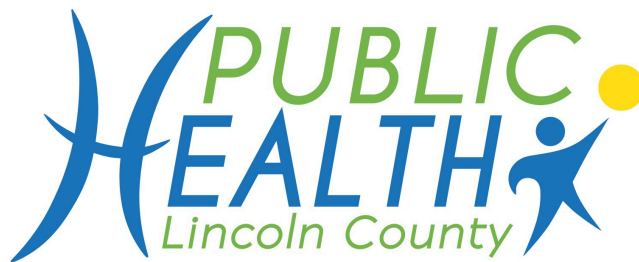




# 2024 Annual Report



## Overview

Lincoln County Public Health continues to protect and promote the health of all people in our community with a broad range of services, collaborations, assessments, and community engagement.

Tobacco Use Prevention	Public Health Emergency Preparedness	Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention
Harm Reduction	Outreach	Dog Bites & Kennel Licenses
CPR and First Aid	Maternal and Child Health	Teen Mental Health First Aid
Car Seats	Education	Detention Center Nursing

## Total Vaccinations

Children Vaccinated: 134  
Adults Vaccinated: 561  
Mobile Vaccination Clinics: 45

## Communicable Diseases Reported

Covid 19	153
Campylobacter	10
Chlamydia	17
Coccidiomycosis	2
Giardiasis	4
Hepatitis C, Chronic	10
Influenza. Hospitalization or Death	2
Lead Poisoning	5
Mercury Exposure	1
Pertussis	5
Rabies, Poste Exposure Prophylaxis	7
Salmonellosis	5
Shiga Toxin-Producing Escherichia coli(STEC)	2
Streptococcal Toxic-Shock Syndrome	2
Streptococcus Pneumonia, Invasive	1
Tuberculosis, Latent Infection (LTBI)	1



CredibleMind is a digital platform aimed at improving mental well-being by providing science-backed resources, self-assessments, and personalized support.

Total Users: 1,084

### **1,233 Sessions**

73.47% Female,

18.37% Male

8.16% Non-disclosed/Other

### **Top topics across all site content:**

1. Depression
2. Anxiety
3. Flourishing or Languishing
4. Stress
5. Friendships & Social Support

### **Top assessments:**

- Are Your 'Off Days' a Sign of Depression
- Are Your 'Worry Days' a Sign of Anxiety
  - Mental Health Check-in
  - What's Your Mental Health Profile

**40% of users completed an assessment**



Lincoln County Connections is a free platform that connects residents to over 230 local resources and services, including topics such as health, housing, and education. It also features a community event calendar, with 196 events posted in 2024, to keep community members engaged and informed.

### **Board of Health**

Amy Fantozzi:	Lincoln County Representative
Jan Ivers:	Lincoln County Representative
Patty Kincheloe:	Lincoln County Representative
Jim Hammons:	Lincoln County Commissioner
Kristin Smith:	City of Libby Representative
Jim Seifert:	City of Troy Representative
Amy Casazza:	Town of Eureka Representative
Dr. Brad Black:	Health Officer



## Overview

**Zero to Five Lincoln County** is a county-wide collaborative dedicated to making a meaningful impact in the lives of families with young children. By working alongside a diverse network of partners, agencies, and community members, we serve as connectors, conveners, and champions—strengthening support systems and enhancing partner capacity to create a brighter future for children and families across Lincoln County.

## Summary

Our positive community impacts include but are not limited to:

- Successfully hosted 12 Kids Corner events.
- Distributed 300 STEAM Kits throughout Lincoln County.
- Developed 40 Movement Kits designed for age-appropriate play, encouraging family engagement.
- Conducted 7 childcare empathy interviews, followed by a Childcare Needs Survey that gathered over 100 responses.
- Supported partnerships with local playgroups, including:
  - Trego Learn and Play
  - Mountain Kids Discovery
- Collaborated with more than 50 community events in 2024.
- Partnered with Lincoln County Connections.

