



# NJEHA News

A Publication of the New Jersey Environmental Health Association  
An affiliate of the National Environmental Association

## Spring 2005

### President's Message

Spring is here and there is so much happening. The second annual NJEHA Educational Conference and Exhibition, held this past March, was a huge success. Many thanks to everyone who was involved in making it happen!

There is so much hard work put into the planning and development of this project. Your Executive Council worked long and tireless hours in preparation for the event. With all the hard work, the Association has received very positive feedback about the conference.

I hope you had time to attend many of our 40+ educational presentations. The amount of knowledge one can gain from this conference, along with the variety of topics and subjects presented, is incredible. In addition, the number of exhibitors was inspiring.

Congratulations to our two award recipients, Jim Morris and Michele Samarya-Timm. Jim Morris is Associate Director at Rutgers University's Office of Continuing Professional Education. Jim has 18 years experience in designing and evaluating educational programs and marketing campaigns, including the University's Environment and Public Health certificate program. Michele Samarya-Timm is Health Educator with the Franklin Township Health Department in Somerset. With 15 years experience as a Registered Environmental Health Specialist, she has worked extensively on a variety of environmental health issues, and conducted a well-respected study, *Food Handler Education Programs Offered by Local Health Departments in New Jersey*.

Both of these individuals are extremely dedicated in their respective fields, and the association was honored to present each of them with an award. I would like to thank each of them for their continued commitment to our organization.

Jim Balsamo, M.S., M.P.H., R.S., President of the National Environmental Health Association, gave a charming presentation at our President's Banquet and Awards Presentation. Jim and I also met to discuss the upcoming 2007 NEHA Annual Educational Conference to be held in Atlantic City - you just can't miss it!

Speaking of the national conference, I am all set to go to the 2005 conference, which is being held in Providence, Rhode Island from June 26 to June 29. I believe there are several NJ affiliate members attending. Again, I am very honored to represent NJ, and look forward to reporting back on the happenings from Rhode Island very soon. Until then... Sincerely,

### New Jersey Officers

Theresa Lombardi ..... President  
Cindy Weaver ..... President-Elect  
William Dotts.. ..... 1st Vice President  
Aimee DeLotto ..... 2nd Vice President  
MaryAnn Orapello ..... Secretary  
Kristin Reed ..... Treasurer

### Administrative Assistant

#### Newsletter Editor

Dalynn Knigge

#### Contributors

Kathy Chort-Holmes  
Aimee DeLotto  
Bill Dotts  
Theresa Lombardi  
Peter Tabbot  
Harriett Zivin

### In This Issue

President's Message.....	1
Spotlight on NJEHA.....	2
Center for Science.....	2
Financial Report.....	3
Annual Conference Summary.....	4
In Memoriam.....	4
Legislative Update.....	5
NJDEP News.....	5
Killer Flu Virus Found.....	6
Cruise Inspectors.....	6
Job Openings.....	7
E.Coli at Petting Zoo.....	8
Scandal at Smithfield.....	8

Please send articles, advertisements  
and other contributions to:

NJEHA News  
PO Box 527  
New Brunswick, NJ 08903-0527

njehainfo@yahoo.com

Visit us online: [www.njeha.org](http://www.njeha.org)

## Spotlight on the NJEHA

*This quarter, we're turning the spotlight on our First Vice-President, Bill Dotts!*

My first experience with the New Jersey Environmental Health Association occurred when I attended a conference at Rutgers University circa 1999 and struck up a conversation with Peter Tabbot. At the time, I was an officer of South Jersey Sanitarians Association. Peter and I found we had a mutual interest in promoting the unified participation of sanitarians from all areas of New Jersey in a professional public health organization. I was so impressed with Peter and the NJEHA Executive Council that I later became a member, Member-at-Large and, finally, First Vice-President, with the nomination by Theresa Lombardi.



