

# **GRANT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION**

### **2016 Annual Report**

The Environmental Division of the Grant County Health Department strives to promote and maintain a healthy environment for the residents and communities of Grant County.

One of our primary responsibilities is to oversee the application, permitting and installation processes for residential on-site sewage systems. We review on-site soil surveys submitted by Certified Soil Scientists, develop minimum requirements for each system, review submitted construction plans, complete pre-permit site verifications and inspect all systems upon installation.

This Division assists the Indiana State Department of Health by permitting and inspecting septic installations for commercial facilities within Grant County.

We investigate environmental complaints involving contamination of surface water, reports of diseases caused by water-borne pathogens, reports of animal bites, hazardous material spills; which might be a threat to public health, unfit housing in the county, hotels, as well as many other miscellaneous environmental concerns. We regulate the operation of tattoo studios as well as public and semi-public swimming pools and spas in the county and conduct public workshops for community awareness sessions.

The Environmental Division collaborates with the Nursing Division to help promote lead poisoning prevention and the Environmental Division completes environmental assessments of homes with lead based paint. In addition, we help the Nursing Division investigate the incidence of West Nile Virus in the county. During the mosquito season, we work with the Grant County Highway Department to identify areas which contribute to the population of mosquitoes and to maintain the partnership we have with the Highway Department for an effective Mosquito Elimination Program.

The Environmental Division also works closely with Grant County Area Planning to assist the residents of Grant County to obtain permits for their construction needs as well as to investigate complaints involving multiple issues.

In addition, we coordinate and work closely with the Marion City Building Inspectors, Marion Police Department, Grant County Sheriff's Department, Indiana State Police and Child/Adult Protective Services.