HOPE

Healthy

Outcomes from

Positive

Experiences

ASSURING THAT ALL KIDS ARE  
LIVING THEIR BEST LIVES

CREATING MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS

CENTERING HEALTH EQUITY

GROWING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES  
WHERE FAMILIES THRIVE

ELEVATING FAMILY VOICE

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

BUILDING CAPACITY

IMPROVING LOCAL SYSTEMS



**FAMILY CENTERED**



RELATIONSHIPS

ENGAGEMENT

ENVIRONMENT

EMOTIONAL GROWTH

**ROOTED IN HOPE** HEALTHY OUTCOMES  
FROM POSITIVE EXPERIENCES





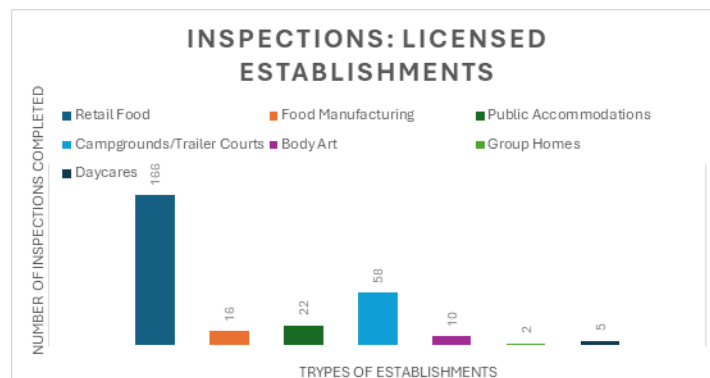


## Overview

Lincoln County Environmental Health secured funding for food safety programs, enhanced air quality outreach, and expanded wastewater training. The department processed 273 septic applications, issued 247 permits, and handled over 550 land research requests. Efforts also included removing junk vehicles, improving shelter operations, and distributing healthy homes kits through community partnerships.

## Summary

### Licensed Establishments



- Successfully applied and received funding for the retail food program through the NEHA-FDA RFFM Grant Program, equating to approximately \$10,000 per year.
- Received full verification and acknowledgement from the FDA for Standards 1, 3, and 5 of the FDA Voluntary Standards Program.
- Provided required food service trainings to 21 industry workers with 18 passing and becoming certified after the first round of testing.



## Air Quality

- Advanced communication and outreach activities to include the revamping of current guidance and procedures centered around burning and its respective permitting process.
- Began working with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality to establish a clean air shelter program, forecasted to begin in 2026.

AQ Citations	0
Landfill Burns	2
AQ Alerts	1
Management Burns	46
Residential Burn Permits	781

## Wastewater/Subdivision

- Sourced funding via the Montana Environmental Health Association's mentorship program to attend NEHA's AEC, hosted in Pittsburgh, PA for 2024.
- To expand and keep up to date with working knowledge related to wastewater systems, attended the NOWRA conference, hosted in Spokane.
- Began and have almost completed Subdivision Review training, expanded community accessibility and increased revenue streams.
- 273 septic applications were received with 247 of the applications leading to permits and the vast majority being inspected by health department staff.

COSA-related septic applications	150
Local Review septic applications	123
Total septic applications received	273
Total septic permits issued	247
Land research requests received	553

### **Other Noteworthy Environmental Health Highlights**

- Junk Vehicle program: 35 junk vehicles and 33 mobile homes disposed of at no cost to owners via State funding.
- Funding sourced to expand shelter operations including the installation of 9 outdoor kennel runs.
- Collaboration with Zero to Five for outreach activities and distribution of approximately 30 healthy homes kits.



## Overview



Lincoln County Solid Waste serves all of Lincoln County, including Eureka, Libby, Troy, Trego, Fortine, Stryker, and Rexford. Transfer stations are located near Eureka, Happy's Inn, and Troy, where residents can dispose of bulky items such as concrete\*, used motor oil\*, antifreeze\*, stumps\* metal, brush, tires, furniture, and residential household refuse. Additionally, 11 residential-use green box sites are distributed throughout the county to provide convenient, localized disposal for household waste.

