

Hunterdon County Division of Health is One of First in New Jersey to Use New Inspection Software

By **Hunterdon County Democrat**

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The Hunterdon County Division of Health's team of Registered Environmental Health Specialists inspect over 800 restaurants and other establishments for cleanliness, proper licensing, and adherence to the New Jersey Administrative Code.

Traditionally, these inspections were conducted using paper and pencil, and required staff to input inspection results in a computer at the end of the day.

The Hunterdon County Division of Health is moving beyond traditional inspection methods to increase efficiency of time spent by staff, while also increasing the quality of the inspection. In 2014, the Board of Chosen Freeholders invested in a tablet-based software inspection program called WinWam.

After gaining Freeholder approval for the purchase, the staff began using the software during the month of December to conduct inspections.

WinWam is food safety software developed by Nover Engelstein & Associates, Inc. based in Mt. laurel, New Jersey. The new program allows for inspectors to conduct all



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inspections of retail food establishments, kennels and pet shops, public pools, youth camps, campgrounds and tanning salons on a computer tablet, rather than using paper inspection forms.

The tablet software stores business information for all the inspected establishments, while providing immediate access to all necessary inspection forms and state codes.

The program also allows inspectors to attach pictures to reports, and provide immediate results to business-owners and municipalities. Rather than manually entering data in a computer after returning from the field, the inspection information is automatically synchronized to the main database and is immediately available for review.

The addition of the software provides retail food establishments with data on the type and frequency of violation, which assists in educating business owners and can prevent future violations.

Hunterdon County is one of the first in New Jersey to move forward with tablet-based inspection software.

“We are constantly striving for ways to increase productivity and provide a better service to county businesses and residents, and this software allows us to do just that,” said Freeholder Director Matthew Holt.