At the time I met Peter, I was a sanitarian/REHS for the Cape May County Department of Health, which was my first employment in the field of public health. I found myself at Cape May County after a mid-life career change sent me back to Stockton State College during 1990. I met Professor Bruce DeLussa while an Environmental Science major at Stockton and it was Professor DeLussa who gave me the interest and encouragement to pursue a career in environmental health. I graduated from Stockton with a BS in Public Health - with high honors and Program Distinction in Environmental Health during 1992.

My curriculum included an internship with Cape May County HD. I found the work interesting and challenging, especially given the diverse nature of environmental health work, and soon accepted a position there, working for nine years. I was the area inspector for Cape May (and later Wildwood) conducting inspections of retail food establishments, wells, septic, body art, solid waste and other areas, and handled the myriad of environmental health complaints that occur in a

health department with CEHA responsibilities. I was also a member of the Cape May County Haz-Mat emergency response team and served as Cape May County Radiation Officer. I administered and enforced the NJDEP Pesticide program in Cape May County and had a great working relationship with John Pitonyak and Bruce Rheimbold of NJDEP Bureau of Pesticides.

In 2002 I was offered a position as an Investigator with the US Food and Drug Administration, which I eagerly accepted. It was a great opportunity to expand my public health knowledge, and on a different level. I currently conduct inspections, investigations, sampling and other duties in the areas of acidified foods, low acid canned foods, general foods, juice HACCP and Seafood HACCP. I also instruct HACCP and sanitation courses to both regulatory personnel and industry, which I especially enjoy. I was recently awarded the Commissioner's Special Citation award as a member of the national food security response team during operation Liberty Shield.

Prior to my career in public health I worked 20 years as a commercial fisherman, carpenter/builder and sometimes boat builder. I continue to maintain a Coast Guard Masters license of 30 years. My personal life centers on my wife of 22 years and our children. I have a 16-year-old daughter, Allison, a 12-year-old son, Adam, and a married daughter, Tina. We live in a log home that I built myself in Dennisville, a very rural area of South Jersey. I coach kids soccer and enjoy salt-water fishing, scuba diving and wood working when I can find the time.

Looking back, I am thankful for the variety of life experiences I have enjoyed, and the people I have met or worked with. I am continually impressed with the professional "can do" attitude of the NJEHA Executive Council and look forward to a continued association with this energetic & dedicated group.

## Center for Science in the Public Interest

**Single Food Agency Needed, Says CSPI**  
Durbin and DeLauro Introduce Safe Food Act of 2005

WASHINGTON – Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) and Representative Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) today introduced the Safe Food Act of 2005, a bill that would help protect consumers from food-borne illness by consolidating the current fragmented and overlapping food-safety system, according to the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI). The bill would establish a comprehensive program to protect public health while also bolstering consumer confidence in the safety of the food supply.

"Our federal food-safety system is nearly 100 years old," said CSPI food safety director Caroline Smith DeWaal. "It was never designed to manage modern hazards like E. coli O157:H7 or new concerns like mad cow disease, genetically modified foods, or bioterrorism."

The Safe Food Act of 2005 would consolidate the activities of various federal agencies—including the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Veterinary Medicine, and the

Commerce Department's National Marine Fisheries Service - each responsible for just a portion of the nation's food supply.

"The U.S., with its 'horse and buggy' food laws, is falling behind many other nations when it comes to food safety," said DeWaal. "The Safe Food Act represents a modern science-based approach to food regulation."

