

JANUARY 2016



Points of Interest...

- The St. Clair County Smoke Free Team (tobacco reduction coalition), led by the St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD), commend the actions of *St. Clair County Community Mental Health Authority* and *St. Martin Lutheran Church* (including Soup Kitchen) for implementing *Smoke and Tobacco Free Campus* policies effective January 1, 2016. These policies include outdoor campuses that protect employees, clients and visitors from the dangers of secondhand smoke and keep the environment clear of tobacco litter. The Smoke Free Team can offer technical assistance to those entities that are interested in pursuing SF/TF campus policies. For more information contact (810) 987-5300 ext. 1414.
- 2015 HHPSS (*Healthy Housing and Lead Poisoning Surveillance System*) data indicates that 4.29% of lead tests on St. Clair County children revealed elevated blood lead levels of ≥ 5 mcg/dl. This percentage is consistent with prior year's data and indicates no trending increases. Compared with the most recent MI Department of Health & Human Services (MDHHS) report (2012 data) St. Clair County's percentage for those with an elevated blood level >5 mcg/dl is less than the state total of 4.6%.
- The Environmental Health Division offered residents free radon test kits during January for *National Radon Action Month*. Radon is a naturally-occurring, invisible, odorless gas that is usually harmless outdoors. However, when the gas is trapped in a building or home it can be a health hazard and is the second leading cause for lung cancer in the United States. St. Clair County is considered lower risk but 1 in 10 homes may have elevated levels. Last year, over 100 test kits were distributed during the month of January.
- The SCCHD will soon be launching the *Second Chance* Naloxone training and rescue kit distribution program available for individuals at risk for opioid overdose or those who have contact with opioid using individuals. When administered, Naloxone can help to prevent death to an individual who is in the process of overdosing on opioids. Trainings will be available at the Health Department on the second Monday of the month starting February 8 from 5:00pm-6:00pm. Other components of the program include substance abuse recovery resources and community training. The program is confidential. There is no charge; however participants must be 18 years old or older and be residents of St. Clair, Sanilac, Lapeer or Genesee County to receive a rescue kit. For more information or to register for the training call (810) 987-5300.
- Sheri Faust, SCCHD Environmental Health Educator, was nominated and received the 2016 *Blue Water Woman* "Government Professional of the Year" award. *Blue Water Woman* is a locally produced magazine for women living, working and playing in the Blue Water Area and its stories are written and designed to be inspirational, motivational and encouraging. All recipients will be recognized at an awards ceremony on February 19 at McMorran Theatre in downtown Port Huron.