Points of Interest...

- St. Clair County is forming a new prevention coalition. The first planning session was held May 3 and over 65 stakeholders representing many community agencies were in attendance. After reviewing all the data, participants identified four focus areas; vaping, underage drinking, marijuana, and opioids. The second planning session will be on June 7. An evidence-based strategy is being used to ensure the planning process is done effectively.

- The Environmental Health division has begun beach monitoring. Utilizing grant funding, eight beaches (Chrysler, Conger-Lighthouse, Fort Gratiot County Park, Holland, Keewahdin, Lakeport State Park, Lakeside and Marine City) will be analyzed for water quality over a 15 week period. In addition to the standard method, two beaches (Chrysler, Holland) will also be monitored using the experimental rapid testing technology that allows for results within four hours.

- A confirmed case of measles was diagnosed in a child (not of age to be vaccinated), investigated and monitored by the nursing division in May. A thorough contact investigation was conducted to verify immunity in close contacts and at the facility that the case presented to, exposure locations crossed into Macomb County. The case initiated a large public information campaign and two vaccine clinics in Yale and Marine City, hosted at Council on Aging offices.

- St. Clair County Health Department’s (SCCHD) Emergency Preparedness and Response, Health Education and Environmental Health divisions have been coordinating with the St. Clair County Office of Homeland Security / Emergency Management on a response to flooding/high water situation. SCCHD was called to the SCC Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in response to the potential impacts of high water levels in southern St. Clair County. The monitoring will continue until the water level peaks out in July. SCCHD provided expertise in assessment of septic and well functions to assist with planning. Risk communications support have also been provided.