Mobile County Health Department A History of Prevention

mobile county health department

A legacy of excellence since 1816

Mission Statement

"The Mission of the Mobile County Health Department is to promote, improve, and protect the health of Mobile County."









A legacy of excellence since 1816



Brief History of Mobile

- Founded in 1702 as a French settlement
- Name for the local Maubila tribe inhabiting the area
- In 1704, the ship Pelican delivered 23 women to the settlement. They had stopped along the way in Havana and picked up yellow fever.
- A small outbreak among the 300 or so residents ensued.



Brief History of Mobile

- In 1816, the Mobile Board of Health was established.
- Alabama gains statehood in 1819.
- 1819-20, 43% (430) of the Mobile population died of yellow fever. (Savannah and New Orleans also hit hard by yellow fever.)
- In 1822, Blakely, AL, located across Mobile Bay is decimated by yellow fever. Population of the city went from 4,000 to 0.
- 1923, Mobile Board of Health was charged with preventing disease within the city.



Brief History of Mobile

- 1839, 450 citizens perished from yellow fever.
- 1853, 1,191 perished in Mobile, 7,849 died in New Orleans
- 1875, Alabama Department of Public Health was established. Health Department were established in each of the 65 counties.
- 1878, yellow fever strikes New Orleans and Memphis killing 4,000 and 5,150 respectively.
- 1905, Last documented case of yellow fever.
- 1914, Mobile County Board of Health tasked with catching and destroying rodents.
- 1922, Mobile County Board of Health tasked with eliminating mosquitoes.



Mobile County, AL

- Situated in the southwest corner of the state on Mobile Bay.
- Mobile County is the second largest county in population.
 - 413,955 (2017)
- It is the 5th largest in land area with 1,229 square miles. (1,644 total sq. miles)



Current Operations

- Staff
 - 2 Office staff
 - 13 Inspectors
 - 1 Mechanic
 - 9 Night Drivers

- Equipment
 - 12 Night trucks
 - 13 Day trucks
 - 1 Airplane

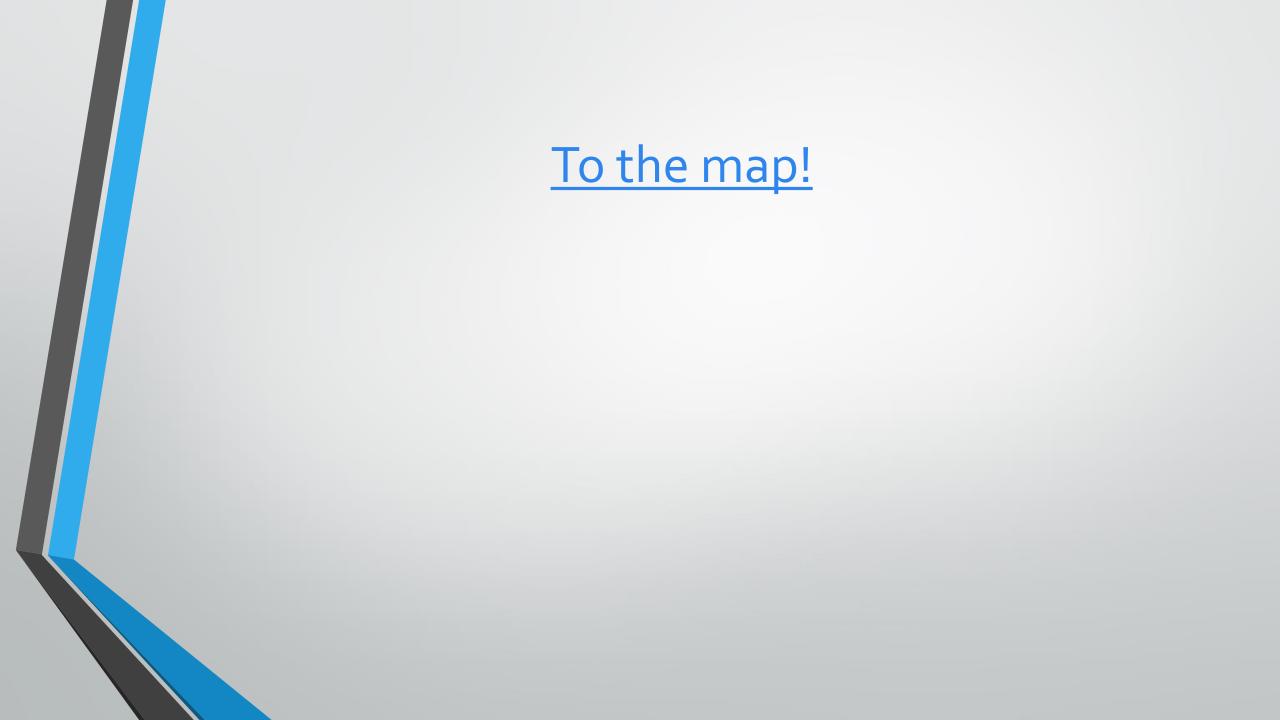
Current Operations

Rodent Control

- 3 Rodent Control Specialist
- Handled 1,164 complaints last year.
- Only do residential complaints.
- Assist and consult for requested commercial complaints with Inspection Services.

Mosquito Control

- 10 Mosquito Control Inspectors
- Handled 1,071 complaints last year.
- Conduct site inspections, larvicide applications, hand fogging and truck fogging when required.
- Collect 22 CDC traps per week.
- Collect from 26 sentinel chickens per week.





Contact Information:

Paul Efird, Director <u>PEfird@mchd.org</u> (251)690-8182

Mobile County Health Department (MCHD) 248 N. Bayou St. Mobile, AL 36603

MCHD.org