



TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

PLEASE RSVP TO 607-687-8630

IF YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING

TO: Members of the Board of Health

FROM: A. Reigelman

DATE: October 9, 2025

RE: Board of Health Meeting - Thursday, October 16, 2025,
7:30 a.m., **Conference Room B**, 2nd Floor of Health and Human Services
Building at 1062 St. Rt. 38, Owego, NY 13827.

AGENDA

Introduction of Guests

- Denis McCann, Director of Administrative Services
- Daniel Scherrer, Director of Environmental Health
- Melanie Miller, Director of Patient Services
- Nicole Whitmore, Director of Dental Health Services

Presentation- Program Updates

Old Business

- Meeting Minutes (October)
- Enforcements

New Business

- None

Director's Report

- Agency Updates – September

Additional Items

- None

Next Meeting Information

- Next Meeting: November 20, 2025 (TiTAC Presentation)

TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

MEETING MINUTES September 18, 2025

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT (Attended In Person):

T. Nytech, DVM, President
W. Simmons, Vice President
T. Hills, DVM
R. Kapur-Pado, DO
W. Standing III, Legislator
J. Raftis, DO, FACEP
T. Leary, FNP

ABSENT:

None

OTHER(S) PRESENT:

H. Vroman, Public Health Director
A. Reigelman, Secretary
S. Medina, Deputy Director of Public Health

CALL TO ORDER: at 7:26 a.m. by Dr. Nytech.

PRESENTATION: N/A

OLD BUSINESS:

- Meeting Minutes (July 2025): Motion to approve prior minutes made by Mr. Simmons; seconded by Legislator Standing, all were in favor, none opposed, motion approved.
- Tioga County Fair- Ms. Vroman stated that Public Health staff tabled almost every day; lots of outreach. Felt it was well received. All Environmental Health (EH) permitted facilities were inspected and in compliance. EH staff also verified animal vaccination records, and all were found in compliance as well. Ms. Medina added that staff promoted the Community Health Assessment (CHA) survey for community members to complete. Through ASAP Coalition, purchased family packs of tickets to attend the fair; worked with Tioga County Boys and Girls Club to help identify families who would benefit.
 - Informal discussion about demolition derby.
 - Dr. Hills stated that in managing the Rabies Order, want to ensure that the video cameras were being used and worked to identify contacts if there was a possible exposure in animal buildings [for quality assurance purposes]. Ms. Vroman stated that the EH Director reached out to the fair organizer proactively to discuss safety protocols. Also noted that Public Health has been doing outreach to schools and others on animal/petting zoo protocols to ensure animals that are being touched are vaccinated in the proper timeframe according to the Rabies Order. This information is also listed on the Public Health website. Dr. Raftis added that he spoke with the fair organizer after the fair who mentioned that the Board of Health was great to work with and cameras were up and worked well.
 - Legislator Standing noted that Charlie Truman, a member of the Tioga County Fair Board passed away shortly after the fair.
 - Mr. Simmons requested to make note that the Tioga County Fair Board is doing a tremendous job.
- Status of school vaccination program- Briefly discussed school vaccines and the role Public Health plays in its vaccination program to help children who are facing exclusion from school.

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Ms. Vroman noted that quite a few families use this program, and overall things are looking good. School districts work with Public Health by sending Public Health their exclusion lists. Staff then are able to follow up with families to ensure that children receive the vaccines they need so they do not face exclusion. Also discussed Amish school-age children within Tioga County.

- Communicable Disease Investigation Plan- Ms. Vroman stated that the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator will be training as a backup in the communicable disease program.
- Enforcements- Ms. Vroman briefed the Board on the McDonald's enforcement, a second violation within a twelve-month period. Noted that they will be receiving another stipulation after recent visit in early September, summarized occurrence and expectations.

NEW BUSINESS:

- TCPH Audit Summary, Quarter 2 2025- Ms. Medina stated that this audit reviewed 131 charts from various TCPH programs. Saw lots of improvement. Recommendations were made to have lead properties have regular staff check-ins (staff are being trained), animal bite investigations will use a checklist for investigations, and Weights and Measures program will be developing policies and procedures so that others are more aware of the program.
 - 23 completed satisfaction surveys were received, all very positive responses. Ms. Medina highlighted a few specific comments received about Dental, Early Intervention, Animal Bite Investigations and Immunization Clinic Programs.
 - Quality Improvement Projects:
 - Animal Bite Investigations- Creating workflows; staff have provided feedback.
 - Dental Security- Year-long project. Worked with outside company to have new locks with key fobs, cameras and intercom system installed. People cannot just walk onto van anymore (must be let in by staff member). Next and final piece of project is the communication with school districts while van is onsite. Currently, our staff are unaware of when fire drills or lockdowns occur at schools. Have been recommended to use walkie talkies by school districts. Ms. Whitmore is working with districts to finalize.
 - Environmental Health Online Forms- Temporary Food Permit Application is now fully online and in testing mode now. Have the application on our website. We have also notified municipalities of the online application so that they can inform community members if they have events requiring permitting.
 - Communicable Disease Backup- Want to have a true backup to the Public Health Nurse in Communicable Disease. Have put together a full training plan and the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator has started testing.
 - Weights & Measures Program- Creating policies and procedures and updating forms. Will be organizing program material.
 - No patient complaints received this quarter. Have updated the Exposure Control Plan and our Medical Consultant has reviewed and approved.
 - Ms. Vroman noted that a patient complaint was received in July and will appear in the third quarter audit summary. Ms. Medina summarized complaint for the Board. Ms. Vroman stated that Ms. Medina completed a full investigation and various recommendations were made.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Ms. Vroman distributed and shared her Director's Report for September.

