

Maryland Environmental Health Bulletin

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In the News -



[Day To Serve](#)



[Food Safety](#)



[It's not too late to enjoy the beach, but before you go...](#)

From the Director

One of the major emphases of the Environmental Health Bureau is working with other state and local agencies to assure that Marylanders have safe housing. Bureau programs that touch on housing safety include: injury prevention (which focuses on fall prevention, particularly for older residents); healthy homes and community services (pool safety and consumer product safety); our outreach program on carbon monoxide, and chemical hazards in the home, done in conjunction with Environmental Public Health Tracking and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE); and lead poisoning prevention, also in partnership with MDE. In the coming year we will be putting additional efforts into helping Maryland assure that housing is safe for all.

Clifford S. Mitchell, MS, MD, MPH

More Stories of Interest

[MARYLAND YOUTH CAMPS — NEW REGULATIONS](#)

The Environmental Health Bureau's Center for Healthy Homes and Community Services has worked over the past year on drafting major changes to COMAR 10.16.06, Certification for Youth Camps. These changes are the combined efforts of the Center, the Governor's appointed Youth Camp Safety Advisory Council, and the many youth camp operators who have offered their support, suggestions, and comments along the way. The Center is working tirelessly to have these changes enacted as emergency regulations for the 2014 camp season.

In addition to the regulatory changes, the Center for Healthy Homes and Community Services has worked collaboratively with members of the Infectious Disease Bureau to develop a Tick Bite Notification Form. Dr. Katherine Feldman, State Public Health Veterinarian from the Center for Zoonotic and Vector-Borne Diseases coordinated the effort within the Infectious Disease Bureau. The development of the form was the creative work of Montique Shepherd, Public Health Associate from the Center for Disease control and Prevention, staff from the Center for Zoonotic and Vector-Borne Diseases, and staff from the Maryland Department of Agriculture. The Tick Bite Notification Form will be posted on both Bureaus' websites, will be distributed first to all self-regulated camp operators and the second to all certified youth camp operators. As always, it is the goal of the Center for Healthy Homes and Community Services to provide useful tools to the youth camp community and this collaborative work with the Infectious Disease Bureau is an excellent example of what can be accomplished when public health officials work together.

[GATEKEEPERS TEAMS WITH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TO TRAIN YOUTH CAMP STAFF](#)

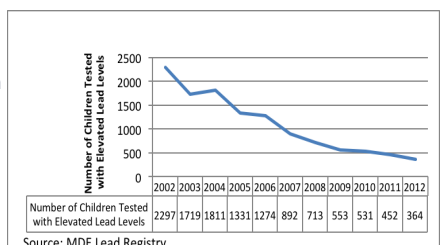
The Environmental Health Bureau's Center for Injury and Sexual Assault Prevention coordinated a Gate Keepers for Kids training this past April at the Randallstown Community Center for approximately 45 summer youth camp directors. The Gate Keepers training is designed to provide youth-serving organizations with basic skills and information needed to safeguard against child sexual abuse including employee/volunteer screening, training, reporting, policies and physical spaces. This important and timely training was facilitated by Patricia Cronin, Executive Director, and Carolyn Finney, Director of Programs and Services, both from The Family Tree, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing families with proven solutions to prevent child abuse and neglect. The training was part of the Center for Healthy Homes and Community Services' Hot Topics Workshop. As a result of the training, the Center will be expanding the youth camp regulation on child abuse reporting to include a prevention component.

[MARYLAND RELEASES NEW REPORT ON MARCELLUS SHALE : \[New Link\]\(#\)](#)

DATA HIGHLIGHTS

* **Progress and Challenge in Eliminating Childhood Lead Exposure in Maryland**

Maryland has made significant strides in reducing childhood lead exposure in the state. At the same time, the challenge of identifying the source of lead exposure, and of assuring that children get tested, remains significant. The Environmental Health Bureau is working closely with the [Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program](#) at the Maryland Department of the Environment, and is preparing a number of recommendations and guidelines for health care providers and others, to help clinicians, parents, school health personnel, and others, to meet the State's goal of eliminating lead poisoning and lead exposure and lead poisoning in children.



Number of newly-diagnosed children with blood leads of 10 µg/dL or greater by year.