

REPORT OF THE GREAT BARRINGTON BOARD OF HEALTH

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

This year was a year of transition for the Board of Health office with a new Health Agent, new priorities, and a complete reorganization of our office to increase efficiency. Our current office hours are Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, or by appointment in our second floor Town Hall office.

Last year the Board of Health issued:

- 162 Food Establishment Permits;
- 24 Lodging Permits;
- 20 Public and Semi-public Pool Permits;
- 40 Massage Practitioner Licenses;
- 7 Massage Establishment Permits;
- 17 Tobacco Permits;
- 5 Camp Permits;
- 30 Septic Installer Permits;
- 13 Garbage and Septage Hauler's Permits.

The Board of Health continues to oversee many different responsibilities including:

- witnessing percolation tests and Title 5 Septic inspections;
- routine and follow-up inspections for food, lodging, public pools, and massage establishments;
- reviewing and permitting plans for septic and well upgrades and installations;
- public health emergency planning and training;
- housing code inspections and enforcement;
- infectious disease follow-up and reporting;
- annual permit renewals and processing;
- beaver conflict permits and site inspections;
- commercial kitchen construction permitting and inspections;
- tobacco enforcement;
- continuing education and trainings;
- water testing for beach and swimming areas
- handling numerous public health related complaints and questions.

In addition to the routine work above, Public Health Emergency Planning continued to be a major priority this year. Special attention was given to reviewing and approving these plans so that they can be added to Great Barrington's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan in the very near future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Pruhenski- Agent
Great Barrington Board of Health