Public Health Information:

Ms. Vroman shared the following:

- Federal funding update- All restricted federal funding grants for CDC grants with 9/30 deadline; including PHEP funding are being moved through.
- Governor Hochul signed Executive Order to expand access to Covid vaccines. The Order allows physicians and nurse practitioners to issue patient-specific or non-patient-specific orders to pharmacists for patients as young as age three and expands pharmacists' authority to administer vaccines to children under 18 and, for the first time, permits pharmacists to prescribe COVID vaccines themselves.

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- Ms. Vroman noted that currently TCPH is not carrying COVID vaccine and have not received any calls requesting.
- NYSAC has adopted six different resolutions that NYSACHO crafted; they will be a part of the 2026 legislative platform (included resolution titles as attachment). They will be big wins for the Early Intervention Program and Public Health.
- Tickborne illness cases are starting to decrease and have seen decrease in related hospitalizations.
- We are tracking respiratory illness cases (Covid-19, Influenza A & B, RSV, H1N1). 27 cases reported in August and 13 in September YTD. Three confirmed cases of Influenza A received in August.

Staffing Updates:

- Requested to have the Early Intervention Service Coordinator position posted to the County website this week. Legislator Standinger confirmed that he received an email of its posting yesterday.

Accomplished Activities:

- Completed and submitted the 2026 department budget, meeting all Legislative /County Administrator directives.
- In response to flash flooding in Newark Valley in July, we held a POD administering eight Tdap vaccines and distributed numerous buckets of cleaning supplies; also completed additional outreach to families in Willseyville.
 - Legislator Standinger noted that Newark Valley Mayor, James Tornatore, was very complimentary of Public Health's efforts.
- Ms. Vroman met with NYSDOH Commissioner, Dr. James McDonald, in Syracuse, along with other health directors to discuss issues local counties are facing; good opportunity. He was very surprised that there was a county with no hospital.
- Ms. Vroman, Ms. Medina, Ms. Whitmore and Ms. Holochak attended the NYSAC Fall Conference; displayed three program posters (Dental, Wellhead and ASAP Coalition). Ms. Vroman also serves on the Public Health/Mental Health and CYSHCN standing committees.
- In August had (Early Intervention) audit by Acentra (a third-party contractor of New York State). Only received two small findings (one being out of our control). Gave compliments.
- Compiled and submitted required documents for the NYSED Preschool billing document review (and informal audit). There were no findings, and no further documentation is requested at this time.
- We were awarded \$2500 from the Mildred Faulkner Truman Foundation for the Child Passenger Safety Program. Funds will be used to purchase child safety seats for our distribution program. We have started to seek private grant funders for this program which has proven more fruitful.
- Through the summer, our ASAP Coalition hosted family movie nights at the Tioga Theater to promote substance-free activities.
- Suicide Prevention Coalition Chair was able to secure \$600 grant for training materials.
- We have been promoting school immunizations through our "Don't Wait to Vaccinate" campaign and conducting immunizations in the clinic.
- Conducted four Rabies Prevention presentations for Department of Social Services employees, which were well received.

In Progress Activities:

- Community Health Assessment is underway- received 949 surveys (out of the initial goal of 1800) and completed 18 focus interviews with select participants. Working on data analysis and summarizing findings. The final report will be due to New York State by December.
- Weights & Measures Program has no written policies and procedures. Through Quality Assurance/ Improvement Program, we will be getting those in place. We have a good contact with a Weights & Measures Director in another County to reach out to. As far as we are concerned, our program is in compliance with New York State, and our current director is great at

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his job. We just need to be able to capture what he does in writing to be able to maintain for the future.

