



WEHA NEWSLETTER

Wyoming Environmental Health

November 2020

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President's Message By Chelle Schwope



2020 has been a challenging year with the COVID – 19 Pandemic. I think most of us are ready for it to be over! At the beginning of this year, who would have thought that masks could make a fashion/political statement. The pandemic and quarantining has shown us many things, one of them being that locally produced foods are important to food security across America. There has been an increased interest in locally grown meats, with most of the existing meat plants being booked up until well into 2021. The Wyoming Department of Agriculture has been inundated with questions and plans for new meat plants because of the increased interest.

The WEHA AEC was virtual for the first time this year. I think we all missed the networking and comradery we feel when we get together for the AEC, but the virtual platform did fill the need and I hope everyone enjoyed and learned from the speakers.

Looking ahead to 2021, there will be some changes. The State's tightening budget is causing some reductions in personnel. Jon Cecil is retiring in November. The WDA – CHS, the city county health departments and the WEHA will miss his leadership and knowledge base greatly. Shawn Moore is also retiring in October 2020. His meat science and label knowledge are a major loss to WDA – CHS. The WEHA Board and I wish both of them good luck and happy times in retirement.

Please remember that WEHA is your organization so if you have any questions or comments don't hesitate to contact myself or any of the other members of the board.

Have a great year!

Chelle Schwope

WEHA President

NEHA Updates

NEHA Releases Second COVID-19 EH Workforce Needs Assessment Report

Denver, CO—The National Environmental Health Association is pleased to release the [preliminary findings report](#) from our nationwide environmental health workforce needs assessment in response to COVID-19, conducted between July 15 and August 31, 2020. The aim of the assessment was to collect primary data in support of efforts to assess environmental health workforce activities and identify needs in response to COVID-19. Information about the survey was sent to approximately 6,800 individuals via several e-mail marketing endeavors and had a reach of approximately 1,200 individuals via three social media platforms. In total, 767 individuals completed the survey. A comprehensive report is forthcoming.

The findings are unequivocal. Environmental health practitioners, many of whom are employed at small local agencies, are actively supporting COVID-19 response and recovery. Their contributions are felt in safely reopening and restoring the economy, emergency operation centers, contact tracing, and communications efforts, in addition to their customary responsibilities. They have been tasked to take on new roles and responsibilities that sometimes place them at risk of harm from the disease. They report being emotionally exhausted and understaffed. The impending vaccination initiatives will likely increase their workload. We recommend environmental health staff be included early as active and meaningful participants in formulating plans to vaccinate the public.

Legionella Conference Rescheduled

[Legionella Conference: Prevention of Disease and Injury From Waterborne Pathogens in Health Care](#), originally scheduled for August 19–21, 2020, **has been rescheduled to January 20–22, 2021**. This conference is cohosted by NSF Health Science and NEHA.

The conference will be held at the same location, Sheraton Grand Hotel on Chicago's downtown river walk.

NEHA/AAS Scholarship Application Period Now Open

The National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) and the American Academy of Sanitarians (AAS) invite environmental health students to apply for the 2021 NEHA/AAS Scholarship.

The NEHA/AAS Scholarship awards exceptional graduate and undergraduate students who are pursuing education in environmental health. Students from around the world who are enrolled in an accredited college or university with a dedicated and recognized curriculum in environmental health sciences are encouraged to apply. Applications are reviewed by an independent selection committee of environmental health professionals and sanitarians whose expertise range across a spectrum of fields for which the scholarships are awarded.

The 2021 application period is open now through **March 31, 2021**. Please visit our NEHA/AAS Scholarship Information page to learn more about the scholarship program, our past winners, and to complete an application.

2021 AEC Theme: Together a Safer and Healthier Tomorrow

Environmental health professionals have been on the front line of an unprecedented global pandemic. COVID-19 brought with it changes in our roles and increases in our responsibilities. **Together** we are working for **a safer and healthier tomorrow**.

