

NORTHERN NEVADA

Public Health

Serving Reno, Sparks & Washoe County

NNPH REPORT December 2024

**NV Department of Public
& Behavioral Health
State Board of Health**

Office of the District Health Officer

District Health Officer

District Health Officer

Dr. Chad Kingsley has actively engaged with key stakeholders, including city officials, healthcare leaders, and community organizations, to establish strong working relationships. Dr. Kingsley is working with key stakeholders to address Ambulance authority/service, improve Environmental Health services, and improve local assignment of Public Health funding.

NNPH District Board of Health

The District Board of Health (DBOH) has undergone several changes over the previous quarter.

- Dr. Novac, Spark DBOH appointee member, passed due to cancer. He previously served as DBOH Chair, serving diligently during the COVID pandemic. His devotion to community and public health is profound and exemplary.
- the Sparks City Council appointed Steve Driscoll as the DBOH Sparks appointee. My. Driscoll served as a former Sparks City Manager, bringing comprehensive experience valuable to Washoe's public health.
- Following local elections, Kristopher Dahir, DBOH Chair, will transition out of elected public service. He served eight years on the DBOH with two as Chair. His service and compassionate approach were well respected and appreciated. Spark City Council will appoint Councilperson Paul Anderson to serve as a DBOH Spark Elected member
- The DBOH will hold elections for Chair and Vice-Chair in December.
- The DBOH strategic planning will occur in January 2025 instead of November 2024.

Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) Communications Update

Media Engagement

The NNPH communications team has been highly active, managing multiple media engagements, press releases, and public communication efforts:

- **Press Releases and Media Requests:** Over the past three months, NNPH issued several press releases on diverse topics, including air quality updates, food safety advisories, and participation in the closure of inequitable temporary housing in Reno. The team also managed 32 media requests.
- **Public Health Campaigns:** The communications team facilitated media coverage of significant public health initiatives, such as influenza-like illnesses (ILL) season, Family Health Festival, Environmental Health activity and interventions, and public health awareness. These efforts have raised public awareness about ongoing health initiatives and NNPH's role in the community.



Accreditation and Reaccreditation

NNPH's application for reaccreditation was submitted on September 20th. The PHAB team will review the submitted documents and request further information to demonstrate conformity if necessary. Once the documents are reviewed, PHAB will schedule a site visit.

Quality Improvement (QI)

QI Training and Development

NNPH's first official QI project is underway. The project aims to improve the overall experience of new hires through the employee onboarding process. The project is a collaboration between AHS and ODHO and includes several components, among them:

- Streamline the process between HR and supervisor responsibilities to ensure new hires are prepared for their first day at NNPH.
- Revise the Onboarding Program to incorporate feedback from program evaluations, including relevant information about performance management, quality improvement, and cultural competency.
- Modernize "Intro to Health" to educate new hires about NNPH's divisions and programs. Additionally, preparations are underway for World Quality Month in November. Employees will participate in various fun activities that month to learn about NNPH's new QI Plan and highlight existing initiatives around the health district.

Workforce Development

NNPH is partnering with the de Beaumont Foundation to conduct the organization's 2024 PH WINS Survey (workforce development survey). The Public Health Workforce Interests and Needs Survey (PHWINS) will measure strengths and gaps to inform future funding, training, recruitment, and retention investments. To receive the data from the de Beaumont Foundation, the organization must have at least 80% of staff respond to the survey. This will ensure the data is valid and can be compared to other jurisdictions of similar size.

Community Health Improvement Program (CHIP)

5210 Healthy Workforce

The 5210 Healthy Washoe coordinators connected with Glenn Duncan to implement two initiatives to increase vegetable consumption during lunchtime. The two initiatives will incorporate smarter lunchroom tactics and the Fuel Up Healthy Go! Program offered by NNPH CDIP by adding nudge name cards to fruits and vegetables and a poster board with messaging on how kids can fuel their bodies with the 5210 message.

Family Health Festivals

The final FHF of 2024 occurred at O'Brien Middle School on Wednesday, Oct. 9, from 3-6 PM. 52 community organizations were present to deliver various health-related services, including hearing tests, blood pressure and vitals checks, free food, and free children's books. Additionally, organizations will be onsite to help clients sign up for Medicaid insurance and connect individuals

to off-site primary care services and providers.

Aca Entre Nos Program

The first session at Clayton Middle School occurred in October. The project team worked to identify a location close to the school so that transportation barriers remain minimal for families and students. The project team is working to identify a location close to the school so that transportation barriers remain minimal for families and students who attend the school. Additionally, program staff are looking for incentives for families attending the AEN session series.

Equity Projects and Collaborations

Language Accessibility

NNPH is working closely with Washoe County to implement the Language Access Plan, which was mandated by the passage of Assembly Bill 266 (AB 266) in 2023: Implementation of Wordly software and accessibility flyers for clients.