- PHEP Coordinator is actively working to update preparedness plans (currently the PHEPR) and focus on training needs. Have been participating in the emergence of the Tioga County Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD), which is led by Emergency Management. Ms. Vroman has been asked to be the County representative on the coalition when Mr. Yetter retires.
 - Legislator Standinger provided background to the COAD. Dr. Nytch inquired if the dog control issue will be addressed within this coalition. Ms. Vroman stated that during a County disaster, animal relief is part of the CART program.
 - Ms. Leary inquired if there was any update on Stray Haven. Legislator Standinger stated that is to be discussed at the Council of Government's meeting later today.
- Dr. Zevan is actively involved in Quality Assurance meetings and at minimum attends a monthly meeting with Director of Patient Services and Ms. Vroman. He has frequent calls with Public Health Nursing consulting on cases. He has been a great help.
- Working on Wellness Series is continuing. Our directors have led different activities for staff to optionally participate in to promote mental health and wellbeing. Has been well received by staff.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Six Board of Health Members were in attendance (all but Ms. Leary who departed prior to the motion to move to Executive Session). Motion made by Legislator Standinger, seconded by Mr. Simmons, to move to Executive Session to discuss a Personnel matter at 8:44 a.m. Motion carried. Motion made by Dr. Kapur-Pado to adjourn Executive Session at 8:48 a.m., seconded by Mr. Simmons. Motion carried.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

- Ms. Vroman asked if the Board would like to request a presentation topic for the meeting in October (as nothing is currently on the agenda). Legislator Standinger suggested reaching out to Mental Hygiene's Porshea Moore to provide an update on people experiencing homelessness in Tioga County.
- Inquiry was made about current staffing/ posted positions. Ms. Vroman stated that staffing is great. Currently still only have the P/T Speech Pathologist and Dentist positions posted. This was Employee Recognition Week for Tioga County, today is the Pin Ceremony for HHS Building staff. This year we are recognizing/ celebrating Lisa Schumacher for her 25 years of service with the County/Tioga County Public Health.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Dr. Raftis, all in favor, none opposed, motion approved. Adjournment of meeting called at 8:53 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Reigelman

Thomas Nytch, DVM, President

Abigail Reigelman; Secretary

Minutes approved October 16, 2025



October 2025 Enforcements

<u>Business</u>	<u>Type of Violation</u>	<u>Fine Paid/Date</u>	<u>Repeat Violation(s) within 12 Month Period</u>
Zina Chandler Howland Mobile Home Park 115 Howland Dr. Nichols, NY 13812	Mobile Home Park	\$175.00 9/22/2025	No
Owego Convenience Corp. 941 State Route 17C Owego, NY	ATUPA	\$350.00 9/22/2025	No
McDonalds Owego 29 Hickories Park Rd. Owego, NY	Food	\$975.00 10/6/2025	Yes



Tioga County Public Health

Health & Human Services Building | 1062 State Route 38, Owego, NY 13827

Phone: 607-687-8600 | Fax: 607-223-7030 | ph.tiogacountyny.gov

Heather Vroman, MPH, MEd., Public Health Director



AGENCY REPORT

August 21- September 24, 2025

Highlights

- During Tioga County's Employee Recognition Week, we celebrated Kim (5+), Janice (5+), Nicole (5+), Jason (5) and Lisa (25) for their years of service!
- PHD, Deputy PHD, Director of Dental Services and PH Project Coordinator attended the NYSAC Fall Seminar in Niagara Falls. NYSACHO highlighted the work of rural county health departments at their table, which included our poster we submitted about the Mobile Dental Program
- Tioga County Public Health was showcased by the New York Association for Rural Health as the member of the week on social media!
- At the end of August we welcomed Eileen Gallardo, intern from Binghamton University. She will be working on suicide prevention and substance use initiatives, including Family Fun Boxes to promote positive family interactions!
- Tioga County received JUUL Settlement funds, and we have started putting together a workplan to address youth vaping. A radio ad was created around teen vaping and will be aired on WEBO for a three-month period, including during high school football broadcasts.

Health Education

- The "My Health Story Survey" closed with over 900 surveys completed as well as key informant interviews for the Community Health Assessment. These results are being analyzed now to be used in the final report which will be due at the end of December.
- Staff have been busy tabling at an assortment of annual events including Tioga Downs for Suicide Prevention Coalition's Race Dedication Night and the Tioga Opportunities Health Expo, as well as at Tioga County school district open houses to promote Public Health's programs and share education and outreach material.
- Facilitated a car seat training for staff at A New Hope Center. The presentation and demonstration were well received!
- Tioga ASAP Coalition held the Annual Overdose Vigil on August 28th. There were ten community agencies in attendance tabling, three speakers who talked about their experiences with SUD and support, and nearly 100 people in attendance.
- Tioga County ASAP provided Tioga Downs with Responsible Server Trainings for 50 employees.
- Senior Public Health Educator and two Public Health Educators participated in a virtual panel for Public Health students attending Mansfield, Lock Haven and Bloomsberg University. They spoke on

what a typical day working for a local health department is like and provided insights on how college students can prepare for their careers.

