



New Hampshire Health Officers Association

Fall Workshop/Webinar & Annual Meeting
Thursday October 8, 2020: 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
www.nhhealthofficers.org

- 8:30 – 8:50 a.m. **Welcome – NH Health Officer Association Update**
Arthur Capello, President, NH Health Officers Association
Sophia Johnson, NH DHHS Health Officer Liaison
- 8:50 – 8:55 a.m. **Workshop Overview – Wayne Whitford, NHHOA Board Member**
- 8:55 – 9:05 a.m. **Annual Meeting & Election of Officers**
Arthur Capello, President, NH Health Officers Association
- 9:05 – 10:20 a.m. **Health Officer Enforcement During COVID**
The current epidemic has required a creative response to a novel respiratory virus that threatens health and life. The speed of change required that Governors utilize existing statutes and create emergency orders to address gaps in authority to control the communicable disease. While health officers are familiar with the existing statutes that guide sanitary inspections, housing standards, and health nuisances – it was unclear how to inspect and enforce emergency orders for Covid-19. This session will describe how the emergency orders evolved at the State level, and how police managed initial enforcement. The session will also describe the process of how health officers were provided with emergency orders and protocols to both inspect and enforce at the local level. Case studies will describe enforcement collaboration between State and local officials. Participants will be encouraged to ask questions and provide case studies from their own experience.
Jill Perlow, Assistant Attorney General, NH Department of Justice
Matt Cahillane, NH DHHS
- 10:20 – 10:30 a.m. **Break**
- 10:30 – 12:00 p.m. **Panel on Health Nuisances**
The Local Health Officer's authority to investigate and abate public health nuisances is an important tool in protecting the health of a local community. Traditional nuisance complaints involve health concerns such as trash accumulation and pest infestation, but we are finding that an increasing number of health officers respond to complex situations involving septic issues and unsanitary living conditions. In these nuisance situations, it is often necessary to bring in additional resources to help ensure successful abatement. To understand the scope of the Health Officer's authority and the role other agencies may play in helping you to address these nuisance cases, we have brought together a panel of city and town health officers as well as DES/DHHS's representatives. This session will highlight ways in which health officers utilize available resources to address nuisances in their communities. Through the question and answer format as well as open discussion, this session provides insights into nuisance abatement at a local level and the opportunity for participants to ask questions of both local health officers as well as DES/DHHS representatives.
Kevin Kaveny, NH DES; Carol Ann Rocheleau, HO, Fitzwilliam; Kim McNamara, HO, Portsmouth; Moderator: Sophia Johnson, NH DHHS
- 12:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

Thank You and Have a Great Day!