

# CHISAGO CONNECT

Connecting Your Community, While Protecting Your Health

# NEWSLETTER



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
**Chisago County**

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF CHISAGO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 ISSUE 7



For current updates on Coronavirus (COVID-19) please visit:  
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html>  
<https://www.facebook.com/ChisagoCountyPublicHealth>



## THE FEAR OF "TWINDEMIC"

*WHY PUBLIC HEALTH WILL RAMP UP FLU VACCINE PROMOTION*

The thought of covid-19 getting to a worse state than it currently is, gives us all chills, but what would make this fall and winter even worse: a severe flu season, resulting in a "twindemic." According to the CDC, flu season occurs in the fall and winter, peaking from December to February, and so was nearing its end as the pandemic began to flare in the U.S. in March.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, has been imploring people to get the flu shot "so that you could at least blunt the effect of one of those two potential respiratory infections."

The flu shares symptoms with covid-19: fever, headache, cough, sore throat, muscle aches and fatigue. Flu can leave patients vulnerable to a harsher attack of covid-19, doctors believe, and that coming down with both viruses at once could be dangerous. In conclusion, Public Health is urging you to get your flu shot this year!

## SEPTEMBER

### NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

National Preparedness Month is part of a governmental effort to strengthen the United States' preparedness capabilities.

The aims are to encourage individuals to take important steps such as:

- Getting an emergency supply kit
- Making a family emergency plan
- Being informed about the different emergencies that may affect them
- Taking the necessary steps to get trained and become engaged in community preparedness and response efforts.

To learn more about how you can prepare for emergencies in your community, go to:

[Chisago County Community  
Emergency Preparedness](#)



## PUBLIC HEALTH HAPPENINGS

School Liaisons are assigned from Public Health to each Chisago County School District:

- Chisago Lakes School District: Jen Barnick
- North Branch Area Public Schools: Rushess Schneider
- Rush City School District: Heather MacDonald
- Public Health is meeting with superintendents to share data in order to evaluate trends
- School liaisons are working with COVID coordinators at each school

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACCREDITATION



**70%** -The percentage of health departments who said that accreditation has strengthened their health department's relationship with key partners in other sectors.

While Chisago County Public Health is in the process of accreditation while tackling COVID-19, our relationships with various sector partners, community members, and other county departments have flourished. It has become increasingly clear that Public Health is often effectively achieved through collaborative, community-partnerships.

Working together, sharing resources, and combining talents enhance the opportunities and likelihood for achieving positive health outcomes for communities. Because of the complexity and cost of the current health environment, we, as public health, and others involved in prevention efforts cannot afford to work in isolation

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dr. Deborah Birx, head of the White House COVID Task Force, was in MN over the weekend and issued a stern warning to Minnesotans because of our continued high rate of community transmission.
- MDH has identified 29 specific social setting outbreaks in both the metro and greater MN.
- 49 cases are now associated with the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally.
- The FDA is warning consumers and health care professionals about certain hand sanitizer products that are labeled to contain ethanol or isopropyl alcohol but have tested positive for 1-propanol contamination.
- Current case death rates in neighboring states: 7.0% Michigan; 4.2% Illinois; 2.8% Minnesota; 1.7% Wisconsin.
- Minnesota Recognized as a Leading State for Data and Evidence-Based Policy making.
- Whether your child will be attending classes in-person, distance learning or using the hybrid model, it is still very important to make sure your child is current with their vaccinations.
- CDC releases [new testing guidance](#)

# STAY SAFE MN