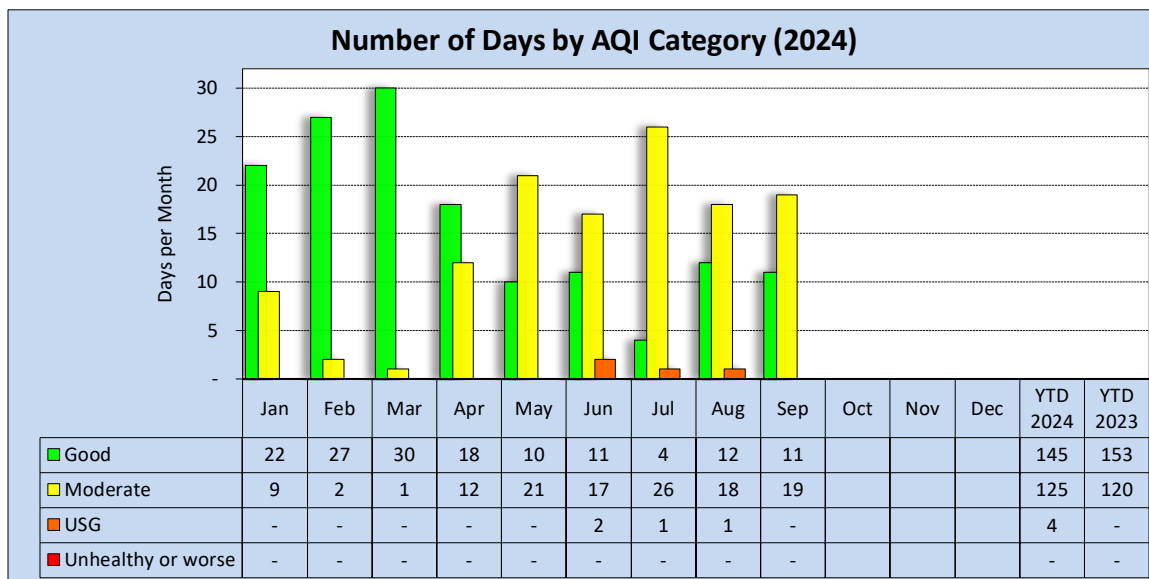
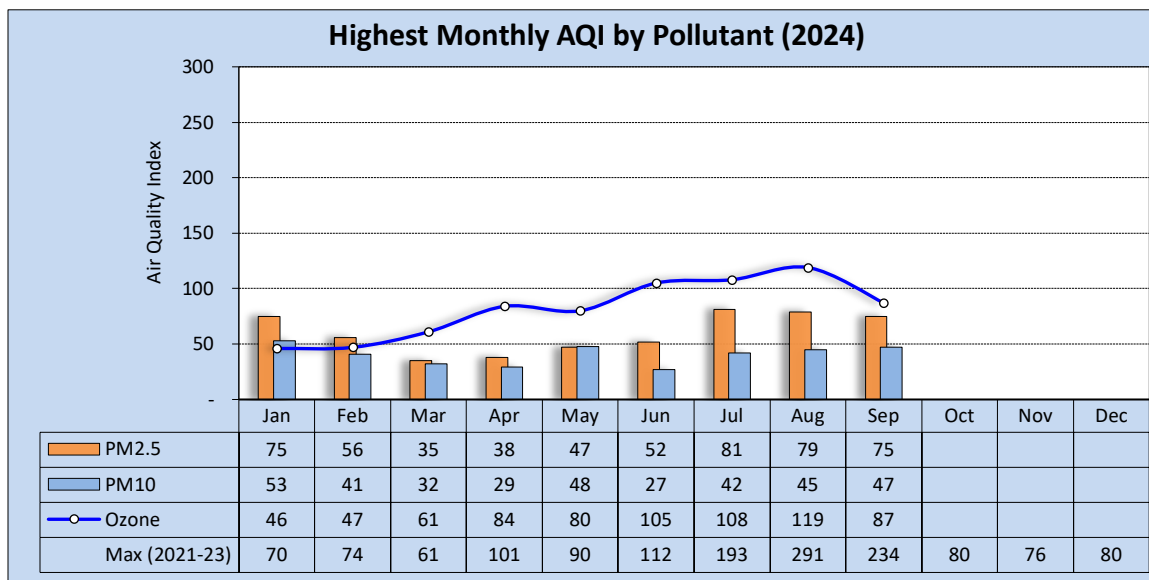


Air Quality Management

Divisional Updates

Air Quality Monitoring and Trends

Below are two charts detailing the most recent ambient air monitoring data. The top chart indicates the highest AQI by pollutant and includes the highest AQI from the previous three (3) years in the data table for comparison. The bottom chart indicates the number of days by AQI category and includes the previous year to date for comparison.





Program Reports

Monitoring and Planning

September Air Quality: There were no exceedances of the ozone, PM₁₀, or PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The highest ozone, PM_{2.5}, and PM₁₀ concentrations for the month are listed in the table below.

Pollutant	Concentration	Date(s)	Site(s)	Notes
Ozone (8-hour)	0.066 ppm	9/25	Incline	-
PM _{2.5} (24-hour)	21.9 µg/m ³	9/7	Toll	Smoke from Davis Fire
PM ₁₀ (24-hour)	51 µg/m ³	9/6	Sparks	Smoke from Bear Fire

Know the Code: The AQMD will begin issuing Burn Codes beginning November 1. This successful program has been in place for over three decades and is one of the reasons wintertime particulate matter (PM) levels meet federal air quality standards.

Each afternoon, the AQMD will issue a color-coded Burn Code. The colors are based on forecasted PM levels. Green means burning is allowed; Yellow means burning is discouraged; Red means burning is prohibited. Green and Yellow codes are voluntary. Red codes are mandatory prohibitions and enforced through DBOH rules governing Woodstoves (Section 040.051) and Emergency Episodes (050.001). Our local media are key partners and play a critical role in the success of the Know the Code program.



Permitting and Compliance

Staff reviewed thirty-five (35) sets of plans submitted to the Reno, Sparks, or Washoe County Building Departments to ensure the activities complied with Air Quality requirements.

In September 2024, staff conducted fifty (50) stationary source inspections and three (3) initial compliance inspections. Staff were assigned eight (8) new asbestos abatement projects – monitoring the removal of approximately eight thousand five hundred ninety-two (8,592) square feet and forty-two (42) linear feet of asbestos-containing materials. Staff received five (5) facility demolition projects to monitor. Further, eighteen (18) new construction/dust projects comprised an additional one hundred eighty-three (183) acres of disturbance. Staff documented forty-three (43) construction site inspections. During the month, compliance staff also responded to twenty-nine (29) complaints.



