

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

(last updated 9/10)

2026 MHOA Annual Conference <i>Sharing Insight. Celebrating Impact.</i>							
Tues 10/27	1:00 -3:30	Preconference Workshop with Growing A New Heart - Advancing Equity: Excellence in Action					
	4:00 - 6:00	Welcome Reception, Poster Session and Early Registration					
	4:30 - 5:30	New Health Directors Peer Networking					
Date	Time	Local Public Health Practice & Management Meeting Room #1	Environmental Health Meeting Room #2	Food Safety Meeting Room #3	Public Health Nursing & Epidemiology Meeting Room #4	The Public Health Playbook - Insights across the spectrum Meeting Room #5	Wastewater Ballroom C
Weds 10/28	8:00	Registration, Breakfast, & Exhibit Hall					
	9:00-10:20	Dr. Katelyn Jetelina, Your Local Epidemiologist** (Ballrooms A&B)					
	10:30-11:20	Crowd Sourcing Your Management Style	Surface Water and Foam Sampling on Nantucket: Sampling Methods, Analytical Challenges, and Communication	ROP and Food Code Requirements**	From Collection to Connection: Data Strategies for Stronger Communities	Recognizing and Responding to Animal Cruelty: A Collaborative Approach for Health Officers	The Morass of PFAS - What that four-letter word has to do with septic systems.
	Exhibit Hall	20 minutes					
	11:40 -12:30	Hot Topics in Public Health with Dr. Catherine Brown** (Ballrooms A&B)					
	12:30-1:30	Lunch - 1 hour (Exhibit Hall A)					
	1:30: 2:20	Grow Through Mentorship: Stories, Insights, and How to Get Involved	Toxic and Hazardous Materials/ Implementing an Environmental Protection Program in Your Town**	Foodborne Illness Complaints for Inspectors: An introduction to Report My Meal complaint intake to investigatory follow-up **	From Idea to Impact: A "How-To" Guide for Building Public Health Social Media Campaigns Using the Talk Early, Talk Often Initiative**	Crafting a message with impact: Public health messages with a heart**	Biomat – The Myth, the Lore, and the Truth
	2:30 - 3:20	What's Coming Down the Pike from the Tobacco Industry	The Environmental Toll of the Vaping Epidemic: Addressing the Toxic Impacts of E-Cigarette Waste on Behavioral Health Populations		Cradling Collaboration: Building Up a Regional Program for Safer Starts	Sustaining Local Public Health: Strategies, Funding, and What's Next: Panel Discussion	Energy Efficient, Robust, and Easy to Maintain Advanced Treatment Technology With a Proven Track Record
	Exhibit Hall	20 minutes					
	3:40 - 4:30	Putting Metrik Into Action: The Software Powering Stronger Local Public Health Through Better Data**	Who, When, and Where: Using All-Cause Heat Data to Target Public Health Action in Greater Boston**	Beyond the Bottle: Enteric Pathogens in Raw Milk and Outbreak Response**		Advocacy 101 - Breaking down barriers to legislative engagement for Local Public Health	In-Ground and Mounded Soil Absorption Systems in Title 5
	5:15 - 6:00	MHOA Member Meeting and Elections (Marriott Ballroom, 6th floor)					
	6:00 - 7:00	Social hour (Marriott 6th floor foyer)					
	7:00 - 8:00	Networking Dinner (Marriott Ballroom, 6th floor)					
	8:00 - 10:00	Paint and Sip/Lawn Games on the Patio					

RN contact hours - PENDING
CHO/CPH contact hours

SE/SI TCHs- PENDING

****PHEP funding APPROVED**

Food sessions qualify for CP-FS contact hours All sessions qualify for RS/REHS and

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Thurs 10/29	7:30 - 8:30	Registration, Breakfast, & Exhibit Hall					
	8:30 - 9:20	Harnessing Divergent Energy: How to utilize community activists, affected parties, and public participants to reach a rational, sustainable public health result	Effective Tobacco Retailer Education: Strategies for Compliance	Emergency Food Pantry Response to SNAP Cuts in Methuen, MA**	Visualizing Timely Maternal and Child Health Inequity Data: Partnering with Hospitals and Health Centers to Improve Data Access for Decision-Making**	Navigating Artificial Intelligence in MA Local Public Health: Successes, Challenges, and the Road Ahead **	Lessons Learned from Long Island's Experience Implementing a Nitrogen-Reducing Septic System Management Program
	9:30 - 10:20	Evaluating a Fourth-Tier Public Health Response System: Insights from Northampton's Division of Community Care (DCC)**	Communicating with the Public about Tick and Mosquito-Borne Disease Prevention: Practical Strategies for Professionals on the "Front Lines"***	The Wonderful World of Warewashing!**	Community Care in Mpox Response: Supporting the Unhoused**	Final Cannabis Control Commission's Regulations on Social Consumption Establishments	Septic Designers: More Than Meets the Eye
	Exhibit Hall	20 minutes					
	10:40-11:50	MassDEP & MDPH Commissioners and MHOA Awards** (Ballrooms A&B)					
	12:00 -1:10	Lunch - 1 hour, 10 minutes (Exhibit Hall A)					
	1:10 - 2:00	Say It So They Hear It **	Heating and Hot Water Systems: A Practical Guide for Health Inspectors	Cannabis Control Commission & Food Safety	From Care to Coverage: Bridging Healthcare Access Gaps through a Municipal Free Medical Program	Accreditation: Needham Shares Strategies for Smaller Health Departments	Piloting Nitrogen-Reducing Onsite Wastewater Technologies on Long Island
	Exhibit Hall	20 minutes					
	2:20 - 3:10	First Impressions Matter: Turning Public Health Data into Funding-Ready Visuals**	The Ripple Effect - Dealing with the Aftermath of Closing Webster Lake**	Breaking Bad Habits: Food Safety Protocols and Procedures Training** (to be confirmed)	Ticked Off: Turning an Alpha-Gal Syndrome Crisis into an Island-Wide Tick Strategy**	Kratom session (title to be announced)	Title 5 Inspection session** (title to be announced)
	3:20 - 4:10	Local Opioid Abatement Assessment: Successes and Lessons	Housing Q&A** (title to be announced)	Open-ended Questions Provide More than Answers!	Every question counts: Strengthening local disease investigations through complete data collection**	Late Breaking: One Big Beautiful Bill	
	5:30 - 7:00	Networking Social at Tap Room, MGM Bowling, light appetizers & cash bar					
FRI 10/30	8:00	Registration and Breakfast (Marriott Ballroom)					
	9:30-11:30	Lessons Learned from the World Cup and BOH Response to Large-Scale Events**					

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