Environmental Health

- EH staff attended the Central New York Environmental Health conference at Green Lakes in Syracuse. In the meeting, NYSDOH staff provided updates on water supply regulations, Indoor Air Act, bathing beaches and blue-green algae bloom.
- EH collaborated with Health Education to create and disseminate educational materials on petting zoos and requirements for animals on exhibit, i.e. to public animal farms, pet shops and schools.
- There was one ATUPA violation during this report period for a retailer who sold a nicotine product to a minor. Education was provided to the retailer.
- We vaccinated 145 pets at the Richford rabies clinic!

Patient Services (EI, Dental, Clinic)

- Our Early Intervention Program was audited in August, which went very well (only two findings)!
- Delivered flu campaign outreach material to Tioga County Nursing Homes, homesteads and Head Start as part of our efforts to increase influenza vaccination rates. The outreach material included posters, lip balm and pens which all had the messaging to “Save PTO for YOU, not the Flu.”
- PH Nurse and PH Educator attended the NYS Immunization Consortia meeting in Syracuse. During the meeting we shared information about the pop-up tetanus clinic we conducted in Newark Valley in response to the flash flooding, as well as our flu vaccine campaign.
- With the start of the school year, we are seeing an uptick in vaccine appointments in our clinic, vaccinating children to meet the school requirements so they are not excluded. Our PH Nurse is also fielding calls from parents and school nurses, providing clarification on vaccine information.
- PH Educator hosted a meeting with Tioga County school nurses to highlight important dates related to school vaccine requirements, our point of contact and our role in ensuring children receive vaccines. A member of CredibleMind presented about the website and its potential benefits for older teens and their parents. We also updated/reminded school nurses about the Tioga County Sanitary Code, which requires that animals be vaccinated at least 14 days before participating in public exhibits or petting zoos (see attached flyer).

Administrative Services

- Deputy PHD presented the second quarter audit summary at the September Board of Health Meeting.
- Director of Administrative Services attended a 1115 waiver conference in Binghamton.
- The Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) team is completing a refresher training of the Incident Command System 200 as a group. For this training, the PHEP Coordinator is walking the group through it together, which has been extremely help for learning the content and terminology.
- All Public Health staff completed annual internal trainings.

Ongoing Support/Partnerships

- Advocacy, Support & Prevention (ASAP) Coalition
- Child Fatality Review Team
- Family Enrichment Network (Head Start)
- Lourdes PACT Advisory Board
- Mothers and Babies Perinatal Network
- New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO)
- New York State Association for Rural Health (NYSARH)
- New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC)
- Racker Center
- Rural Health Network
- Safe Harbor Committee2AY Pivotal Partners Finger Lakes
- Team Tioga
- Tioga County Board of Health
- Tioga County Commissioner's Advisory Council
- Tioga County Council of Governments
- Tioga County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
- Tioga County Mental Health Sub-Committee
- Tioga County Non-Profit Network
- Tioga County Threat Assessment Management Team
- Tioga Opportunities, Inc

Attachments:

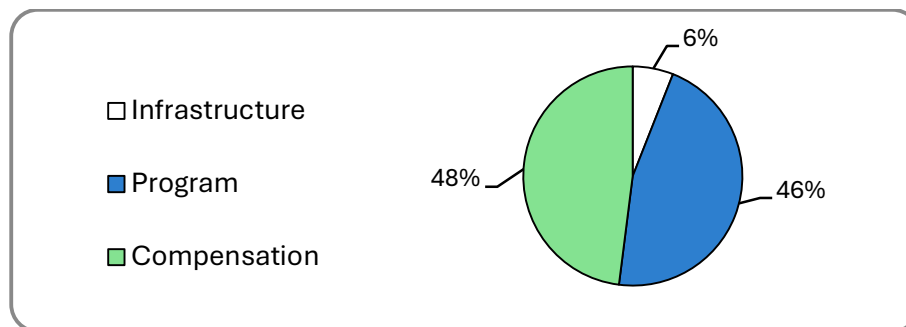
1. Financial Snapshot, YTD thru July 2025.
2. Article: "Residents come out in defense of chickens," Owego Pennysaver, August 24, 2025.
3. Advertisements: "Back To School," & "Overdose Awareness Vigil," Owego Pennysaver, August 24, 2025.
4. Photographs: Tioga County Employee Recognition HHS Building Employee Ceremony (TCPH Staff Recognized), Tioga County Ninth Regular Legislative Meeting-Recognizing Employee's serving over 20 years in county, NYSAC 2025 Fall Seminar, Tabling Events at OES and Owego Middle/High School Open Houses, September 2025.
5. Flyer: "What the Health!?", September 2025.
6. Flyer: "Petting Zoo Requirements," September 2025.
7. Bulletin Board: "Be Ready to go in a ...FLASH!," & "Which Emotion Are You [...]," HHS Building, Owego, NY, September 2025.
8. Billboards: "Saving Lives One Spray at a Time" and "It's okay to FALL APART [988]," Various Locations, September 2025.
9. Data Spreadsheet August 21-September 24, 2025.