**Center for Science in the Public Interest**  
1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20009  
phone 202.332.9110  
fax 202.265.4954

**NJEHA**  
*Financial Report for Period*  
*01/01/05 - 03/31/05*  
*General Fund Quarterly Report*

**NJEHA**  
*Financial Report for Period*  
*01/01/05 - 03/31/05*  
*Scholarship Fund Quarterly Report*

<b>Date:</b>		<b>01/01/05</b>
<b>Balance:</b>		<b>18,932.12</b>
<b>Credits:</b>	Bank Refund	0.00
	Directory Advertisements	0.00
	Donations	0.00
	Fundraising/merchandise	1,467.50
	General Training Programs	0.00
	Special Training Programs (Lead, HACCP)	0.00
	Transfer from Scholarship Fund	0.00
	Membership	4,160.00
	Yearly Conference Attendee	11,795.00
	Yearly Conference Exhibitors/ Advertising/Donations	10,825.00
	<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>28,264.31</b>
<b>Debits:</b>	Accountant/Tax Preparation	5.71
	Administrative Assistant	800.00
	Advertising	0.00
	Awards/Donations/Gifts	70.60
	Bank/Return Check Fees	0.00
	Bank/Supplies	37.50
	Cash/ATM Withdrawals	0.00
	Executive Council Meetings	229.38
	Fundraising/Merchandise	0.00
	General Training Programs	0.00
	Insurance for Association	0.00
	Legal Representation	0.00
	Meetings/Membership/ Liaisons to Organizations	37.95
	NEHA Annual	
	Conference Attendance	0.00
	NEHA Membership Fee	170.00
	Newsletter	240.00
	NJ Corporate Registration Fees	50.00
	NJ Register Subscription	0.00
	Postage	24.00
	Post Office Box Rental	34.00
	Special Training Programs (Lead, HACCP)	0.00
	Supplies/Letterhead/Paper	149.06
	Telephone/Fax	112.72
	Web Page	122.80
	Yearly Conference Expenses	2,957.87
	Miscellaneous	0.00
	<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>5,041.59</b>
<b>Date:</b>		<b>03/31/05</b>
<b>Balance:</b>		<b>42,154.84</b>

<b>Date:</b>		<b>01/01/05</b>
<b>Balance:</b>		<b>7,230.81</b>
<b>Credits:</b>	Fundraising	235.00
	Interest	9.85
	Vendor Directory Ad	0.00
	<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>244.85</b>
<b>Debits:</b>	Scholarship Award	0.00
	Fundraising	0.00
	Bank Charges	0.00
	Adjustments	0.00
	<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Date:</b>		<b>03/31/05</b>
<b>Balance:</b>		<b>7,475.66</b>

## Apply For a Scholarship or Honorarium

The Gary S. Straus Memorial Scholarship provides a maximum individual scholarship award not to exceed \$500. Successful applicants must be pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in the health sciences.

The NJEHA Honorarium provides a maximum award of \$250, which helps defray the cost of attending a conference pertaining to environmental health. Winners of an honorarium are required to write an article for our newsletter or present their findings to the general membership. Contributions should indicate what information and knowledge was obtained from the conference.

All applications must be postmarked no later than August 31, 2005 to be considered for this year's award. We encourage you to take advantage of this great benefit of membership!

### Questions?

Harriett Zivin  
hzivin@advancedbroadband.com

(732) 521-5010

## 2nd Annual NJEHA Educational Conference and Exhibition "Partnering for Environmental Health"

The second annual NJEHA educational conference, "Partnering for Environmental Health," took place on March 6, 7 and 8, 2005 at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City, NJ. The continued and generous support of our speakers, vendors and professional affiliates, along with the dedication and service of NJEHA staff, made this year's conference a rousing success.



As an added attraction, this year's nearly 300 conference attendees arrived in time to enjoy the culmination of the Tropicana Hotel's \$280 million building expansion, complete with 500 new hotel rooms and the spectacular "Quarter" complex - a re-creation of old Havana, complete with three levels of world-class restaurants, shopping, entertainment and spa services under one domed roof adjacent to and connecting with the main casino and conference areas.

This year's conference offered over 40 educational presentations given by officials, experts, leaders and peers



from both the private and public environmental health sectors. Presentations featured such diverse topics as hand washing, emerging zoonotic diseases, bioterrorism, foodborne illness outbreak investigations and a multitude of other interesting and

current issues. Sunday evening's icebreaker mixer marked the exhibitors' grand opening, featuring vendors, services and representatives of Federal, State and other public health agencies.

