



PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS



Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Services- Are you a woman between the ages of 40-64 years in need of breast cancer screening or diagnostic testing? Depending on your income and situation, you MAY QUALIFY for free services through the Michigan Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program. For more information, please call the Clinic at 517-541-2630 or 269-945-9516.

Preparing for Flu Season-Flu is the 8th leading cause of death in the U.S. Children under five years of age, pregnant women, people with chronic conditions and older adults are at highest risk. At the Health Department in Charlotte and Hastings flu shots and flu-mist are available for children ages 6 months – 18 years of age. Call for an appointment 517-541-2630 or 269-945-9516. For other vaccine locations visit <http://flushot.healthmap.org/>.

Disposing of Yard Waste-Leaf burning is a serious fire hazard, and is illegal in many Michigan cities and communities. Citizens are encouraged to compost or mulch leaves by simply mowing over leaves with a lawnmower to chop them into fine mulch. Leaving the mulch on a lawn provides nutrients it will need to look great next spring. In locations where burning is allowed, homeowners are reminded to obtain a permit before they burn and that they are responsible for any damage caused by which results from a fire they start.



Halloween Safety-Everyone loves a good scare on Halloween, but not when it comes to child safety. There are several easy and effective behaviors that parents can share with kids to help reduce their risk of injury. On average, children are more than twice as likely to be hit by a car and killed on Halloween as on any other day of the year. Visit <http://www.safekids.org/halloween> for the top tips for safe Trick-or-Treating.

Harvest Road Safety The harvest season is fast approaching, which means drivers can expect more traffic on rural roads. To kick off the busy time of year, local officials are urging people to take it slow on the roads. Farm equipment is slow and bulky, but has as much right to the roadway as passenger vehicles, so it's vital that everyday motorists take caution and exercise patience and restraint. For a list of harvest-time road safety tips, visit <http://www.fbfs.com/content/resources/LearningCenter/Farm-Business/share-the-road/default.aspx>

County Immunization Report Cards are released quarterly by MDCH at http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2942_4911_4914_68361-321114--,00.html . Barry County ranks 52nd and Eaton County ranks 72nd (out of 84) for the Pediatric Immunization Series and Barry ranks 51st and Eaton 59th for Adolescent vaccinations. *Immunization Waiver Rates* by school building are now available at http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2942_4911_4914_68361---,00.html . The posted rates are from February 2014.





Do 1 Thing for October: Power We count on electricity for heat, food, and medical needs. Many gas appliances even need electricity to run. A power outage is an emergency that often follows another emergency—like a hurricane, tornado, or winter storm. That makes it even more important to be prepared in advance. For information about preparing yourself for an emergency, visit <http://do1thing.com>.

WIC program is available to **Women** who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or who recently had a baby; **Infants**; and **Children** until their 5th birthday. The program provides:

- Electronic benefits to purchase healthy foods.
- Nutrition education and individual counseling with a Registered Dietitian.
- Breastfeeding education and support.
- Referrals to other health and social services.

To qualify call, Eaton County 517-541-2630 or Barry County 269-945-9516.



Reduce the Risk of Lead Poisoning in Children Parents can reduce a child's exposure to lead in many ways. Here are some simple things you can do to help protect your family:

- Get your Home Tested. Before you buy an older home, ask for a lead inspection.
- Get your Child Tested. Even if your young children seem healthy, ask your doctor to test them for lead.
- Get the Facts! For more information, call 1-800-424-LEAD or visit http://www2.epa.gov/sites/production/files/documents/rr_english_color_book.pdf



Dental Clinic in Charlotte Michigan Community Dental Clinics (MCDC) offers discounted dental services to those who have Medicaid, Delta Dental, those who are low income or the uninsured through membership in the Michigan Community Dental Plan (MCDP). There are two levels of membership at MCDC. Call the Toll Free number for more information about services near you at 1-877-733-7651 or visit <http://midental.org/> Local clinic-623 Courthouse Dr Charlotte, MI 48813.

Healthcare Reform

- Healthy Michigan Plan (Expanded Medicaid for those aged 19-64 with incomes less than 138% FPL) – enrollment always open. Call Lisa at 517-541-2696 for in-person assistance with applying for Healthy Michigan.
- Healthcare Reform Moving Forward seminar for Eaton County's Frontline Workers Oct. 15th, located at Eaton RESA. To register by 10/13/14 go to: http://reg.abcsignup.com/reg/event_page.aspx?ek=0021-0003-9BA5588F89A044CE97142537FB023FBC
- Marketplace Open Enrollment preparation. Open Enrollment begins November 15th. Visit <https://www.healthcare.gov/> to learn and prepare before you enroll. If you need in-person assistance, BEDHD can help. Call Lisa at 517-541-2696 to make an appointment.

Meetings

- **B. Healthy Coalition Meeting**, Pennock Hospital Mini Boardroom, Wednesday, October 22, 2014 1:00-2:30 pm. Contact Tamah Gustafson with more details 517-541-2624.
- **Grand Ledge Building Healthy Communities** meeting on Tuesday, October 28th from 9-10 am. Call Jill Sambaer at 541-2610 for more information.

For more information, contact Shelli Smith, Community Health Specialist, 517-541-2644 or ssmith@bedhd.org.