Financial Snapshot
Year-to-date through August 2025*^{1,2,3}

	Budget 2025	Actual YTD 2025	Percentage of 2025 Budget
REVENUES			
Fees	1,013,404	569,763	56 %
State/Federal	3,763,299	2,201,427	58 %
Local	3,330,877	950,488	29 %
TOTAL	8,107,580	3,721,678	46 %

EXPENSES			
Compensation	2,862,548	1,783,780	62 %
Program Expense	4,794,182	1,700,091	35 %
Core Infrastructure	450,850	237,807	53 %
TOTAL	8,107,580	3,721,678	46 %

Allocation of Expenses
Year-to-date through August 2025



***Notes:**

1. These figures represent the most recent 'closed out' month by the Treasurer.
2. Most of January & February revenue are adjusted back to prior year as payments during this time are for services performed in the prior year. State Aid reimbursement is reported a couple months after each quarter ends.
3. Additional funds not including in the reported numbers above are JUUL Settlement Funds & ASAP Coalition grants. These are excluded as they are outside of our County approved budgets and would skew the figures to not being accurate reflections of financial status.

Residents come out in defense of chickens

BY MATT FREEZE

The Owego Village Hall was packed Monday night regarding concerns about a potential chicken ordinance in the works.

"I know a lot of you are here for the same reason," Deputy Mayor Charles Plater said. "Social media, I believe, has blown this out of proportion, billing this as the village board against chicken lovers— that's not what this is all about."

Plater told residents that they received a complaint about rodents, which led to an infestation of predators, so the board has started looking for a solution to fix



One of Michelle Anders' chickens enjoys a stroll on her Village of Owego property. Photo provided by Michelle Anders, Village of Owego.



Pictured are Matilda, Angel, Rosie, and Raven, residents of the Village of Owego. Photo provided by Michelle Anders, Village of Owego.

the problem.

"So, there's no ban, and before TMZ bursts through the door with paparazzi here, I just want to say we're providing a forum for a discussion — nothing's going to be set in stone tonight," Plater said. "We just want to make sure we have information that needs to be given before a proper decision can be made. So, if you came here tonight to throw insults or eggs at the board members, please don't."

However, he said while setting two empty egg cartons on the desk, he would gladly accept some eggs or chicken while placing an empty KFC bucket next to the egg cartons on the desk.

"In all seriousness, though, we're all adults here," Plater continued. "All that I ask is that we're kind to each other and we talk in a respectful manner."

Trustee Rusty Fuller pointed out that the purpose of public comment is to talk to the board, not "devolve into some back and forth shouting match" between them and the board, or amongst themselves.

Trustee Terry VanHall said that she and the board were thankful for those who had reached out to her to discuss their concerns regarding a potential ordinance.

Please see CHICKEN on page 13

Chicken

FROM PAGE 1

She also said that Cornell Cooperative Extension, the Tioga County Public Health Department, and county Soil and Water helped them get pointed in the right direction for what the ordinance would potentially look like.

Village Attorney Nathan VanWhy wanted to reiterate that the village hasn't even drafted a proposed law at this point in time.

"There is no existing draft — there have been conversations, but we don't have anything to put in front of you, the public, and say here's what's being adopted," he said. "I haven't put it together yet because they're still doing their due diligence in gathering information to tell me, okay, this is what we think the law should look like."

VanWhy said that once that's done, a public hearing will be set for the residents to come give input on the proposal before the board votes on whether to put it in place.

"You'll have a formal opportunity and an actual draft of the law to comment on in the future," he said.

Tioga County Environmental Health Director Dan Scherrer told residents that the county does have existing guidelines on animals and fowl — namely, that feces aren't allowed to accu-

mulate within 50 feet of a neighbor's property line so as not to cause a nuisance to public health, via smell or by impacting water quality.

"If your dog is going to the bathroom next to the neighbor's fence, that's not what we're talking about," Scherrer said. "We're talking about accumulating large amounts where it can actually smell — this is for the whole county — and it's because we had an issue with someone on 20 acres who took a whole pile of fecal matter and plopped it right next to their neighbor's home, purposely."

Apart from the smell, it can create a rodent issue, he said.

Public comment turned to Andrea Jones, who had spoken to the board previously on the matter.

"I want to mention that the person who initially requested a total ban on livestock and poultry within the village approached me a while ago to tell me they're actually in support of responsible chicken ownership in the village," Jones said. "On the predator issue, in almost eight years of raising chickens, the only predator we personally dealt with is a Cooper's hawk, because they're visible from above."