Dr. Thomas Burke, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, James Blumenstock, Deputy Commissioner, NJDHSS, DeAnna Minus Vincent, Assistant Commissioner, NJDCA, and other panelists led Monday morning's keynote discussion on the importance of inter-departmental partnering to a full audience

of conference attendees.

NJEHA President Theresa Lombardi kicked off Monday evenings President's Banquet and Awards Presentation with a welcoming speech and introduced NEHA President James Balsamo, M.S., M.P.H., R.S., who served up a Cajun spiced presentation to those participants enjoying the exceptional dinner gathering.

President Lombardi also presented several awards to deserving recipients during the banquet. The Harry R.H. Nicholas award was presented to Jim Morris, Associate Director, Rutgers University. The Vincent R. Zurawski Award was presented to Michele Samarya-Timm, Health Educator and REHS, Franklin Township Health Department. The President's Plaque was given to Robert Uhrlik, NJEHA Executive Council Member-at-Large.



The conference wrapped up Tuesday afternoon with classes after lunch and the awarding of door prizes. This came on the heels of an early spring snow squall that sent many out to brave the effects of Mother Nature during the long drive home.

In conclusion, this year's NJEHA conference provided the opportunity for a diverse group of environmental health professionals to come together, interact and learn from those at the forefront of our field - and also from each other - in a true partnering of environmental health. On a personal level, it has been an honor and a pleasure to have attended and participated in this year's conference, and I look forward to working with all of the Executive Council to make next year's conference the best yet.

By: William Dotts  
NJEHA  
First Vice President



### In Memoriam

Donna Steuerman, NJEHA member and REHS for the Paterson Board of Health, passed away on April 23, 2005.

She was a member of the Oakland Republican Club and was a former Republican County Committeewoman.

She was also a member of the Oakland Blood Bank. On behalf of the NJEHA Executive Council, we would like to extend our condolences to her family and friends. Donna will be missed.

## NJ Legislative Update

### NJ REGISTER APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2005

Rule Proposals (Public Hearings, May 3<sup>rd</sup>/Comments, June 3<sup>rd</sup>)

#### Environmental Protection

#### **Dam restoration & inland water project loan program:**

Re-adoption with amendments, addresses basic eligibility criteria for loans

#### **Pollution Prevention:**

Readoption with amendments: Further focus on reducing the amount of hazardous substances at industrial facilities

### NJ REGISTER MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2005

Rule adoptions

#### Health & Human Services

#### **Retail Food Establishment Code:**

Acting Governor Cody directed the extension of the chapter to expire on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006, to allow the Department to review and finalize language of proposed new rules which incorporate changes to the US FDA's model food code.

### NJ REGISTER FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2005

Rule adoptions

#### Environmental Protection

#### **Individual subsurface sewage disposal system standards (NJAC 7:9A):**

Re-adoption without change, expiration 1/26/2010

## Waffle House Hepatitis

### The Associated Press

Unable to find the source of a hepatitis A outbreak in eastern Tennessee, health officials offered to inoculate as many as 5,000 people who ate at a restaurant where an infected food server worked.

Health officials offered free shots Tuesday to anyone potentially exposed at the Waffle House in Clinton from April 5 to April 15, when the restaurant estimates it served as many as 5,000 people. Seventeen cases of hepatitis A have been confirmed in recent weeks. Two people were hospitalized.

"Unfortunately, because it covers such a large block of time, they (the victims) have eaten at several restaurants," said health office spokeswoman Carole Martin.

## Door-to-Door Illness

### The Canadian Press

A 46-year-old man of Duncan, British Columbia has, according to a Canadian Press report, been arrested and will be charged with selling illegally-caught fish, after two people became ill with paralytic shellfish poisoning.

The story stated that a woman was hospitalized and her husband also became ill on April 5 after eating butter clams bought from a door-to-door salesman and contaminated with red tide.

