

August 2013



Points of Interest...

- Preventive Health & Immunizations planning for upcoming Influenza season and will offer the new “quadrivalent” influenza vaccine. Vaccine protects against an additional strain of influenza not covered in past years or certain influenza products this year. Walk-in flu clinics start 9/16 and will be every Mon & Wed. Marketing began this month.
- Emergency Preparedness: Staff in process of completing another round of FEMA Courses. At conclusion of this round of training 100% of all HD employees will have completed IS - 700, 800, 100, 200. In addition, command staff, supervisors, coordinators and other key positions/functions will also have completed IS - 300, 400, 546, 250, 701, 702 as appropriate. State and Local Health Departments are required to be NIMS compliant per CDC Cooperative Agreement.
- The Storm Water program’s transition has begun. A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for consulting firms to provide future storm water permit compliance coordination was posted, with seven firms submitting a bid. A committee has selected three firms to be interviewed. After firm selected, final approval from the BOC will be sought in September.
- Article in Times Herald relative to MI having high number of immunization waivers in school children. SCC has a waiver rate of 7% in kindergarten students and is higher than the MI state average of 6% (is 4th highest in US). SCCHD initiatives to improve the rates involve close surveillance of waiver rates, direct contact with school secretaries, trainings, offering on site education to new secretaries and individual district/school rate reports communicated to school administration.
- Dr. Mercatante & Greg Brown presented staff with overview of new SCCHD Strategic Plan. Staff asked to review document, offer feedback/suggestions. Future discussions & decisions will continue to ensure employee understanding as the SCCHD focuses on its nine focal points over the next 5 years.
- As a required component of the Belle River Watershed Grant, Environmental Health division began a mail survey of 1,000 random households to assess the public’s current knowledge about the watershed and identify future needs.