The NEHA 2021 Annual Educational Conference (AEC) & Exhibition is the premier environmental health conference that brings together professionals from around the globe to learn and discuss current and emerging environmental health topics and issues. Discover how local agencies, industries, and levels of government are working to ensure the safety of the public and environment, and how they contribute to the advancement of the environmental health profession.

Year of the Food Trucks



Food Truck Letter

Dear food truck entrepreneur,

I sincerely ask that you check with the local regulatory agency where you will be working before you purchase a mobile food unit. Even if the seller of the unit says it's been licensed before in so an so state... They may be ok in one place and not ok in another. More than likely, you've already purchased it or have started having the truck built so we'll have to discuss what all you'll need to add and or change. We'll talk for hours about what you need to do and how, yes, you'll need to fit a three compartment sink with drain boards, a prep sink AND a hand sink all in the unit and how your crockpots won't cut it. Oh and you're frying things? You're going to need a \$\$\$\$\$\$ hood as well.. Here's the fire departments phone number too. Once you've finally passed that Food Safety Manager Certification we can do your inspection and you'll be able to begin your new adventure. Don't forget, we'll stop by and check in on you from time to time. When we show up, and there's no water available at the hand sink, we'll ask how you're washing your hands. You'll pretend it "just ran out" or that it is okay because your water is located not here but in Laramie and we'll have to shut down the operation until you can refill your water tank. Other than that, be mindful of cross contamination since there's barely any cooler or prep space, the sauna that is your mobile unit may cause your coolers and food in those coolers to enter into the danger zone and keep those openings screened so you can reduce your fly count from 100 to 90! Happy food trucking!

Sincerely,

Your health inspector

WEHA'S 1ST EVER VIRTUAL AEC

Gluten-Free Labeling 

- August 2, 2013 final rule – defining “gluten-free”
- August 12, 2020 final rule - gluten-free labeling of fermented or hydrolyzed foods.
 - Yogurt, sauerkraut, pickles, cheese, green olives, FDA regulated beer and wines
- Voluntary claim

Chronic Wasting Disease Density in Wyoming: All Species 2006 - 12/9/2019

CWD Density: High (Red), Low (Blue)

Wyoming Game and Fish Department Wildlife Health Laboratory

2019 CWD Surveillance

Target elk herd units

Herd	Afton	Pinedale	Snowy Range
Tested	59	46	222
Positive	0	0	3
Prevalence	0%	0%	1%

Totals include adult male and females only

AND THE
WINNER IS!....



Congratulations

MEET THE HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mykel Murry



I cover all of Carbon County and live in Rawlins with my husband and our three labs. Our two children are currently attending the University of Wyoming. I was raised in Northwestern Montana and have been in Rawlins close to 15 years. I was in the US Navy immediately after high school and was a hydraulics mechanic on F-14's Tomcats stationed on different aircraft carriers such as the Truman and the Constellation. After the military I attended Montana Tech of the University of Montana where I obtained a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Health & Safety. For approximately 10 years after graduating I worked on oil rigs, on remediation projects, and in oil refineries as a Health and Safety Advisor/Manager. I have now been with the Consumer Health Services Division of the Wyoming Department of Agriculture almost four years.

Chelle Schwope

I have worked for the Wyoming Department of Agriculture – Consumer Health Services since 2004 as an inspection specialist. In this position, I am the local inspector for Powell, Clark and part of North Big Horn County. I earned an Associates of Applied Science degree in Horse Management from Laramie County Community College in 1992 and my Bachelor of Science degree in Animal and Veterinary Sciences from the University of Wyoming in 2001. While at the University of Wyoming, I focused on Meat Science and Food Technology. In my spare time, I like to ride and show horses and enjoy being a 4-H leader for the dog and horse projects in Big Horn County along with my Mom and 24-year-old daughter. I spend most of my time these days helping to care for my Mom and maintaining the family 117-acre farm by irrigating and growing hay.



