

**DECEMBER 2018**

***Points of Interest...***

- All 14 water treatment plants (seven in St. Clair County) along the 80-mile Lake Huron to Lake Erie corridor have installed new monitoring equipment. This project received a \$375,000 State of Michigan grant to upgrade the water treatment plants with new equipment, providing online real-time monitoring and communication between plant operators, and establishing a sustainable program for long-term network participation. In addition, a DTE intake in East China Township joined the monitoring network. This represents a major advancement in the ability to detect and respond to potential spills in the vicinity of drinking water intakes.
- Dr. Annette Mercatante, Medical Health Officer has been reappointed to the Michigan Public Health Advisory Council and assuming Chairperson, until new Chief Medical Executive for Governor Elect Whitmer selects replacement for her and Dr. Eden Wells.
- The Emergency Preparedness and Response Division is currently finalizing its Closed Point of Dispensing (POD) plan. Pre-approved compliant agencies can receive medical supplies and/or preventive medications to dispense in the event of a declared public health emergency. The main objective is to ease some of the burden off of the open or community PODs and increase the number of regimens dispensed. Once the Closed POD plan is completed, the next step is to reach out to Closed POD candidates and provide assessment and training.
- Dr. Annette Mercatante, Medical Health Officer was invited to the December St. Clair County Superintendent's meeting to present on the latest Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth (MiPHY) St. Clair County data. Last cycle there was 100% county participation. Teen vaping/electronic cigarette use is one of the most common concerns. Other youth risks reported include binge drinking, synthetic marijuana use, relationship violence, feelings of hopelessness and depression, and safety at school. Intervention ideas were shared and public health collaboration with all school districts is key. The next cycle opens in 2019-20 school year.