

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
December 9, 2008  
LABORATORY REPORT**

**DEPARTMENT: Laboratory**

**REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF: November, 2008**

**Highlights:**

- Dr. Kinzelman gave two lectures at the University of Surrey (UK); one to the graduate students at the Centre for Environmental Health Engineering on engineering controls to improve bathing water quality and the second to the Centre for Environmental Strategy on Racine's integrated approach to improving the water quality of the Root River.
- Jennifer Lavender successfully defended her thesis and was awarded a MS with distinction from UW-Parkside in applied molecular biology.
- Thirteen dairy samples were analyzed from various establishments in November; six (46%) failed.
- Annual maintenance was performed on a variety of laboratory instruments. The remaining pieces of equipment will be serviced in December.
- A proposal was submitted to the Wisconsin Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Program Office in hopes of receiving a no-cost intern participating in the 2009 Community Health Internship Program (CHIP). If there is an interested candidate, they would participate in water quality assessments along the coast of Lake Michigan.
- Three grant proposals were submitted to the WI Coastal Management Program for 2009 funding; one directly from the RHD laboratory and two others with the RHD laboratory as a partner agency.
- The Bay Area Restoration Council (Hamilton, Ontario, Canada) released their annual report and recommendations for improving water quality in Hamilton Harbour, one of the 43 Areas of Concern on the Great Lakes. In the report they cited Racine's ordinance prohibiting the feeding of gulls and our improvements with respect to beach grooming as best management practices.
- The manuscript submitted to the *Canadian Journal of Microbiology* was accepted for publication and will appear in the December issue. The topic of the manuscript is human pathogens in gull feces.
- A revised manuscript dealing with human-specific *Bacteroides* as a source tracking tool has been re-submitted to the journal *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*; we should hear whether or not is accepted shortly.
- Dr. Kinzelman was invited to attend, as one of about 60 participants, a workshop sponsored by the Great Lakes Commission titled "Monitoring Microbes in the Great Lakes". The purpose of the workshop is to plan the benefits, needs, and methods for monitoring microbial pathogens (VHS and others) in the Great Lakes. This workshop is part of an effort to develop a practical approach to assess, detect and manage the risks to the Great Lakes posed by the introduction and translocation of non-indigenous microbes, particularly human and non-human pathogens, by commercial ships.
- We (Jennifer and Julie) have been invited to submit a manuscript for a special issue of *Water Research* focusing on cross-validation of methods for the detection and quantification of microbial pathogens and indicators of fecal pollution.
- Grant related activities were completed under the 2008 Root-Pike Watershed Initiative award related to Root River sample analysis. A final report will be submitted to the funding agency in December.

**CONFERENCES/MEETINGS/TRAINING – November 2008**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Conferences/Meetings/Training</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
11/6/08	University of Surrey/Centre for Environmental Strategy	Give Seminar
11/11/08	University of Surrey/Centre for Environmental Health Eng.	Deliver lecture
11/18/08	UW-Parkside/Jennifer Lavender	Thesis defense
11/19/08	Centre for Community Development	Webinar
11/20/08	WI DNR	Conference call
11/25/08	Janelle Grammer	Complete CHIP application