

## Steele County Environmental Services Department Public Health Nuisance Complaint Investigations

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 145A, the Steele County Environmental Services (ES) Department will investigate complaints or conditions to determine if they constitute a public health nuisance. In order to be considered a public health nuisance that the ES Department will address, the following conditions must apply:

1. The condition must be public, affecting a considerable number of members of the public or having the potential to do so;
2. The condition must endanger health or safety of the public (this means the condition must reasonably be expected to cause or be involved in the transmission of disease or cause injury to the public or to expose the public to hazardous elements or substances that could adversely affect health or be potentially unsafe);
3. The condition must not be specifically addressed in a local ordinance (city or township) or in State statute other than MN Statute 145A.

Nuisance complaints and conditions within municipalities will be subject to local ordinances for enforcement, if they apply. When a complaint or condition arises in a municipality that may be a public health nuisance, ES staff will investigate in cooperation with city staff to determine the most appropriate source of authority for enforcement.

Nuisance complaints and conditions outside of municipalities will be investigated by ES staff to determine validity and the appropriate source of authority for enforcement, where applicable.