

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments provides a variety of services and programming to the municipalities of Franklin County and to the greater Franklin County region. The FRCOG's 2016 Annual Report, which will be available in April of 2017 and on www.frcog.org shortly thereafter, will highlight our work over the past year. Specific services to the Town of Monroe in 2016 included:

Collective Bidding & Purchasing Program

- Monroe participated in the Dog Tags and Licenses collective bid program.

Cooperative Public Health Service Health District

Monroe is a comprehensive member of the CPHS health district, sharing health agents and a public health nurse.

- Staff conducted 1 retail food inspections during a special event.
- Staff attended 2 Board of Health meetings and 4 Brownfields Committee meetings, conducted 3 housing/code enforcement inspections, and made 3 Housing Court appearances on behalf of the Board of Health, and represented the Town in Housing Court in its efforts to address the deteriorating condition of the Ramage Paper Mill.
- Staff continued to be responsible for Title-5 (septic) related activities including witnessing Soil Evaluations for on-lot septic systems, witnessing Title-5 Inspections prior to property transfer, conducting septic system plan reviews including site visits, issuing Local Upgrade Approvals and DSCP (septic) permits, completing final inspections or re-inspections of septic system installations, and preparing Certificates of Compliance.
- Staff provided medication and chronic disease self-management services throughout the year, holding regular hours for all district residents at five community sites. The nurse is also available for home visits for those who need this service.
- Through a FDA Food Safety Grant that will improve food inspection and data collection, the district offered Monroe residents low-cost access to important food safety training on ServSafe, Choke Saver, and Allergan Awareness certifications.
- Staff completed all state-mandated infectious disease investigations, reporting and case monitoring. Follow-up was provided as needed for one locally and 104 regionally reported incidents of communicable illness.
- Staff coordinated vaccine and supplies assisting Town officials from Charlemont, Hawley, Heath, Monroe, and Rowe in implementing a Hawlemont Region Emergency Dispensing Site drill flu clinic and animal rabies clinic. A total of 41 area residents were served with the help of GCC nursing students and community volunteers.

Partnership for Youth

- Staff presented to the CPHS Annual Meeting on the Healthy Community Design Toolkit, Volume 2: Municipal Strategies to Increase Food Access.

Planning and Development Department

- Staff secured Brownfields funding to complete a Hazardous Building Material Assessment for the former Ramage Paper Mill – Wood Structure (\$14,052).

- Staff secured Brownfields funding to award a \$100,000 brownfields clean-up subgrant for the former Ramage Paper Mill – Wood Structure.
- Staff provided technical assistance to support the clean-up, demolition, and redevelopment of the former Ramage Paper Mill – Wood Structure to be undertaken in 2017.
- Staff prepared a Draft Business Plan and Legislation for the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Project for 11 West County towns including Monroe, with specific recommendations and projects to support Natural Resource Based Economic Development, Forest Conservation & Municipal Financial Sustainability.
- Staff conducted traffic counts on Main Road and River Road as part of the regional traffic counting program.

Regional Preparedness Program

- Staff conducted quarterly contact drills and a site notification drill to test the Hawlemont Emergency Dispensing Site Plan.
- Staff designed and executed a drill that tested the Plan for the use of the Incident Command System, set up of the emergency operations center, and the receipt of medical countermeasures from the Strategic National Stockpile.
- Monroe entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the FRCOG to recognize the Multi-Agency Coordination Center as the official organization to assist them with emergency management needs.

Workshops & Training

The following list represents the FRCOG workshops and training sessions that Monroe public officials, staff, and residents attended and the number in attendance.

Municipal Official Continuing Education Series

The Shifting Marijuana Landscape — 1

Regional Emergency Preparedness

Emergency Preparedness for People with Access and Functional Needs — 1