## NJ Department of Environmental Protection News

**3/21/05** - *DEP makes litter cleanup funding available to counties & towns* - Commissioner Bradley announced more than \$9 million in grants to assist in litter clean up & education programs. The Clean Communities program is funded by taxing companies that manufacture litter-producing products. Ten percent goes to the DEP to keep state parks clean, while 90 percent goes to counties and municipalities. The overall funds generated by taxing litter-producing products also support recycling programs. A list of counties & municipalities that will receive funding is available at DEP's website: [www.nj.gov/dep](http://www.nj.gov/dep)

**3/18/05** - *Funding to counties & towns for tire cleanups* - \$ 2.2 Million in grants has been made available to 16 counties and towns to clean up scrap tire piles and run tire collection programs that reduce public health threats from West Nile virus & hazardous fires.

**3/15/05** - *NJ will mount legal challenge to EPA Mercury Rule* - NJ will file suit against the new federal EPA mercury rule unveiled on 3/15/05. The rule fails to protect the public adequately from harmful mercury emissions, according to Attorney General Peter Harvey and Commissioner Campbell. By authorizing emissions trading, EPA's rule will allow some power plants to actually increase mercury emissions, creating HOT SPOTS of mercury deposition around those plants. NJ is consulting with other northeastern states severely impacted by mercury emissions and will petition for review of the rule to demand that the EPA implement a strong, protective rule as required by the Clean Air Act. Fish from waters in 45 of 50 States have been declared unsafe to eat as a result of mercury poisoning. In NJ, there are mercury consumption advisories for at least one species of fish in almost every waterbody of the State.

## *WHO Says All Samples of Killer Flu Virus Found*

GENEVA (April 20) - All samples of the killer influenza virus sent outside the United States have been destroyed except for one in Lebanon, the U.N. health agency said Wednesday.

The sample that had gone missing in Beirut "was found at the airport," said Maria Cheng, spokeswoman for the World Health Organization.

Previously unaccounted for samples sent to Mexico and South Korea already have been destroyed, she said.

Dr. Walid Ammar, director general of Lebanon's Health Ministry, said in Beirut that the sample was being kept "in a safe place" until the ministry was instructed on whether to destroy it or send it back to the College of American Pathologists.

Cheng said WHO had contacted the College of American Pathologists "to see if they would accept this package back or if they wanted to ship it to another lab to be destroyed."

Because of fears of a global pandemic should the virus be released, WHO has been urging destruction of the 50-year-old H2N2 virus. The kits were sent to 61 laboratories in 18 countries outside the United States.

Cheng said South Korean officials had previously reported to WHO that they had destroyed half the samples they had been sent, but hadn't confirmed they also destroyed the other half. The destruction of all the samples sent to South Korea has now been confirmed, she said.

A missing shipment to Mexico has been tracked down in a warehouse and has also been destroyed, she added.

"There are still some laboratories in the United States that haven't confirmed the destruction of the samples they were sent," Cheng said, adding that at last word 98 percent of the U.S. samples had been destroyed.

U.S. laboratories received the vast majority of the 3,747 kits sent out in October and February.

The so-called "Asian flu" strain of 1957 killed between 1 million and 4 million people. It has not been included in flu vaccines since 1968, and anyone born after that date has little or no immunity to it.

Most of the samples were sent starting last year at the request of the College of American Pathologists, which helps labs do proficiency testing. The last shipments were sent out in February.

## *Cruise Inspectors are in Short Supply*

The CDC's Vessel Sanitation Program (VSP), which was established to minimize gastrointestinal outbreaks on cruise ships, has just eight full-time inspectors to check roughly 180 ships bow to stern twice a year. Staffing has remained at that level for the last five years and is not expected to increase in the near future, even as shipyards are busy building more and bigger cruise liners to meet growing demand.