Jones said there are existing code rules that prohibit

noise and mess, and that it would make more sense to "simply enforce those rules we already have, than create new restrictions to admonish responsible keepers."

She also said the village should take advantage of the "nuisance conditions" designation when it comes to sanitary concerns, but urged them not to restrict the number of chickens.

After she was done speaking, Plater asked others in attendance in support of chickens to raise their hands, which prompted everyone in the room to raise theirs.

"This is what a community looks like," Plater said, and added that in the interest of brevity, he requested subsequent speakers only discuss things that hadn't already been brought up by someone before them.

Residents Chris Peterson and his wife, Susan, said they moved to the village from New York City in 1995, and told trustees how superior home-raised eggs are, nutritionally and culinarily speaking.

Peterson also pointed out that in both World Wars, the federal government encouraged people to raise chickens in their backyards in order to aid the war effort.

"They said, 'no yard is too small to raise a few chickens,'" he said.

Resident Tara Gates reiterated the food quality advantages, as well as the companionship aspect of chicken keeping.

"They're almost like emotional support animals for me — I can't get out easily, and it's a comfort for me to hear them talking with each other," she said.

Resident Kayla French told trustees that raising chickens allows her daughter to participate in 4-H, which is very important to her family, as well as the Farm Bureau.

Cub Frisbee, president of the Tioga County Farm Bureau, said he applauded the trustees for not rushing into a decision, and offered his assistance when drafting the ordinance language, as he's done that for other municipalities within the county.

After public comment on the matter was concluded, Plater told residents they were free to stay for the remainder of the meeting, or leave — a significant majority of those in attendance proceeded to leave.

Plater also thanked the residents for being kind, and said "this is what I call a village — this is a perfect example."

As people were filing out, Peterson said, "That's it? Only chickens bring these people here?"

Owego Pennysaver 8/24/25

Article: Residents come out in defense of chickens, Owego Pennysaver, August 24, 2025

Backpacks should weigh less than 5-10% of a child's body weight.

Use a properly fitted helmet when riding anything with wheels.

Make appointments for physicals and vaccinations now!

BACK TO SCHOOL

Teach kids to be distraction free while walking, biking, or driving to school.


When walking to school, use sidewalks and cross only at crosswalks.

Make sure children are in a car seat or wearing a seat belt in a vehicle.

Public Health
Tioga County

Owego Pennysaver 8/24/25

OVERDOSE AWARENESS VIGIL



THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025

6:30PM - CONNECT WITH AGENCIES & RESOURCES
7:30PM - VIGIL & MEMORIAL WALK

COURTHOUSE SQUARE GAZEBO
20 COURT STREET, OWEGO, NY

**TIME TO REMEMBER.
TIME TO ACT.**

TIOGA COUNTY
DEPT. OF HEALTH, SUPPLY & REVENUE
COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Owego Pennysaver 8/24/25

Advertisements: Owego Pennysaver, August 24, 2025



Tioga County Public Health Employees Recognized during TC Employee Recognition Pin Ceremony at HHS Building: K. Thomas, RDH; J. Heyman, Dental Assistant; N. Whitmore, Dir. of Dental Services; L. Schumacher, OSIII; J. Davis, Assistant Dir. of Administrative Services; September 18, 2025



Tioga County Ninth Regular Legislative Meeting recognizing employee's serving over 20 yrs: Recognition of L. Schumacher (25 yrs) pictured w/ J. Davis, Assistant Dir. of Admin. Services; H. Vroman, PHD; and W. Standing III, TC Legislator; September 16, 2025.



NYSAC 2025 Fall Seminar Niagara Falls: H. Vroman, PHD; N. Whitmore, Dir. of Dental Services; S. Medina, Deputy PHD; K. Holochak, PH Project Coordinator; September 8, 2025



Tabling at Owego Elementary School Open House: T. Jacobs, AAIII & M. Malmstrom, OSIII, September 2025.



Tabling at Owego Middle/High School Open House: K. Russell, PH Educator & C. Hickey, PH Educator, September 2025.



What the Health!?

September 2025

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH!



Test your knowledge on emergency preparedness!

- How many days should supplies to an emergency kit last?
 - 5
 - 7
 - 3
 - 10
- How can you receive emergency alerts?
 - Text messages
 - Local news
 - Radio
 - All of the above
- Which of the following should NOT be included in a family communication plan?
 - Designated meeting place
 - Vague instructions
 - Family contact information
 - Out of town contact
- How often should you update your emergency kit?
 - Once a year
 - Every 6 months
 - Every 2 months
 - Every 3 months



1. C - 3 2. D - All of the above 3. B - Vague Instructions 4. A - Once a year

**CHECK US OUT ON
FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM**
@Tioga County Public Health
FOR MORE GREAT INFO!

**Tioga
Smiles
DENTAL SERVICES**

Check out the
2025 - 2026
Tioga Smiles
Dental Van
Schedule!