Joe Martinez



Inspection Specialist II for WDA/CHS since October 2004

Current area of responsibility includes Riverton, Shoshoni, portion of Thermopolis and small portion of Worland

Credentialed through FDA for Seafood HACCP

Assistant Meat Label Review Officer

Hobbies include archery hunting, chasing kids around to watch in sports activities, trying to maintain 6.5 acres, helping kids with livestock, 4-H and FFA projects and enjoying family.

Community involvement as a Hot Springs County School District #1 School Board Member and Hot Springs County Fair Board Member

I am originally from Texas and my wife drug me to Wyoming kicking and screaming. I'm glad she did because I truly enjoy living in Wyoming. I have a BS in Ag Education from Texas Tech University with a minor in Animal Science.



Derek Hensley

Hello I'm Derek A. Hensley with the Wyoming Department of Agriculture Consumer Health Services Division. I've been with WDA CHS since January of 2019. I'm based in Moorcroft, Wyoming and serve in the capacity of Inspection Specialist II for Crook and Weston counties.

I'm a member of the 5th generation of my family to be born and raised in Campbell County, WY and have strong ties to Wyoming agriculture. My wife Shellie and I are eager to continue our lives together and build a family in rural Wyoming. I grew up and still reside on a family owned and operated ranch east of Gillette, WY near Rozet, WY. As a family we currently manage a small herd of Polled Hereford cattle, and additionally my wife and I manage a farm flock of wether sire ewes primarily for club lamb production.

In 2007 I earned my Bachelors of Science Degree in Rangeland Ecology and Watershed Management from the College of Agriculture. Since graduation I have strive to be a continued University supporter as a Cowboy Joe Club Member; University of Wyoming Foundation Donor; Alumni Association Member; and served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

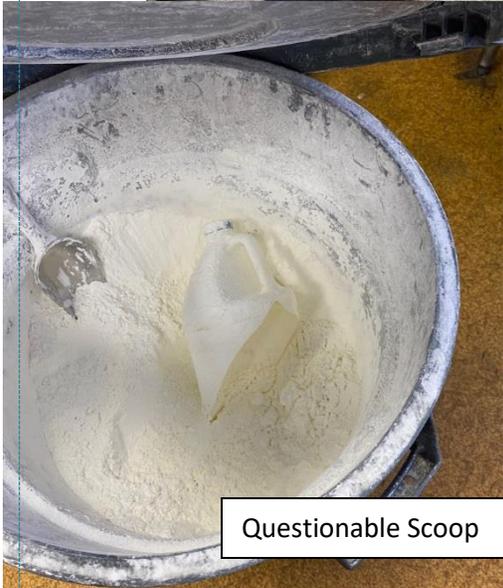
As for community activities my educational training and lifelong agricultural interests have also allowed me to be a supporter, leader, and advocate for local and state 4-H and FFA Youth Programs.

FROM THE FIELD



Frontier Fun Food Festival

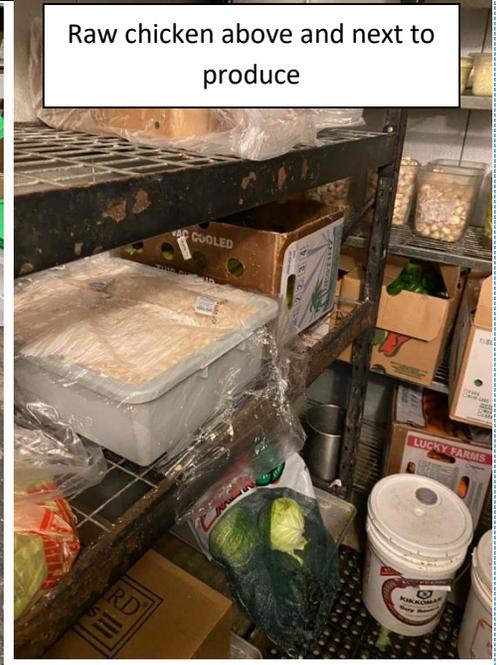
Frontier Days was canceled but Laramie County residents still were treated to carnival foods for a weekend. These were the shiniest, cleanest units we've seen out at the grounds in a long time!