Type of Permit	2024		2023	
	September	YTD	September	Annual Total
Renewal of Existing Air Permits	85	868	85	1,079
New Authorities to Construct	3 (New and Major Modifications)	36	4 (New and Major Modifications)	42
Dust Control Permits	18 (183 acres)	139 (1,644 acres)	15 (149 acres)	193 (2,386 acres)
Wood Stove (WS) Certificates	26	184	25	242
WS Dealers Affidavit of Sale	5 (3 replacement)	65 (28 replacements)	14 (7 replacements)	124 (56 replacements)
WS Notice of Exemptions	598 (6 stoves removed)	5,138 (47 stoves removed)	745 (5 stoves removed)	6,495 (57 stoves removed)
Asbestos Assessments	52	526	61	731
Asbestos Demo and Removal (NESHAP)	13	117	12	196

Complaints	2024		2023	
	September	YTD	September	Annual Total
Asbestos	0	8	1	12
Diesel Idling	1	2	0	2
Dust	17	95	12	96
Nuisance Odor	4	14	1	7
Permit to Operate	0	0	0	0
Burn Code	1	5	0	4
General	6	30	0	40
TOTAL	29	154	14	161
Enforcement	September	YTD	September	Annual Total
Warnings	2	36	1	26
Notice of Violations	0	19	4	20
TOTAL	2	55	5	46



Community and Clinical Health Services

Fetal Infant Mortality Review

The Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) program was initiated in 2014 to address infant mortality rates in Washoe County, which were the highest in the State of Nevada and above the national average. NNPH FIMR continues to be the only FIMR program in Nevada. There are currently FIMR teams in 27 states. The National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention (NCFRP) provides technical support and manages the National Fatality Review-Case Reporting System (NFR-CRS) database utilized by FIMR and Child Death Review (CDR) programs throughout the United States.

2020 (1/1/2020 - 12/31/2020) Fetal Deaths 39 Neo/Post Neonatal 31 Total Deaths 70

2021 (1/1/2021 - 12/31/2021) Fetal Deaths 47 Neo/Post Neonatal 33 Total Deaths 80

2022 (1/1/2022 - 12/31/2022) Fetal Deaths 29 Neo/Post Neonatal 19 Total Deaths 48

2023 (1/1/2023 - 12/31/2023) Fetal Deaths 31 Neo/Post Neonatal 20 Total Deaths 51

Community Connections:

The NNPH FIMR Case Review Team (CRT) is a multidisciplinary team that met 10 times in 2023 and reviewed 37 cases. Some cases were re-examined after further investigation was completed. The CRT currently includes Obstetrician Gynecologists (OB/GYN), perinatologists, pediatricians, nurses, Community Health Workers (CHW), hospital clinical and administrative representatives, Medicaid case managers, and other health care insurance representatives, State of Nevada, midwife, midwife assistant, doula, Human Services Agency (HSA) case worker, University of Nevada Reno (UNR) School of Medicine assistant professor, Community Health Alliance Women Infants and Children (WIC), State of Nevada WIC, Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) representatives, local and state Child Death Review members, substance use treatment program social worker, NNPH Equity Team representative and other key community partners.

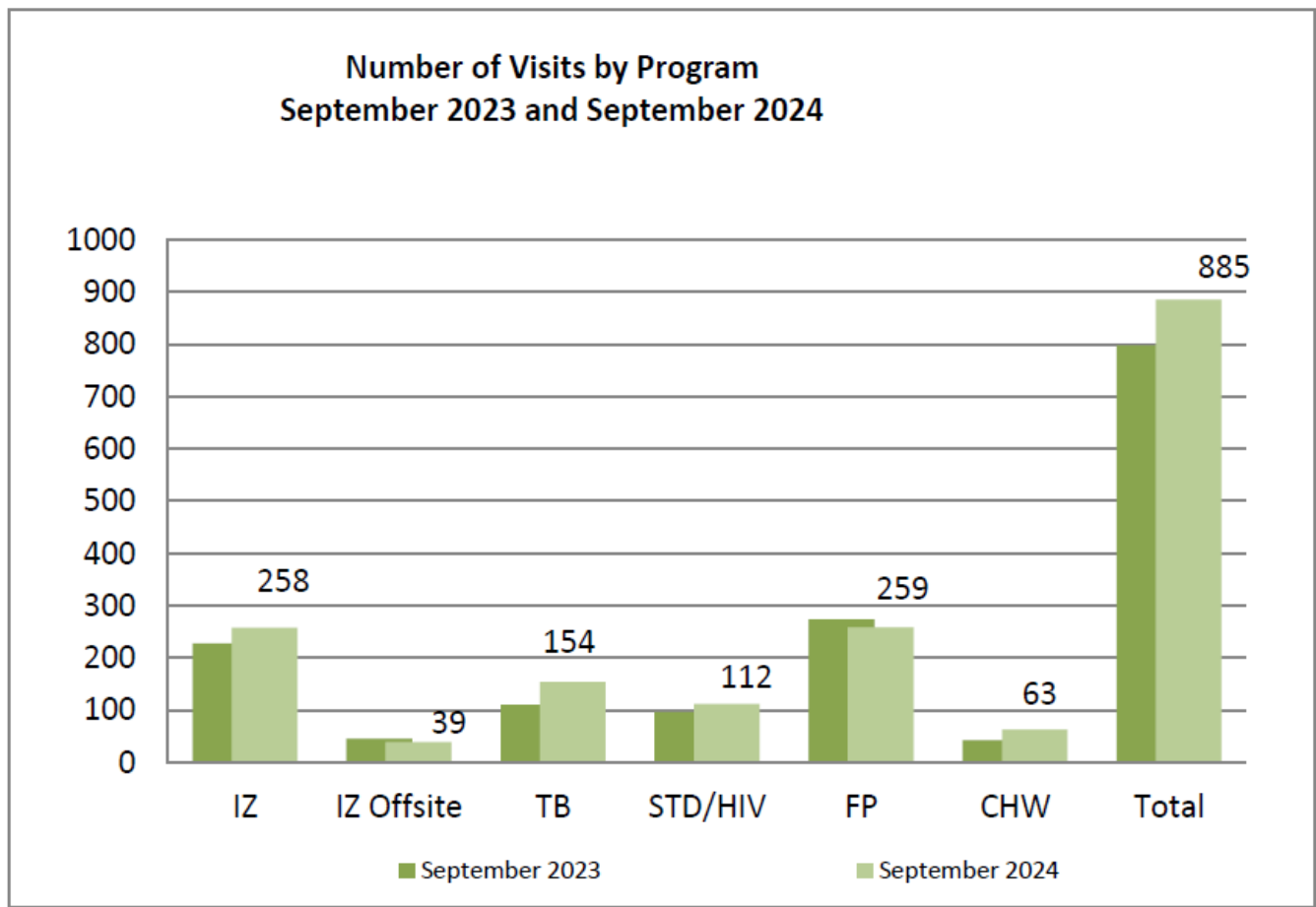
Recent FIMR accomplishments include:

