

ilities licensed to keep farm animals for proper sanitary conditions, animal health and management of proper manure storage and/or removal. There are 51 sites in Concord licensed to keep farm animals. The total population of farm animals was 1,256; 57% of which were chickens. The 2009 animal census is as follows:

2007-2009 Animal Census Information			
	2007	2008	2009
Chickens	381	923	716
Horses	179	162	166
Cattle	146	158	217
Rabbits	2	34	70
Goats	34	19	17
Geese/Ducks	23	26	23
Guinea Hens	43	8	14
Sheep	6	11	10
Beehives	4	4	4
Llamas	2	0	0
Donkeys	3	1	2
Turkey	0	0	5
Pigs	0	4	12
TOTAL	823	1,350	1,256

Wastewater Permitting Program

The Environmental Health Inspector oversees the onsite wastewater management (septic system) program in the Health Division. The Division issued 135 permits for construction and/or alteration of septic systems, reviewed 129 building permit applications for regulatory compliance, and witnessed over 200 deep test holes and 100 percolation tests. The Environmental Health Inspector conducted approximately 300 onsite inspections for compliance with Title 5.

Septic System Betterment Loan Program

The Health Division Administrative Assistant oversees the Community Septic System Betterment Loan Program that has successfully loaned all of the original \$1,000,000 funded from the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust and approved at the 2004 Annual Town Meeting. The program allows homeowners to borrow up to \$20,000 to offset the costs of replacing their septic system. The loans are repaid to the Town over 10 years at 2% interest as a betterment lien.

BOARD OF HEALTH

David Burgess, Chair
 Deborah Farnsworth
 Ann Snow, RN
 Susanna Bedell

The Board of Health is responsible for the overall stewardship of the public health of Concord. It promotes, enacts, and enforces health rules and regulations in accordance with local bylaws and state law. There are five members of the Board, appointed for three-year terms by the Town Manager.

The Board of Health held 7 hearings for variances to State and local wastewater system regulations, 1 hearing for Food Establishments, and 2 hearings pertaining to other public health matters. The Board revised regulations governing private water supply, irrigation, geothermal, and monitoring wells; and issued a policy concerning the granting of certain variances for repairs to onsite wastewater systems.

The Board successfully sponsored Article 42 at Annual Town Meeting, re-authorizing the Community Septic Loan Program with additional funding of \$2,000,000 that will be available beginning in 2010 to residents who need financial assistance during the replacement of their onsite wastewater system. The program will make loans of up to \$30,000, secured by a betterment lien on the property, and repayable at 2% interest over 10 years.

EMERSON HOSPITAL HOME CARE SERVICES

Brian Hailey, MSPT, Manager

Emerson Hospital Home Care is a Medicare/Medicaid Certified, Joint Commission accredited provider of home health services in Concord, as well as 23 surrounding towns. Home care is an active member of the Home Care Alliance of Massachusetts. The mission is to provide the highest quality, safe, and cost effective services to all our patients. These services include skilled nursing, physical, occupational and speech therapy, home health aide, and medical social work. Home Care made the difficult decision to discontinue the Psychiatric Nursing Program this past year. The small size of the program and the small referral source factored into the decision to discontinue this service and to concentrate

our efforts on the core home care services listed above. We understand the need for psychiatric nursing in the community and will continue to assess whether the need justifies the program in the future.

Home Care accepts referrals for services from Emerson Hospital, other local and Boston hospitals, physicians, nursing homes, rehabilitation facilities, and from clients with physician's order. Members of the community can contact Home Care directly for services for themselves or family members. Home Care services assist community members to receive services at home after hospitalization, during a prolonged illness, or when a skilled need arises and the client is home bound. The goal of home care services is always to promote the highest state of wellness and independence, and to assist in planning for the continuum of care. Home Care also provides community health and communicable disease follow up in accordance with our Board of Health Contract.

Emerson Hospital Home Care continues to work closely with several Hospice providers serving this area. The Home Care department has provided end of life care for patients who have decided not to enroll in a Hospice program. Our focus has continued to be provision of care focused on symptom management and dignity for patient and family at end of life.

The Home Care Department has been an integral part of Emerson Hospital's focus on enhancing the care of the growing elderly population in the communities we serve. This includes ongoing meetings with members of the community, as well as initiatives within the care environment in the hospital. Using our "Disease Management Program", the Home Care Department continues our success in decreasing emergency department visits, hospitalizations, and lengths of stay in several diagnostic groups, including Chronic Lung Disease and Congestive Heart Failure. The Department has participated in a nationwide effort by CMS to reduce unnecessary acute care hospitalizations from home care providers and has had success in decreasing our rate. Home care has representation on the hospital's Community Geriatric Committee that meets quarterly to address the needs of the geriatric population in the community.

Home Care continues to care for residents of Concord Park, Newbury Court, Newbury Commons, and the

Concord Housing Authority Residences. Through Medicare and other insurers, we are able to provide "home care" services for these individuals who now call these sites their "home". This has allowed these residents to successfully age in place. Home care also coordinates closely with the Concord Council on Aging.

The contract with the Town of Concord includes communicable disease follow-up and an influenza vaccination program. The contract also allows Home Care to make home visits to ill individuals who have no source of payment to cover much needed services. As Medicare and other insurers are limiting their coverage, this becomes a more important aspect of our work with the Board of Health. Flu Vaccine Clinics have also served many of Concord's residents and employees. Please see attached spread sheet with data from flu clinics and communicable disease follow up.

Throughout this past year, Emerson Home Care has worked closely with the Board of Health and with other community organizations to coordinate care for the residents of Concord. We will continue to work with the Town and organizations to identify areas of opportunity to serve the area's residents in an effort to promote health and wellness. Home Care is also represented on Emerson Hospital's Emergency Preparedness Committee which works with the Town of Concord on emergency efforts.

EMERSON HOSPITAL HOME CARE SERVICES		
Flu vaccination Clinics	'07-'08	'08-'09
Senior Clinics	223	253
Concord Teachers	125	87
Public Clinic all ages	198	74
Seniors at Concord Park	62	65
Welch's	57	40
Open Table	21	8
Communicable Disease F/U	7/08-7/09	
Home care telephone visits	46	
Home visits	1	