Questionable Scoop



Storage and cooling on the floor

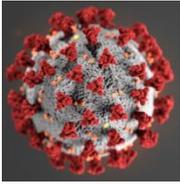


Raw chicken above and next to produce

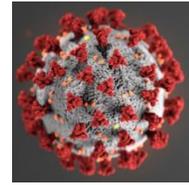


Found this at a routine inspection – hard ice cream with no hand sink or dipper well.





COVID-19



Social Distancing



Employees wearing masks



Plexiglass barrier for handing drinks to customers



CLCHD hosted a flu clinic and a flu/covid clinic and are currently offering free drive up covid testing at the Archer Event Center. EH staff help out where needed.



Thank you to the Department of Agriculture and Cheyenne Laramie County Health Department for the information and pictures provided.

CPO Training Schedule



City	Start Date	End Date	Course Type	Contact	Email	Phone
Casper	10/13/2020	10/14/2020	English	Pat Kirk	Patkirk67@yahoo.com	(307) 680-7946

The classes listed above are only for those offered in Wyoming. For more information on where to find classes in other states, such as Colorado, visit the NSPF website at <http://nspf.org/en/CPO/CPOSchedule.aspx>.

Upcoming Training & Conferences

- **Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response Operations**
January 26-31, 2020 Anniston, Al
- **NACCHO 2021 Preparedness Summit** April 12-15 Atlanta, GA
- **NEHA AEC 2020** July 12-15 Spokane, WA
- **NACCHO Annual 2021** TBD
- **WEHA AEC 2021** September Casper, WY

WEHA Scholarship Fund

PURPOSE: TO PROVIDE STIPENDS FOR WEHA MEMBERS TO ATTEND CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, SEMINARS, SYMPOSIUMS ETC. WHICH ARE BENEFICIAL TO WEHA.

POLICY: \$1000 IN SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING FOR THE PURPOSE OF STIPENDS IS AVAILABLE PER YEAR, WITH A MAXIMUM STIPEND OF \$250.00, PER WEHA MEMBER PER CALENDAR.

PROCEDURE:

1. APPLICANTS MUST INCLUDE A MEETING AGENDA, REGISTRATION FORM, AND A WRITTEN EXPLANATION OF HOW WEHA AND THE MEMBER ATTENDING WILL BENEFIT.
2. ALL APPLICATIONS WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD PRIOR TO APPROVAL.

FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE ETC. A WRITTEN REPORT MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION IN THE WEHA.