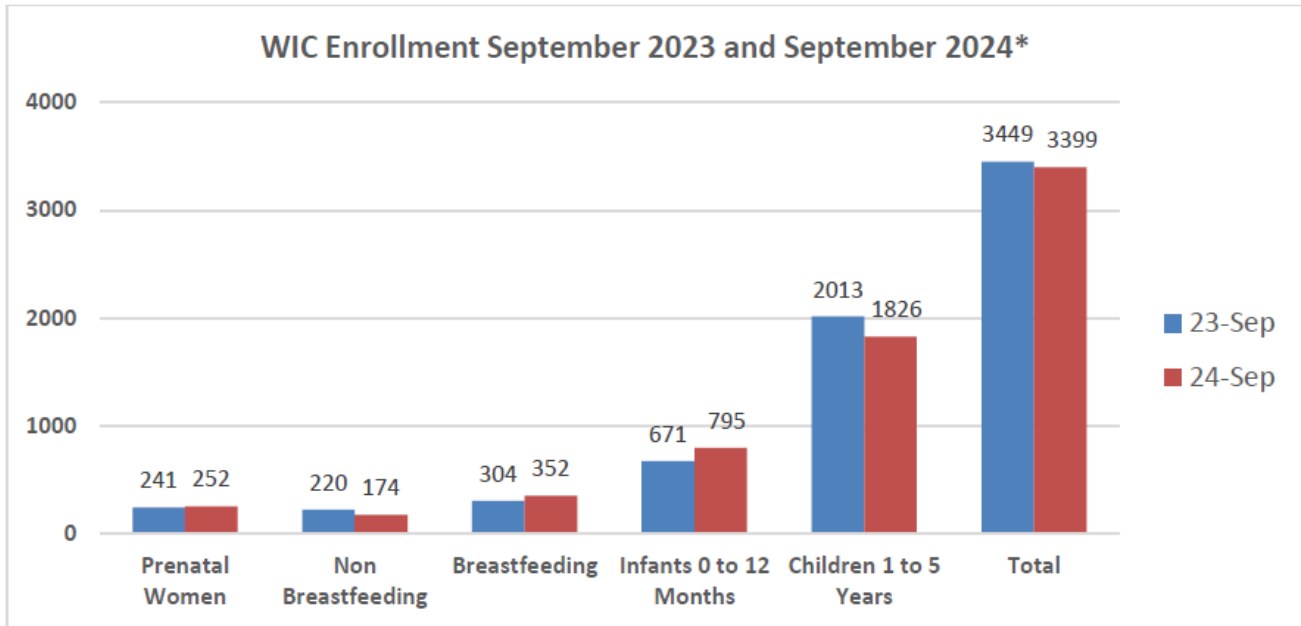
- Improved childbearing biological parent (CBP) interview process: Seven interviews have been completed in 2024 to date, and many additional parents have been contacted for assistance with resources. One recommendation was to have sound machines available in local Labor and Delivery (L&D) units for parents who have experienced fetal or infant loss to help decrease newborn sounds. Sound machines have already been donated to both local L&D units.
- FIMR received a \$15,000 grant from United Healthcare Health Plan of Nevada Medicaid to provide a webinar and to address fetal movement awareness concerns. Additionally, this grant will provide funding for additional intermittent hourly nursing staff time to assist with FIMR data abstraction, data entry, quality assurance, and report writing
- The Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support Organization of the Sierras (PILSOS) is now assisting with early access to grief and bereavement resources (previous CRT



- recommendation)
- FIMR CRT in-service is scheduled with Dr. Laura Knight, Washoe County Chief Medical Examiner and Coroner, to review new guidelines for infant cause of death and provide an opportunity for questions Increased diversity and representation on the FIMR CRT, including FQHCs, OB offices, local substance use treatment center, and NNPH Health Equity Team representative
- Created Home Visitation, Grief/Bereavement, and other local resource lists to share with OB, family medicine, and pediatrician offices.

DATA / METRICS





*Changes in data can be attributed to several factors including fluctuations in community demand, changes in staffing and

