

04.2025

NEWSLETTER

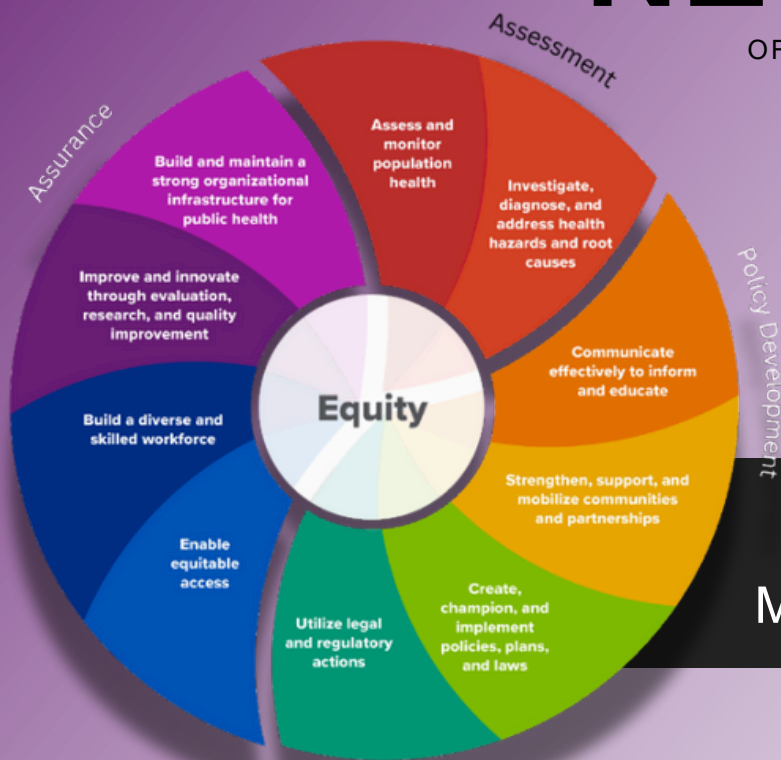
OF THE APPLETON PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

IN THIS ISSUE:

The East Central
Weights & Measures Consortium

The Consortium and Me

Meet Amy



VISION: Health for all, together.

MISSION: Facilitate equitable community wellbeing through education, health promotion, and response to public health needs.

10 Essential Public Health Services

Each month, the Appleton Health Department Newsletter features stories about how we are achieving each of the 10 Essential Public Health Services. This month, we focus on:

Essential Public Health Service # 9: Improve and innovate public health functions through ongoing evaluation, research, and continuous quality improvement

Strength in Standards: The East Central Weights & Measures Consortium

The East Central Weights & Measures Consortium, formed in 2003, is a collaborative partnership led by the City of Appleton Weights & Measures division. Its mission is to ensure equity in commerce by verifying the accuracy of commercial weighing and measuring devices across member communities. By joining forces, the consortium has strengthened regional cooperation, creating a shared framework for enforcement, education, and efficiency. What began as a small alliance has grown to include twelve communities: Appleton, Ashwaubenon, Berlin, Fox Crossing, Greenville, Kaukauna, Kimberly, Little Chute, Neenah, New London, Ripon, and Waupaca, working together to support fair trade practices and consumer protection. This partnership allows for consistent enforcement of standards, better use of limited resources, and enhanced technical expertise across municipal borders.

The strength of the consortium lies in its ability to foster trust, both among local governments and with the public. Communities benefit from streamlined inspections, shared training opportunities, and a unified voice in the state-level regulatory landscape. The result is a more cohesive, responsive, and professional program that reflects the collaborative spirit of Wisconsin's public service.

Community Partners

What Consortium Membership Means for You: Protecting Consumers Across Our Communities

When your city or village is part of the East Central Weights & Measures Consortium, you benefit every time you shop, fuel up your car, or check out at the register. This regional partnership—serving Appleton, Ashwaubenon, Berlin, Fox Crossing, Greenville, Kaukauna, Kimberly, Little Chute, Neenah, New London, Ripon, and Waupaca—ensures that commercial measuring and weighing devices are accurate and reliable.



That means when you pay for a gallon of gas, you're actually getting a gallon. When an item scans at the register, it matches the shelf tag. Consortium inspectors test and certify these devices regularly, making sure you're charged fairly and businesses meet state and federal regulations.

Because communities work together, your local government can provide this important consumer protection service efficiently and affordably. It reduces administrative costs while maintaining high professional standards. Inspectors are specially trained and bring their own equipment—no added costs to the local taxpayer.

Every inspection sticker you see in a store or gas station is a small sign that your municipality is looking out for you. Thanks to the consortium model, residents get the benefit of expert service, trustworthy transactions, and fair pricing—right in their own neighborhoods.



Meet Amy

If you've seen someone wheeling a cart of certified weights into a grocery store or testing a gas pump with scientific precision, you might have met Amy Hoechst. She's been a Weights & Measures Specialist with the City of Appleton for six months, making sure you get exactly what you pay for—whether it's a gallon of gas or a pound of produce.

Amy's background in quality control and life as a stay-at-home mom sharpened her eye for detail. Every day brings something different: indoor inspections, outdoor testing, driving between communities, and lots of friendly questions from curious customers. She often focuses on store-brand items and uses a randomized system to check dozens of products per visit for pricing accuracy.

When the workday wraps up, Amy heads to the community pool with her husband Joe and their kids, Ada and Evan. She loves knowing her job helps build trust between shoppers and stores.

Resources

[Board of Health Calendar](#)



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