WEHA Award Winners

Year	Art Williamson	Outstanding EH	Donkey Tail	Location
1975		Gus Lopez		
1976		Don Pack		
1977		Don Pack		
1981		Gary Hickman		
1985		Sandi Palmer		
1989		Paul Ng		
1990		Debbi Bonini		
1991				
1992		Bert Reinow		
1993	DJ Inman	Bud Anderson	Jon Cecil	Casper
1994		Laurie Leis	Bret Kraut	Sheridan
1995	Franklin Smith	Chuck Sykes	Stephanie Whitman	Laramie
1996	Howard Hutchings	Shirley Etzell	Jennifer Rucinski	Evanston
1997	Don Pack	Dean Finkenbinder	Roy Kroeger	Silver Creek Co
1998	Bill Locker	Neal Bloomenrader	Nola Evans/Sherry Maston	Thermopolis
1999	Chuck Higgins	Wayne Cook	Ron Ramsey	Casper
2000	Dick Worl	Linda Stratton	Neal Bloomenrader	Cheyenne
2001	Sandi Palmer	George Larsen	Jay Myers/Dean Finkenbinder	Casper
2002	<i>Not Given</i>	Roy Kroeger	Doug Krogman/Doug Evans	Gillette
2003	Gus Lopez	Doug Evans	Josh Sandlian	Cheyenne
2004		Doug Krogman	Sherry Maston	Breckenridge
2005		Jon Cecil	Rory McManus	Cody
2006	Jerry Olson		Joe Martinez	Saratoga
2007		Stephanie Malcolm	Dean Finkenbinder	Cheyenne
2008	None	None	None	Lander
2009	None	Jennifer Escobedo	Ben Metcalf	Sheridan
2010	None	Joe Martinez	Jennifer Escobedo	Mammoth
2011	Gary Hickman	Stephanie Styvar	Shane Thompson	Laramie
2012	Roy Kroeger	Sara Geoffre	Dawn Helms	Gillette
2013	None	Shawn Moore	Linda Stratton, Joe Martinez, and Jamie George	Teton Village
2014	Paul Ng	Tiffany Gaertner	Stephanie Styvar	Lander
2015	Dean Finkerbinder	Dru Haderlie	Todd Denny	Saratoga
2016	Linda Stratton	Cody Talbot	Dawn Helms	Sheridan
2017	None	Jamie Georg	Eric Avila	Cody
2018	Mario Seminara	Dawn Helms	Stephanie Styvar and Rebecca Dow	Cheyenne
2019		Erica East	Mykel Murray	Pinedale

**FOR ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL TIFFANY GAERTNER AT
tgaertner@laramiecounty.com.

2020 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
WYOMING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Home Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

Work Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home: _____ Office: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Position/Title: _____

Agency: _____

Counties/Cities Assignment Area: _____

Position Duties/Specialty Areas: _____

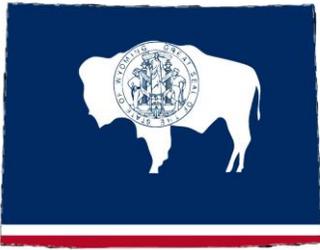
Are you a: Registered _____ Licensed _____ or Certified _____ Professional?

Are you a member of: NEHA _____ IAFP _____ Member of WEHA since: _____

Annual Dues: \$100.00 Sustaining Membership
\$20.00 Before April 30, 2020
\$20.00 New Members
\$30.00 May 1, 2020 or later
\$5.00 Student Membership

Please complete form and return applications with dues to:

Erica East
WEHA Treasurer
404 N Ste 103
Rock Springs, WY 82901
307-362-3331



Wyoming Environmental Health Association

2219 Carey Avenue

Cheyenne, WY 82002-0100

Visit us on the web at: <http://www.wehaonline.net/>

WEHA Board

President	Stephanie Styvar	stephanie.styvar@wyo.gov
Past President	Todd Denny	todd.denny@wyo.gov
Vice President	Dawn Helms	dawn.helms@wyo.gov
Treasurer	Erika East	erica.east@wyo.gov
Secretary	Shelby Reinert	sreinert@laramiecounty.com

Committees

Food Safety	WEHA Board Exec Board	
AEC	The WEHA Board	
Education & Food Safety	The WEHA Board	
Child Care	Stephanie Styvar	stephanie.styvar@wyo.gov
Recreational Waters	Chelle Schwope	chelle.schwope@wyo.gov
Water & Small Wastewater	Roy Kroeger	roykehs@laramiecounty.com
Public Relations/Facebook/Website	Roy Kroeger	roykehs@laramiecounty.com
Awards	Roy Kroeger, Sara Geffe, Jon Cecil	roykehs@laramiecounty.com
Newsletter	Tiffany Gaertner, Josie Prince	jprince@laramiecounty.com
Legislative	Jon Cecil	jon.cecil@wyo.gov
Archives & Scrapbook	Mykel Murry	mykel.murry@wyo.gov
By-Laws/Resolutions	Vacant	
Membership	Todd Denny & Erika East	todd.denny@wyo.gov
Nominations/Elections	Stephanie Styvar	Stephanie.styvar@wyo.gov