

September 2014

Points of Interest...

- Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) update: St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) has been in contact with hospitals and pre-hospital healthcare providers providing infection control guidance, case definitions and laboratory testing requirements. There is no specific treatment for EV-D68 infections, however, supportive care can be provided. Timely and accurate information is crucial in providing the most current guidelines to the healthcare community in order to assure early recognition of potential cases and reporting of clusters and outbreaks. (*see attached fact sheet*)
- SCCHD continues to receive updates and reports regarding the Ebola outbreak in Africa. Guidance has been forwarded to pre-hospital (EMS/First responders) and hospital providers. Early detection is crucial in order to halt the spread of this disease. **The situation in Africa is exasperated by the inability to enforce isolation and quarantine of suspect cases from the rest of the population**
- The Environmental Health division completed the bacteriological monitoring of 15 Great Lakes and five inland beaches. Through the end of the beach season there have been over 1,000 samples analyzed resulting in a total of four single day closures. The SCCHD Beaches Facebook page has reached over 700 followers and is generating around 1,000 views per post.
- Flu vaccines are now available on a walk-in basis every Monday 10:00am-6:00pm and Wednesday 8:00am-4:00pm until 12/22/14 at the SCCHD. Other weekdays by appointment. Also available by appointment for those 10-21 years of age at the Teen Health Center, located on the campus of Port Huron High School. The vaccine the SCCHD is administering covers four strains of the flu. Flu shots and Flu Mist (*subject to availability*) will be offered. Most insurance is accepted and consider flu vaccination a covered benefit. For those uninsured, cost will vary based on income eligibility and family size. Call (810)987-5729 for more information.
- The SCCHD activated its new "Call Center/Central Intake". This allows all outside calls for (810) 987-5300 and direct lines from Preventive Health & Immunizations (PHI), Clinic Services, Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP) and Women, Infants and Children program (WIC) to be answered/transferred in one central location. These program's appointments can now be scheduled, re-scheduled or cancelled from this one central point.
- SCCHD's Emergency Preparedness Coordinator has been sought out by MI Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) to develop a standardized template for health departments. This pilot project is focused on (environmental health) - *Foodborne Illness/Outbreak Annex* to the SCCHD's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). This template is for types of events that are large scale and/or beyond our local capabilities. Approximately four other jurisdictions have also been recruited to develop a standard template for Michigan.
- The SCCHD and City of Marysville water treatment plant are pursuing a DEQ grant to obtain real-time beach monitoring equipment. This advanced equipment will produce water quality results within hours and can be used to identify specific sources of pollution using genetic marker.