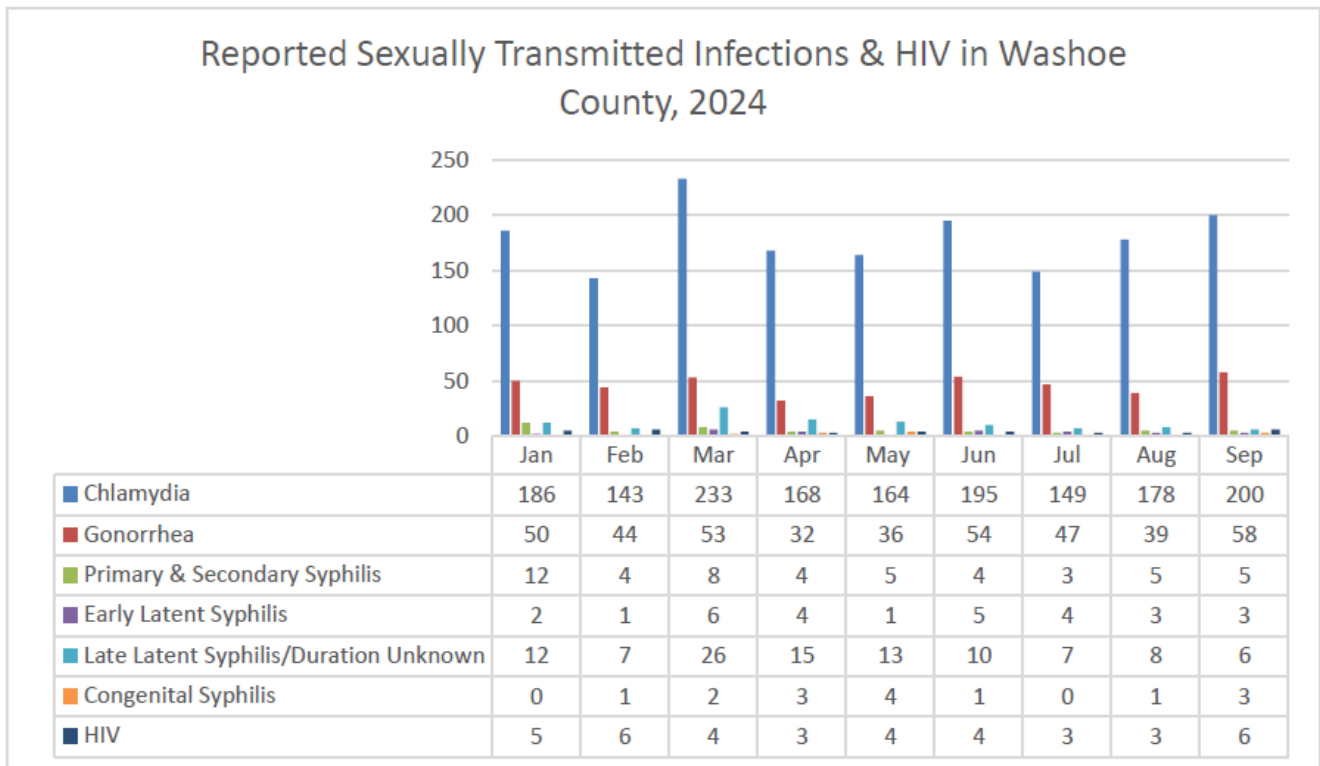
WIC Participation Numbers in the Past Year		
Month	Enrollment	Participation w/ Benefits
Sept 2023	3449	3040
Oct 2023	3406	3020
Nov 2023	3408	3031
Dec 2023	3415	2908
Jan 2024	3357	3076
Feb 2024	3328	3103
March 2024	3342	3114
April 2024	3342	3114
May 2024	3395	3152
June 2024	3335	3091
July 2024	3342	3117
Aug 2024	3395	3179
Sept 2024	3399	3139
Monthly avg	3378	3083
% change Sept 2023 / Sept 2024	-1.45%	3.26%

WIC participation numbers
Enrollment: All those enrolled in WIC: (women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or post-partum; infants; and children up through age 5)
Participation with Benefits: All enrolled WIC participants receive food benefits except
 - Infants that are exclusively breastfed
 - Breastfeeding mothers whose infants receive more than 4 cans of formula per month



Sexual Health Program: Outreach and Disease Investigation

October 4th was designated as the 13th annual Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) Recognition Day by the National Coalition of STD Directors. Staff continue to conduct complex case investigations that correlate with social determinants of health, including access to appropriate care, transportation for services, socioeconomic status, uninsured status, and educational level. In addition, the societal issues of sex trafficking, substance use and abuse, domestic violence, lack of available and appropriate providers, legal concerns, and mental health issues are all represented in a significant number of STI/HIV case investigations. Not only do the Public Health Investigators, aka DIS, interview clients to elicit sex and needle-sharing partners and help stop the spread of infection in the community, but they also offer an ear and resources for clients.



Immunizations Program

The immunization team provides vaccines to individuals who are uninsured or underinsured and unable to receive vaccines elsewhere. In September, clinic staff vaccinated 208 clients while providing 524 routine doses. Beginning in October, staff will offer seasonal 24-25 influenza vaccines, COVID-19 vaccines, RSV immunization, and Beyfortus to the public and to infants, respectively. Clinic walk-ins are accepted daily. Staff offer community provider education regarding vaccine storage, handling, and inventory and address special medical and employee vaccine cases.

In September, there were three vaccine events. Outreach staff provided vaccines to 85 individuals. The community events included the Pride Festival, Head Start program, and an NNPH Employee Flu/COVID event. The program kicked off the respiratory season by vaccinating 46 NNPH



employees and temporary staff for influenza and COVID-19 on September 27th, which included 37 COVID-19 vaccines and 42 Influenza vaccines. An additional employee clinic will be offered on October 2nd to protect the NNPH workforce and frontline clinic staff as we enter the respiratory season. The team participated in Northern Nevada Pride on September 7, 2024, providing 29 Mpox vaccinations.

Planning activities are underway for upcoming Flu and COVID outreach efforts, which include a Family Health Festival and a POD in October through a partnership with EPHP staff. Many additional events are currently being planned. Advertising and social media reels are being developed to emphasize the importance of annual COVID and Flu vaccinations as the new respiratory season has begun and will continue through the rest of the calendar year.

Tuberculosis (TB) Prevention and Control

The TB program is currently managing four cases of active TB disease. One case previously reported as active is now being categorized as suspect as no confirmatory testing has come back positive to date, even though the client has all the clinical signs of active TB. In addition to the active disease cases, the program is currently managing/evaluating over 40 clients for Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI). In September 2024, the program completed six evaluations for LTBI conducted 20 case reviews with the consulting physician, performed 112 instances of directly observed therapy, and started four clients on LTBI treatment.

Tasha Pascal and Samantha Bebee created a poster titled "Betting on Nurse Case Managers" that was presented at last month's TB Education and Training Network Conference. The poster was well received at the conference and showcased the team's innovativeness.