Child Passenger
Safety Week is
September 21 - 27!
Make Sure Your
Child is in the
Correct Seat!



Want Narcan?
Tioga County has
Public Access
Narcan Boxes in
Convenient
Locations Across
the County!



SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH



Make an extra effort to support those around you. You never know who might be struggling!



Build connections



Know the warning signs



Reach out



Share the 988 lifeline

Flyer: "What the Health!?", September 2025.

Thinking of Having a Petting Zoo in Tioga County?

Here's What to Know!

Petting zoos are displays that exhibit a range of animals for the public to pet and/or feed. Petting zoos may also include animal rides, fair exhibits, pumpkin farms with animal exhibits, performing animal exhibitions, photo opportunities, pet shops, and pet encounters in schools.

Animals commonly included in petting zoos are mammals like ponies, goats, pigs, dogs, cows, etc. All mammals have the potential to contract and spread the rabies virus. It is very important that all animals included in a petting zoo be up to date on their vaccinations, including the rabies vaccine.

Any animal bite, regardless of where it occurred, must be reported to Tioga County Public Health by calling 607-687-8600, option 1, or by visiting ph.tiogacountyny.gov and completing the online [Animal Bite Report Form](#).



Requirements for Petting Zoos:

These requirements are specific to Tioga County

- Operators must have each animal's rabies vaccination records available.
- Animals must be vaccinated at least 14 days before the event.
- The exhibitor must assist Tioga County Public Health in identifying all humans and mammals having contact with mammals found to have rabies.
- Exhibitor records of human exposure must be available to Tioga County Public Health during and up to 6 months following the exhibit. Such records of human exposure may be in written, digital, photo, and/or security video form.

Safety Tips for Visitors:

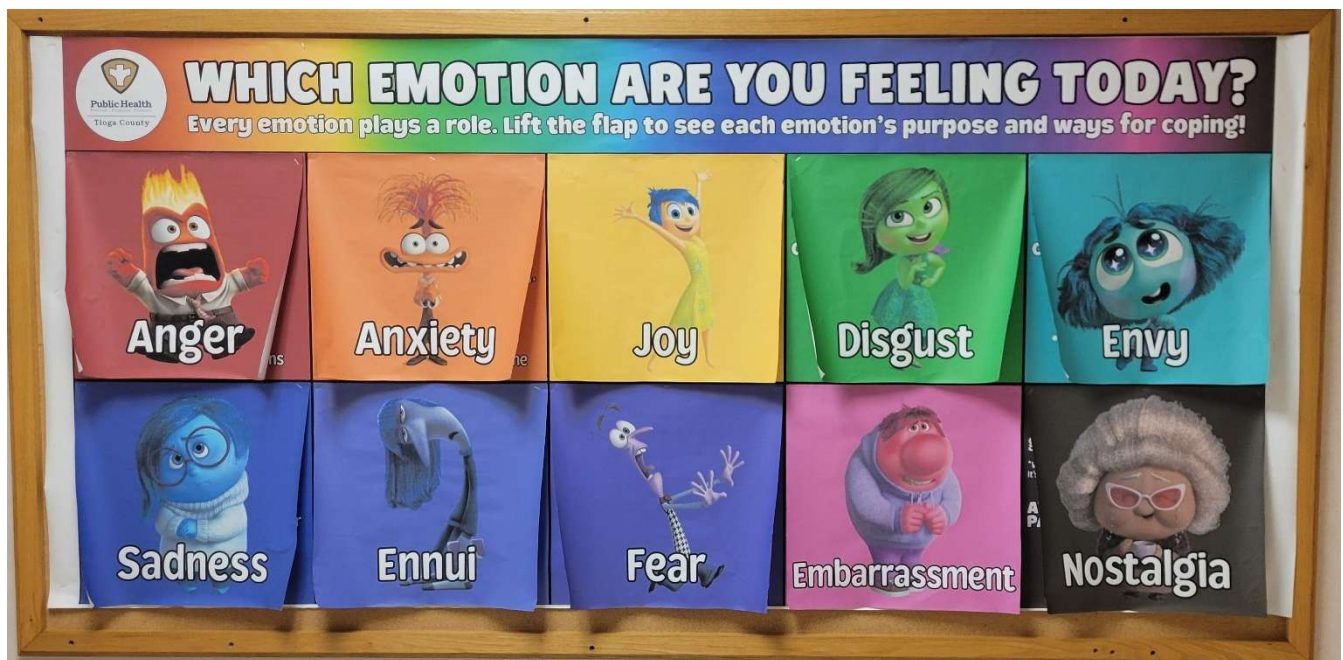
- Keep food and drink (meant for human consumption) away from the animals.
- Keep in mind that children under the age of five and immunocompromised adults may be more susceptible to illness.
- Always wash your hands after leaving animal areas.
- Do not sit or play on the ground in animal areas.
- Leave strollers and baby items (pacifiers, bottles) outside of animal areas.
- Follow any additional rules posted by the petting zoo operator.