\*Note: These items are not accepted at the Happy's Inn transfer station.

## Summary

### Traffic Data

In 2024, Lincoln County landfills had 123,792 user visits. Libby Landfill saw 71,740 visits from private vehicles, an 11.1% increase from 2023. Troy Landfill had 12,473 visits, up 29.2%, while Eureka Landfill recorded 39,579 visits, a 37% rise from the previous year.

## Drone Survey Data

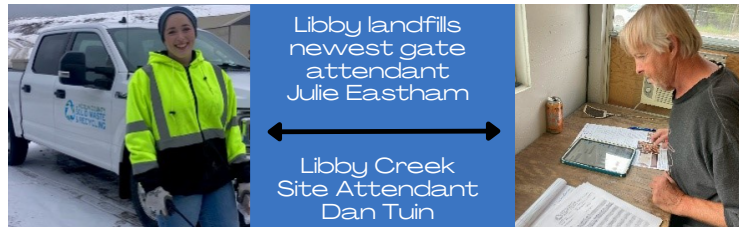
In October 2024, Kootenai Surveying Inc. completed the annual Libby Class II landfill drone survey. The updated data revealed that approximately 37,200 cubic yards of Class II landfill space were used in 2024, reflecting a 15.7% decrease compared to 2023. The department attributes this reduction to the increased compaction achieved with the use of the 826G landfill compactor. According to the survey, there is approximately 152,259 cubic yards of landfill capacity remaining.

## Safety



Landfill staff remains dedicated to maintaining a safe workplace, fostering a culture of collaboration where safety deficiencies are identified and addressed before they lead to incidents. As part of the safety program, landfill employees are provided with essential gear, including high-visibility summer vests and t-shirts, winter boot traction devices, hi-visibility winter and fall jackets, safety glasses, and gloves for use while on landfill property. This year, we continued to update the Safety Program SDS sheets and conducted periodic safety inspections. We are committed to further educating both employees and customers on the specific hazards they may encounter during landfill visits. Additionally, fixed radios have been installed in most landfill equipment to improve radio coverage across the landfill site and throughout the County.

## Personnel



In 2024, the number of full-time employees decreased from 13 to 12. Additionally, the Libby Landfill gate is staffed by two permanent part-time employees, along with one full-time seasonal employee.

## Recycling

Total 414530.5 lbs. (207.26 Tons) \*

LOCATION	ALUMINUM	CARDBOARD
Libby	4519	276702
Troy	2173	38384
Eureka	7140	147630
Totals*:	13832	462716

*\*This total only includes aluminum cans and cardboard as all steel cans are included in the baled metal totals.*

In addition to the previously mentioned recycled materials, the program diverts the following materials from the waste stream for recycling or landfilling elsewhere:

**Used Motor Oil:** 3425 Gallons of used oil were sent to the Troy Road department shop to be utilized in their oil heating system from Libby, 880 gallons were sent from Troy, and 850 gallons from the Eureka landfill.



**Anti-Freeze:** 450 Gallons of used anti-freeze from Libby and 150 gallons from Eureka were picked up to be recycled by Tri-State recyclers.

**CFC-containing appliances:** 598 Refrigerators, Freezers, and AC systems had the refrigerant removed by landfill staff for refrigerant recycling by Johnstone Corporation in Missoula. The metal bits were recycled in the scrap metal section.

**Batteries:** 1090 automotive lead/acid and small equipment batteries for cores were collected for recycling by the Interstate Battery Corporation of Spokane.

**Scrap Metals:** 1196 Tons of scrap metal was collected and sold for \$117.25 per ton.

**Tires:** 59 containers (approximately 25075 tires) were transported to the Greenwood Tire disposal facility in Flathead County for disposal.