Reproductive and Sexual Health Services

The Family Planning Sexual Health Program (FPSHP) took advantage of several training and educational opportunities in September. Two staff members attended the National Reproductive Health Conference in Philadelphia, PA, from September 10-13. Staff attended sessions on health equity, inclusivity, pre-pregnancy, early pregnancy care, updates on breast cancer screening and STI prevention, and a skills workshop for gynecologic procedures that can be done in the clinic. On September 17th, four staff members attended a webinar on strategies to minimize pain and anxiety during intrauterine device placement. The CDC recently updated its guidance on IUD placement to include counseling clients on pain during the procedure and interventions to mitigate pain and anxiety during placement.

FPSHP staff are currently working with Binx to secure a second machine for in-house chlamydia/gonorrhea testing. In-house chlamydia/gonorrhea testing has been a tremendous asset, with clients being able to receive their results and treatment on the same day. The test takes about 30 minutes, so clients have been experiencing a prolonged wait for testing and results. Staff are hopeful to shorten this wait time by adding a second machine. Staff have also received the needed supplies for rapid syphilis testing and will be submitting an amendment to the current lab license in the next few weeks.

Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention (CDIP) Program

The CDIP Program continues to drive initiatives aimed at reducing chronic disease and injury through education, outreach, and strategic partnerships.

Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (MCAH)

The MCAH program has been active in several key areas, including lead screening, newborn screening, and fetal and infant mortality review:

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program

The WIC Program has focused on staff recruitment and retention to maintain service levels amidst staffing changes.

Community Health Workers (CHWs)

The CHWs have provided navigation and resource assistance to clients across multiple programs..



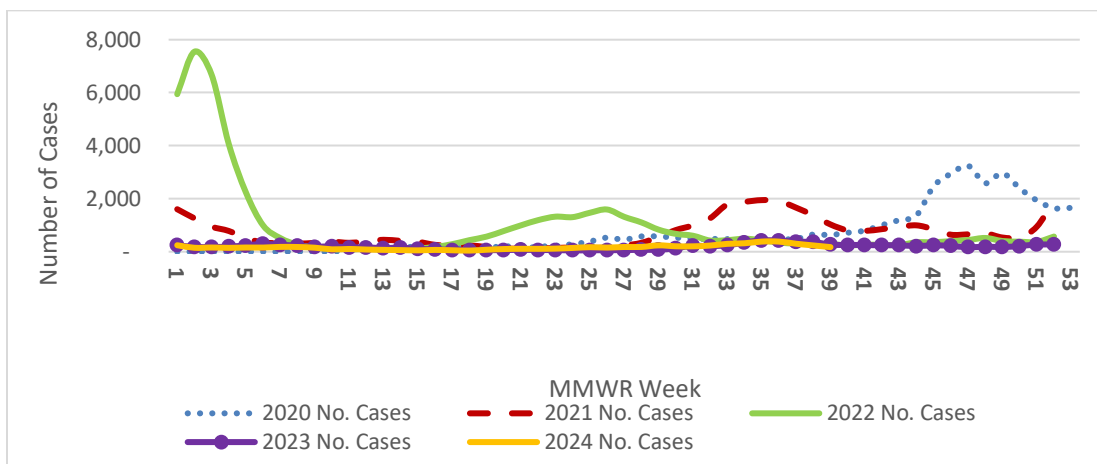
Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness

Epidemiology Program and COVID-19 Response

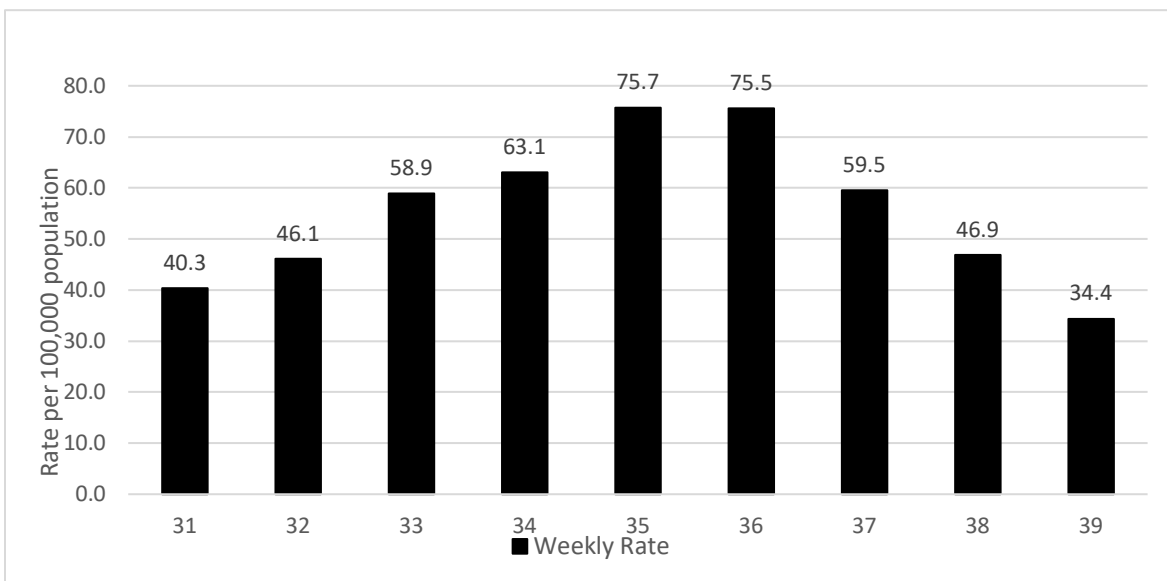
COVID-19 Surveillance and Testing

SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) – During September 1127 new COVID-19 cases were reported among Washoe County residents. Figure 1 Provides an overview of the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases reported to Washoe County by MMWR week from 2020 through the end of September 2024. Cases of COVID-19 have been decreasing since the beginning of September, following a peak in summer cases during week 35.