David Forney, chief of the program, was quoted as saying, "We are stretched thin, there's no doubt about it. It's getting busier all the time, and I don't see us getting any additional support." Ross Klein, author of "Cruise Ship Blues: The Underside of the Cruise Industry," was cited as saying that this decrease in time per inspection this could spell serious trouble for passengers. While advances in technology are helping to streamline paperwork, the VSP staff still spends about one ship per day.

The Cruise Lines International Association stated that more than nine million North Americans took cruises last year, an eleven percent increase over 2003. Carnival Corp., the world's largest cruise operator, was cited as saying in its 2004 annual report that it expects at least seven new cruise ships to begin

service industry wide in the next two years. Meanwhile, requests for more VSP employees have been denied, Forney said.

After several disease outbreaks on cruise ships, the VSP program was voluntarily established with the cruise industry in 1975 to help reduce the spread of gastrointestinal illness among passengers. In addition to conducting semiannual sanitation inspections, workers train cruise ship employees, review construction of new ships and investigate disease outbreaks, such as the so-called Norwalk viruses that affect the stomach and intestines. The program is funded by fees paid by the cruise operators, and they range from \$1,150 to \$9,200 per inspection, depending on the size of the ship.

Guided by a 256-page operations manual, inspectors conduct daylong sanitation reviews on cruise ships, checking the water supply, spas and pools, food preparation and storage, general cleanliness and physical condition of the ship, and employee hygiene. Ships are scored on a 100-point system, with points deducted for some, but not all, violations. Ships that score 85 or lower have an unsatisfactory sanitation level and are reinspected within 45 days.

*Annual Pesticide Meeting and Awards Ceremony - September 28, 2005*

## Job Openings

Health Officer - Immediate opening for Health Officer for the City of East Orange. The salary will be commensurate with experience and appropriate licenses. Resumes may be sent to: Mr. Dennis San Filippo, Assistant Health Administrator, Health and Human Services, 143 New Street, East Orange, NJ 07017

Public Health Nurse - The City of Passaic, Division of Health is seeking a full-time Graduate Nurse Public Health to assist with childhood immunization/health conference clinics, communicable disease investigations, and lead screenings. The applicant must have a valid NJ Registered Nurse license and an Associate's Degree in Nursing. City of Passaic residency is not required, but considered a plus. Bilingual English/Spanish and a minimum of 1 year experience in a public health field or under the close supervision of a licensed Public Health Nurse a plus. Salary is dependent on qualifications and experience. Work hours are 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday (32.5 hours per week). Send resume to: Passaic Health Division, Carlos Perez, Jr., Health Officer, 330 Passaic Street, Passaic, NJ 07055, email: cperez@cityofpassaicnj.gov, or fax to: (973) 365-2242.

Registered Environmental Health Specialist - The West Caldwell Health Department, serving three small municipalities in the West Essex area, has an immediate opening for a full-time Registered Environmental Health Specialist. Active NJ REHS license and valid NJ driver's license required, as well as experience in retail food inspection, recreational bathing and complaint investigation. Starting salary \$41,345 plus excellent benefits package. Send resume to Peter N. Tabbot, Health Officer, West Caldwell Health Department, 30 Clinton Road, West Caldwell, NJ 07006. Fax: 973-226-2396, email: ptabbot@aol.com.

Registered Environmental Health Specialist - The Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission, serving the municipalities of Midland Park, Upper Saddle River, Waldwick, Hillsdale, Montvale, Northvale and Old Tappan, has an opening for a full-time Registered Environmental Health Specialist. Active NJ REHS license and valid NJ driver's license required, as well as experience in retail food inspection, septic work and complaint investigation. Send resume to Angela R. Musella, Health Officer, Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission, 22 West Prospect Street, Waldwick, NJ 07463, Fax: 201-445-7219, email: armusella@yahoo.com.