**Concrete:** 919.5 Cubic Yards of concrete were deposited in class IV landfills in Libby, Troy, and Eureka.

**Rechargeable Batteries:** 180 lbs. of rechargeable batteries were sent to Call2Recycle.

**E-Waste:** 8900 lbs. of e-waste was sent to Yellowstone Recycling Solutions for processing.

**Mobile Homes:** 33 mobile homes were accepted for disposal through the Junk Mobile home program for the calendar year.

**Asbestos containing materials:** 763 Cubic Yards were deposited in the Class IV asbestos landfill.

**Eagles:** 188 Eagles were counted on the annual USACE bird count on December 17th, 2023. This total included 187 bald eagles and 1 Golden Eagle.

## Maintenance



Maintenance of landfill equipment is an ongoing process, as all machinery operates under a severe-duty maintenance schedule. To maximize cost savings for taxpayers, the landfill mechanic handles all but the most complex repairs. Several significant projects were completed this year, including:

**816F Compactor** – The cab was removed, the brake system rebuilt, wheel seal guards replaced, wheel surfaces built up, and new teeth welded onto the wheels by Western States Caterpillar.

**938G Front Loader** – Western States Caterpillar repaired the transmission and replaced the hydraulic pump.

**International Roll-off Truck #639** – The steering knuckle and king pins were replaced.

**320E Excavator** – Master link pins on the tracks were replaced.

**Sterling Dump Truck** – Rear leaf springs were changed.

**Eureka Sterling Roll-off #719** – A new clutch, pilot bearing, and surfaced flywheel were installed, along with a replaced fuel tank.

**D-6 Dozer** – The water pump impeller and thermostat were changed out.

**Eureka International Roll-off #593** – The clutch was replaced.

**Chipper** – The stolen remote control was replaced, the chipper tub wear ring and tub rollers were repaired, and the hammer bodies were built up, with hammer teeth rotated and replaced multiple times.

These maintenance efforts ensure the reliability and longevity of landfill equipment while keeping repair costs as low as possible.

## Green Can Sites

Due to increased costs from the renegotiated hauling contract, the public green can sites in Rexford and Eureka have been eliminated, and the remaining sites now operate on a reduced schedule. The updated hours are as follows:

- **Glen Lake, Fortine, Fisher River, and Trego** – Open Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 8 AM to 6 PM.
- **Troy City, Hecla, and Yaak Hill** – Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 8 AM to 6 PM.
- **West Kootenai and Happy's Inn** - Open 24/7.
- **Troy Landfill** – Open Mondays through Saturdays from 10 AM to 6 PM.
- **Libby Creek** – A manned site, open Thursdays through Sundays from 8 AM to 6 PM.

These adjustments help manage costs while maintaining essential waste disposal services for the community.

## Rechargeable Batteries



The Call2Recycle battery recycling program became a paid service in 2024. In response, the Solid Waste program opted to cover the cost until a free or more affordable alternative is found.

## Eureka Landfill Updates



The Eureka landfill's dumping area was revamped for increased traffic, featuring four 40-yard bays with container sides as safety walls,

eliminating chain-link gates. A wider entrance improves trailer maneuverability, and a one-way traffic flow reduces congestion. Road surfaces and signage were also upgraded.

To further enhance the facility's capabilities, the reload building was modified to accept incoming public loads, allowing it to accommodate dump trailers. A custom safety gate was designed, fabricated, and installed by the mechanic at the Libby Landfill.

### **New Safety Gates**



The safety gates in front of the green boxes at the Troy Landfill and Happy's Inn transfer station were replaced with new chain-link units built by Montana Fence Company in Kalispell.

### **TENORM Screening**

Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (TENORM) must be screened for in loads originating from wastewater treatment operations and mineral and oil exploration. According to Montana DEQ regulations, landfills are required to monitor incoming disposal loads for TENORM from these sources to ensure compliance with safety standards.

### **Landfill Expansion Project**

About 10 acres of landfill were cleared for excess soil storage from the lateral expansion project, while a 3-acre section was logged and stripped for a new composting area. The final Class II Solid Waste Expansion Application was submitted to the Montana DEQ in November 2023, with the amended license issued in January 2025.