Total Number of COVID-19 Cases by Week of Onset Date* in Washoe County, 2020-2024



Newly Reported COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 Population by MMWR Week, July 28 – September 28, 2024, Washoe County





Outbreaks – There were 9 newly declared outbreaks in September. Four (4) Gastrointestinal Illness, two (2) Respiratory Illness, and three (3) COVID-19 Confirmed outbreaks.

Table 1: Number of Outbreaks Declared by Type and Month, 2024												
Type	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Gastrointestinal Illness	3	6	1	1	3	2	1	0	4			
Respiratory Illness	3	5	2	2	1	0	0	2	2			
Influenza Confirmed	6	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0			
COVID-19 Confirmed	1	3	1	1	1	1	5	0	3			
Rash Illness	0	0	2	1	1	1	5	0	0			
Other	7	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0			
Total	20	15	9	5	7	4	12	3	9	0	0	0

General Communicable Diseases

- **2024-25 Influenza Season:** The 2024-25 Influenza (“Flu”) Season starts Sunday, September 29, 2024. On August 29, 2024, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) officially published the Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations on annual influenza vaccination.¹ There were two changes to the annual recommendations around influenza vaccination for the 2024-25 season: 1) the composition of 2024–25 U.S. seasonal influenza vaccines, with a trivalent vaccine composition this season, and 2) updated recommendations for vaccination of adult solid organ transplant recipients. Highlights of the report are provided in this Epi-News issue.

Public Health Preparedness and Emergency Response

Training and Exercises

PHP staff attended the annual Nevada Division of Emergency Management 2024 Regional Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop (IPPW) for Western Nevada from September 3-5, 2024. The IPPW aims to identify and prioritize preparedness activities for the coming year. A tabletop exercise (TTX) using the T.E.S.T. Point of Dispensing (POD) tabletop board game was conducted on September 10, 2024, at the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District offices. The exercise had 20 attendees representing Washoe County School District, Central Nevada Health District, Quad Counties Public Health, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, NNPH, Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), and Revive Health Senior Care Management. The purpose of the TTX was to introduce and train emergency and response partners on the various roles and responsibilities they may assume in a POD setting. Feedback from the hotwash and survey showed participants responded positively to the questions.

The PHP MRC Program hosted Stop the Bleed (STB) training on September 17, 2024. Members of the Washoe County School District Emergency Management team conducted the training. STB is a national campaign to empower bystanders to assist in a bleeding emergency before professional help arrives. Seventeen individuals from NNPH, CERT, and MRC attended the training and received individual mini STB kits at the end of the class.

The PHEP program is continuing to plan for a cross-border CHEMPACK exercise scheduled for October 22, 2024. The CHEMPACK program positions medical countermeasure supplies in communities across the United States for immediate use in organophosphate and/or carbamate poisoning events. This exercise will coordinate with state and local partners in Nevada and California, simulating an emergency transport across state lines to support the response to a hazardous materials incident involving substantial casualties.

During.



Environmental Health

EHS Inspections	JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	MAY 2024	JUN 2024	JUL 2024	AUG 2024	SEP 2024	YTD 2024	2023	2022	2021
Child Care	14	11	11	11	2	5	5	8	12	79	133	128	118
Food/Exempt Food	323	330	306	386	380	307	341	245	356	2974	3,576	4,419	4,959
Schools/Institutions	14	29	34	14	44	14	0	5	9	163	300	292	291
Tattoo/Permanent Make-Up (IBD)	10	15	10	13	3	2	3	14	14	84	110	130	134
Temporary IBD Events	2	0	0	0	74	69	0	0	2	147	36	5	0
Liquid Waste Trucks	6	27	28	4	5	24	5	7	4	110	113	111	111
Mobile Home/RV Parks	0	4	0	21	14	0	1	5	18	63	108	121	117
Public Accommodations	14	12	17	3	1	1	0	8	2	58	68	139	151
Aquatic Facilities/Pools/Spas	53	45	44	88	255	149	91	36	22	783	739	712	1,128
RV Dump Station	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	21	19
Underground Storage Tanks	17	18	17	22	20	15	17	18	21	165	202	161	4
Waste Management	14	19	17	12	15	14	9	11	7	118	166	132	146
Temporary Foods/Special Events	24	15	12	55	92	321	147	221	92	979	1,358	1,174	766
Complaints	33	40	39	50	61	47	50	54	43	417	760	613	689
TOTAL	524	565	535	679	966	968	669	632	630	6,168	7,683	8,158	8,633
EHS Public Record Requests	330	234	518	284	354	212	249	370	298	2,883	4,962	5,707	4,769

Complaint Breakdown	JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	MAY 2024	JUN 2024	JUL 2024	AUG 2024	SEP 2024	YTD 2024	2023	2022	2021
EHS - Invasive Body Decoration	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1		
EHS - Food	18	23	26	30	23	19	19	13	27	198	248		
EHS - General	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	4		
EHS - Hotels/Motels	2	1	1	1	0	3	0	3	0	11	20		
EHS - Liquid Waste	0	4	3	1	3	0	0	4	1	16	62		
EHS - Mobile Home/RV Park	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	3	9		
EHS - Pools/Spas	1	2	0	2	1	1	0	3	1	11	3		
EHS - Schools	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	3		
EHS - Solid Waste	11	8	4	14	20	4	14	28	10	113	177		
EHS - Vector	1	0	1	1	9	19	13	3	2	49	98		
EHS - Waste Mgt	0	1	1	0	3	1	3	0	1	10	3		

Consumer Protection Programs

Food Safety Plan Review & Operations

The EHS Division’s Food Safety Program has been actively involved in several key activities over the past three months, focusing on both routine inspections and special projects:

- Senior EHS Olivia Alexander-Leeder traveled with Food Safety Team Supervisor Amber English to Saipan, MP, in September for the mentorship site visit via the NACCHO-FDA Retail Food Safety Mentorship Program. At this site visit, NNPH representatives led two classes of the Active Managerial Control (AMC) Program course for local industry professionals and regulators. Additionally, the team worked closely with Saipan’s Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Program Manager, Aileen Benavente, and Director, John Tagabuel, to conduct a successful verification audit of the Retail Food Safety Program Standards Standard 7 for their organization. Standard 7 is the first standard met by their organization.
- Senior EHS Olivia Alexander-Leeder, Byron Collins, and Kristen DeBraga traveled with Food Safety Team Supervisor Amber English to attend the 2024 WAFDO/FDA Educational Conference. This conference is a valuable opportunity to learn about regulatory updates and food safety science in the Western U.S.



