, create maps of disease and risk factors;
- exposure investigations to identify and reduce environmental health risks, including biomonitoring in communities to assess exposure to contaminants;
- managing the New York State Birth Defects Registry and registries of people exposed to environmental risk factors to monitor their health status over time;
- managing programs to improve children’s environmental health at home and school; and
- providing public education, data and information about birth defects, environmental/occupational exposures and environmental/occupational health risks to the public and professionals.
The Bureau has the following sections:

Community Environmental Health Surveillance
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

GeTSMarT CEH Resource
Sanjaya Kumar, MS

Bureau of Toxic Substance Assessment
btsa@health.ny.gov

Room 1743

518 402-7800
Director
Thomas Johnson, PhD

518 402-7819
Fax
Mike Hughes, MS
Assistant Director

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 the following sections:

Prevention and Sustainability
Henry Spliethoff, MS

Exposure Characterization and Response
Pat Fritz, ME

Risk Assessment
Kaycee Cole, MS
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 the following sections:

- Asbestos Safety Training
  - Karen Cummings, MPH
- Epidemiology and Surveillance
  - Alicia Fletcher, MPH
- Injury Prevention Programs
  - Jennifer Hogan, MS
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation

518 402-7860  Fax 518 402-7859
Director     Christine Vooris, PE
Grants and Initiatives  Fay Navratil

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: Melissa Doroski, MPH
- DEC Regions 2,7: Scarlett McLaughlin, PG
- Reporting & Management Unit: Kate McLaughlin

DEC Regions
**Division of Environmental Health Protection** Room 1619

518 402-7500 Fax 518 402-7509
Director Christine Westerman, MPH
Assistant Director Darby Greco, MPH
Field Coordination Vacant

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** Room 1395 bcehfp@health.ny.gov

518 402-7600 Fax 518 402-7609
Director Sheri Ford
Assistant Director Timothy Shay

Bureau staff develop environmental health regulations and associated program guidance to ensure that core environmental health program standards are achieved in the areas listed below. Staff research public health issues which form the scientific basis for regulation development and provide training to local health departments and district offices. Bureau staff oversee illness and injury incident investigations associated with these regulated facilities and respond to questions and concerns from the public.

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 the following sections:

- Food Protection Vacant
- Recreational Environmental Health Jim Maurer
Bureau of Water Supply Protection

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 the following sections:

Design  
Dave Phillips, PE

Design  
Brock Rogers, PE

Design  
Monika King, PE

Operations  
Steve Gladding, PhD, PE

Residential Sanitation & Professional Certification  
Stephen Marshall, PE

Water System Control & Analysis  
Ursula Lauper, MA, MPH

Compliance  
Min-Sook Kim, PhD, PE

New York City Watershed  
Patrick Palmer, MPH

Special Projects  
Kevin Kenyon, PE

Bureau of Environmental Radiation Protection  
Room 1201  
berp@health.ny.gov

518 402-7550  
Fax 518 402-7554

Director  
Alexander Damiani, MS, MPH

Assistant Director  
Vacant

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;
- education and technical support for radon testing and mitigation;
- 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 the following sections:

Radiation Equipment and Radiologic Technology  
Robert Snyder

Radioactive Materials Licensing  
Daniel Samson, CHP

Radiological Emergency Response and Radon and Environmental Radon Inspection and Enforcement  
Cynthia Costello, MS, MPH, CHP

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.

**Western Region**  
**Buffalo, Rochester**  
**585 423-8072**

**Regional Environmental Health Director**  
**Anita Bonamici**

**Geneva District Office**  
( Ontario, Wayne, Yates)

**Michael Vaccaro**  
**315 789-3030**

**Hornell District Office**  
( Steuben, Schuyler)

**Michelle Donovan**  
**607 324-8371**

**County Health Departments**

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<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Phone Number 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>Allegany</td>
<td>585 268-9254</td>
<td>585 243-7280</td>
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<td>Cattaraugus</td>
<td>716 373-8050</td>
<td>585 753-2991</td>
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<td>Chautauqua</td>
<td>716 753-4769</td>
<td>716 439-7444</td>
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<td>Chemung</td>
<td>607 737-2019</td>
<td>585 589-3250</td>
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<td>Erie</td>
<td>716 898-6104</td>
<td>315 539-1920</td>
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<td>Genesee</td>
<td>585 344-2580</td>
<td>585 786-8894</td>
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<td>Livingston</td>
<td>585 243-7280</td>
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<td>Monroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Niagara</td>
<td>716 439-7444</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orleans</td>
<td>585 589-3250</td>
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<td>Seneca</td>
<td>315 539-1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>585 786-8894</td>
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**Central Region**  
**Syracuse**  
**315 477-8150**

**Regional Environmental Health Director**  
**John Strepelis, ME, PE**

**Canton District Office**  
( St. Lawrence)

**Ron Sheppard**  
**315 386-1040**

**Watertown District Office**  
( Jefferson, Lewis)

**Brandon Cooney**  
**315 785-2277**

**County Health Departments**

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<th>County</th>
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<tr>
<td>Broome</td>
<td>607 778-2887</td>
<td>315 798-5064</td>
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<td>Cayuga</td>
<td>315 253-1405</td>
<td>315 435-6623</td>
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<td>Chenango</td>
<td>607 337-1673</td>
<td>315 349-3557</td>
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<td>Cortland</td>
<td>607 753-5035</td>
<td>607 687-8565</td>
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<td>Madison</td>
<td>315 366-2526</td>
<td>607 274-6688</td>
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<td>Oneida</td>
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<td>Tioga</td>
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<td>Tompkins</td>
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Capital Area Environmental Health Program  (Albany)  518 402-7510

Regional Environmental Health Director  Robert Swider, PE

Glens Falls District Office  Rebecca Bussert  518 793-3893
(Saratoga, Warren, Washington)

Herkimer District Office  Donald Van Patten  315 866-6879
(Fulton, Herkimer, Montgomery)

Oneonta District Office  Ed Bartos  607 432-3911
(Delaware, Greene, Otsego)

Saranac Lake District Office  Kristen Sayers  518 891-1800
(Essex, Franklin, Hamilton)

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  Eric Weigert, MPH

(Mountcillo District Office)  845 794-2045

New Rochelle Field Office  914 654-7000
Central Islip Field Office  631 851-3084

Monticello District Office  Andrew Kalter  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