Registered Environmental Health Specialist - The Summit Health Department has an REHS position available. This is a part-time position, 12 hours/2-3 days per week. Active REHS license and NJ drivers license required. Salary negotiable. Contact: Stuart Palfreyman, Health Officer/Director, Summit health Department, 512 Springfield Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901, Fax (908) 277-0185, email: spalfreyman@cityofsummit.org

Registered Environmental Health Specialist - The Township of Union Department of Health, Union County seeks a full-time Registered Environmental Health Specialist. Under direction, the REHS performs sanitary inspection work involved in enforcement of relevant public health laws within the Township of Union. The successful candidate will conduct inspections and investigations to enforce sanitary codes and laws; document finding and collect evidence in preparation for corrective action; conduct retail food establishments, public recreational bathing places, childcare facilities/camps, etc. Two years of experience as REHS preferred. Good communication skills required. Must possess: valid NJ driver's license, active REHS license issued by NJDHSS, Lead Inspector/Risk Assessor license issued by NJDHSS, and Certification to measure "sound levels," issued by Rutgers University. Salary commensurate with experience. Please send resume with cover letter to: John J. Ferraioli, Health Officer, Township of Union Department of Health and Environmental Protection, 1976 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ 07083. Phone (908) 851-8507, Fax (908) 851-4673.

New Jersey Department of Personnel - The New Jersey Department of Personnel presently has the following jobs listed. Please access their website for more job details and specific application requirements. <http://webapps.dop.state.nj.us/Vats/JobView.aspx>

Environmental Health Specialist - The Ocean County Health Department seeks two (2) Environmental Health Specialists.

Public Health Investigator - The Hunterdon County Health Department has posted an opening for a Public Health Investigator.

Sanitary Inspector - The Atlantic County Health Department has posted an opening for two (2) Sanitary Inspectors.

Sanitary Inspector - The Holmdel Township Health Department has posted an opening for a Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector - The Hunterdon County Health Department has posted an opening for a Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector Trainee - The Hunterdon County Health Department has posted an opening for a Sanitary Inspector Trainee.

Sanitary Inspector - The Freehold Township Health Department has posted an opening for a Sanitary Inspector.

## *E. Coli in FL Petting Zoos*

The Associated Press

An outbreak of E. coli bacteria in Florida that has caused kidney disease in several people has been definitively linked to animals from petting zoos at three fairs, state officials said Friday.

Epidemiologists matched DNA from E. coli bacteria in six animals two goats, two sheep and two cows to the DNA in the bacteria contracted by the victims. The six animals were all from the same company, Ag-Venture Farm Shows.

Twenty-six people have been confirmed stricken with the E. coli infection, including 23 children, after contracting the bacteria at the fairs. Eight of them remained hospitalized this week. No one has died from the disease.

Florida Agriculture Commissioner Charles Bronson said Ag-Venture had cooperated fully with the investigation and was voluntarily quarantining the animals permanently. The transmission of E. coli by direct contact with farm animals has only been documented a few times, all since 1996. It is most often linked to bad food.

## *Scandal at Smithfield*

Daily Press - Knight Ridder News

Smithfield Foods, the world's largest hog farmer and pork processor, is in the midst of a public relations nightmare in Europe after a Polish television station caught workers scraping mold off of sausages that were to be sold in stores.

According to Reuters News, workers were caught on hidden cameras at the Constar plant debating whether to throw away or clean off expired sausages. Constar is a subsidiary of Smithfield's largest European company, Poland's Animex Group, which Smithfield purchased in 1999.

The problem comes as Smithfield tries to resolve cultural clashes with Polish farmers who dislike the company's factory hog farming concepts. Some Polish politicians and citizens have protested the farming methods and complained about stinky lagoons full of pig waste. The company stated that the director of the Constar factory had been suspended, production has been halted at the plant for auditing purposes, and all Constar products were recalled from stores. An Animex spokeswoman told Reuters that Polish food inspectors also were investigating.

**NJEHA News**

**PO Box 527**

**New Brunswick, NJ 08903-0527**