Temporary Foods & Special Events

In September, EHS staff worked the largest event in Washoe County, The Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off. In total, staff spent over 250 hours on this event, including pre-event meetings with the Nugget and City of Sparks and inspections. There were 80 temporary food permits at this year’s event, 24 of which were rib cookers, requiring additional oversight inspections conducted at 5:30 AM and 9:30 PM every day ribs were cooking.

These additional inspections are necessary due to the complex cooking and cooling practices unique to the Rib Cook-Off.

As these additional inspections are not covered under NNPH temporary food permit fees, the new “Special Event Permit to operate (5,000+ attendees)—Hourly Rate” fee that was approved by the DBOH was assessed at \$18,130.00 to recoup some EHS staff time spent on the additional activities/inspections in addition to those covered under or existing permit fees.

September is a demanding month for large special events. In addition to The Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook Off, staff worked the Great Reno Balloon Races, Latin Fest held in Downtown Reno, Fiesta on Wells, and Street Vibrations, as well as other smaller events occurring on evenings and weekends.

Foodborne Disease Program

Epidemiology	JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	MAY 2024	JUN 2024	JUL 2024	AUG 2024	SEP 2024	YTD 2024	2023	2022	2021
Foodborne Disease Complaints	7	9	7	14	16	25	12	10	7	107	107	51	98
Foodborne Disease Interviews	4	7	12	6	12	22	6	4	4	73	102	47	59
Foodborne Disease Investigations	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	6	7	4	12
CD Referrals Reviewed	2	2	8	2	2	2	5	15	4	42	45	81	178
Product Recalls Reviewed	29	35	14	19	17	26	18	18	11	187	268	250	251

Commercial Plan Review & Development

Epidemiology	JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	MAY 2024	JUN 2024	JUL 2024	AUG 2024	SEP 2024	YTD 2024	2023	2022	2021
Foodborne Disease Complaints	7	9	7	14	16	25	12	10	7	107	107	51	98
Foodborne Disease Interviews	4	7	12	6	12	22	6	4	4	73	102	47	59
Foodborne Disease Investigations	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	6	7	4	12
CD Referrals Reviewed	2	2	8	2	2	2	5	15	4	42	45	81	178
Product Recalls Reviewed	29	35	14	19	17	26	18	18	11	187	268	250	251



Environmental Protection Programs

Residential Septic & Well Plan Reviews

Land Development	JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	MAY 2024	JUN 2024	JUL 2024	AUG 2024	SEP 2024	YTD 2024	2023	2022	2021
Plans Received (Residential/Septic)	76	80	78	84	83	81	80	81	67	710	828	999	918
Residential Septic/Well Inspections	114	87	95	105	93	86	84	76	55	795	1,004	1,436	1,282
Well Permits	13	11	10	10	13	15	4	4	5	85	90	141	150
Water Projects Received	1	1	1	2	2	1	0	0	2	10	12	25	40

Safe Drinking Water

The Safe Drinking Water program continued its oversight of public water systems, with a focus on compliance and public health:

- One (1) sanitary survey and 6 water hauler inspections were completed in September. Eight (8) water systems remain to have a survey for 2024, as Davis Creek is inactive due to the Davis Fire. All surveys are expected to be completed for the year.
- In the month of September, the team issued Level 1 Assessments at two public water systems due to confirmed positive bacteriological sampling. Level 1 Assessments require the water system to self-evaluate the system for potential causes of contamination and report back to the team within 30 days.
- The program Senior attended an EPA training on PFAS testing. PFAS will become a regulated contaminant in upcoming years and staff is becoming familiar with it in advance of the regulations.
- The team was involved in the Davis Fire response in several ways; They helped coordinate water system requests with the EOC; several water systems lost power during the fire and were required to go on precautionary boil water orders; and, the team ensured that those rules were followed and coordinated with the Food Safety program on impacted food establishments. One public water system burned completely, and another was damaged so that it will not be in service for a long time. Staff communicated with the operators and inactivated the systems.

Vector-Borne Disease Program

Vector	JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	MAY 2024	JUN 2024	JUL 2024	AUG 2024	SEPT 2024	YTD 2024	2023	2022	2021
Total Service Requests	1	0	0	7	16	9	4	6	4	47	99	65	59
Mosquito Pools Tested	0	0	0	0	21	75	101	162	44	403	948	506	385
Mosquito Surveys and Treatments	0	0	0	0	14	21	40	58	18	151	242	791	821

Waste Management / Underground Storage Tanks (USTs)

- Staff received notice of intent to close a site that has been in a temporary closure status for numerous years, and permanent closure is scheduled for October 2024.
- UST Staff received and reviewed a site assessment report referred to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) because of high concentrations of fuel constituents encountered during closure activities per interagency policy. Based on the assessment review, UST staff will defer to NDEP to decide whether additional assessment is needed.
- NNPH staff attended a Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) meeting in Carson City to guide new NDOT staff on how to keep their tanks in compliance with testing and monitoring.
- WM team staff and REOC assisted local businesses and homeowners affected by the power outage and fire damage associated with the Davis Fire by coordinating extra containers and pickups to ensure proper waste disposal. Staff worked with WM to ensure containers in heavy wildlife areas were equipped with rolling lids and serviced daily to reduce animal interaction. Additionally, NNPH staff guided homeowners who may have waste issues due to the fire.
- The WM team has received biohazardous waste generator permit applications for the last two known outstanding generators and will be issuing them in October 2024.