Our Organization

- The NH Division of Public Health Services (DPHS) is a State health agency based in the science of disease patterns and the goal to prevent disease and promote wellness
- ~250 employees and $116M budget, 80% federal
- Our Bureau of Public Health Protection manages EH issues of food, housing, radiation, EH tracking, and climate.
- Business model is that State laws gives authority to protect the public health, and Federal funds provide the ability
- We have to partner with community organizations & state agencies to fulfill our mission
Lived in New England since the 1960s, yet never saw a tick until 1990 on NH Seacoast

Each year, the little blood-sucking parasites crept closer, attached more often, took blood meals from me and my friends, and made people sick.

Now, ticks are abundant and people are at risk

The science says ‘viable tick habitat’ is the key factor, and relates to temperature, precipitation, snow cover, forest fragmentation, and other factors.
How We Help NH Adapt

- In early phases, we used a CDC framework to Build Resilience Against Climate Effects (BRACE)
- We assessed climate/weather hazards, then human health effects, then evidence-based interventions, drafted plans of action, and evaluated the impact.
- We collaborated with partners
- We supported or built models
- We measured health effects
- We prioritized health issues
How We Help NH Adapt

- In later phases, we collaborated with partners to create EBPH interventions in community settings
- Funded multiple regions to assess their climate hazards first, choose a priority, and then take action...
  - Lakes Region (ticks), Upper Valley (heat), City of Nashua (heat)
  - Monadnock region (eprep), Seacoast region (tick safety)
  - Seacoast oyster testing for pathogens
For more information:

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