Safety Tips for Operators:

- Keep animals that are not fully vaccinated, including animals less than 4 months of age that aren't yet eligible for the rabies vaccine, in an area that is not accessible to the public (where they can't be touched).
- All animal bites or non-bite exposures (ex: scratches) must be reported to the petting zoo operator and Tioga County Public Health.
- Food vendors may not be located near animal exhibits.
- Handwashing stations with soap and water are to be located near animal areas.
- Reminder, birthing animals may carry a greater risk for incidents. Move the animal to an area that is not accessible to the public, close that area of the exhibit, or notify visitors and instruct them to maintain a safe distance from the animal. Double fencing around these areas is recommended.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Tioga County



Bulletin Boards: Health & Human Services Building, Owego, NY, September 2025.



Billboards: Various Locations, September 2025

DATA SPREADSHEET

August 21-September 24, 2025

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIVITIES	Y-E 2023	Y-E 2024	Aug-25	Sep-25	Y-T-D
Community Health					
Communicable Disease	2438	3082	107	90	2087
- General Infectious Diseases (Campylobacterious, Salmonellosis, etc.)	61	330	3	11	334
- Zoonotic Diseases (Anaplasmosis, Lyme, etc.)	375	352	69	20	390
- Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (COVID-19, Influenza, etc.)	1897	2281	25	46	1290
Child Passenger Safety Seats Inspected	47	49	5	7	32
- Child Seats FAILED Inspection	36	40	1	6	22
CredibleMind Users	N/A	N/A	459	375	N/A
Immunizations: Total children and adults	62	87	0	8	21
Children Lead Tested (6 years and under)	913	812	61	76	649
Newly Identified Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels	22	10	1	1	7
Environmental Health Assessments due to Child with EBLL	41	8	0	2	6
Current Children with EBLL Caseload	N/A	N/A	19	18	N/A
- Welcome Baby Packets Mailed	77	298	43	50	325
People Trained w/ Narcan	145	96	0	0	25
Dental					
New Clients	311	325	14	21	272
Dental Screenings	1141	1227	59	133	983
- Clients with Low Decay Risk	374	461	7	17	213
- Clients with Moderate Decay Risk	419	274	31	61	329
- Clients with High Decay Risk	344	493	21	55	434
Extractions	102	170	18	16	162
Children Services					
Early Intervention Referrals	206	195	10	5	105
- Early Intervention CURRENT Caseload *Monthly total	N/A	N/A	40	30	N/A
- EI children waiting for service(s)	N/A	34	13	8	N/A
- Active EI Providers	N/A	N/A	8	13	N/A
Preschool					
- Children in a tuition-based program	N/A	349	21	20	N/A
- Children receiving transportation services under the Serafini contract	N/A	223	14	14	N/A
- Children receiving transportation from their parents	N/A	126	7	6	N/A

	<u>Y-E 2023</u>	<u>Y-E 2024</u>	<u>Aug-25</u>	<u>Sep-25</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
Child Find					
- Current Children being served	N/A	N/A	20	17	N/A
Environmental Health					
Animal bite investigations	198	238	29	26	199
- Individuals requiring Rabies Series (N)	2	51	4	6	35
Rabies Clinics	8	9	1	1	6
- Number of Animals Vaccinated	1098	1377	140	145	919
Food Establishment Inspections	247	228	21	21	169
Temporary Food Inspections	66	62	22	4	58
Clean Indoor Air Act Complaints (Smoking)	0	1	0	0	5
Mobile Home Park Inspections	37	35	2	4	28
Swimming Pool Inspections	11	11	4	0	15
Tanning Inspections	1	2	1	1	2
ATUPA Checks (Underage Tobacco Sales)	108	116	15	16	140
- ATUPA Violations	3	2	2	1	5
Wellhead Replacement Projects In Progress	N/A	60	0	0	44
Wellhead Replacement Projects Completed	N/A	30	0	0	6
Children's Camp Inspections	7	13	0	0	14
Agriculture Fairground Inspections	2	3	2	0	2
Nuisance Complaints	7	25	4	4	39
Enforcement Actions	72	45	6	10	47
Weights & Measures					
Inspection Sites	110	201	10	12	122
-Devices Inspected	604	448	21	28	196
Training Hrs./Equipment Maintenance	27	43	4	4	26
Fiscal-Electronic Payments & Applications					
Total Number of Electronic Payments (All Programs)	N/A	N/A	12	14	109
Total Dollar Amount of Electronic Payments Received (All Programs)	N/A	N/A	\$3,819	\$1,180	\$20,766
Number of Electronic Applications Received	N/A	N/A	6	5	33