

SEPTEMBER 2021

Points of Interest...

- Since September 1, there has been 316 confirmed or probable St. Clair County cases of COVID in individuals 18 and younger and cases continue to rise county-wide. Dr. Mercatante communicates regularly with public school superintendents and private/parochial school administrators.
- The Environmental Health Division completed the summer of water quality monitoring at eight public beaches on Lake Huron and the St. Clair River with a grant from EGLE. Fifteen weeks of sampling resulted in a total of five days of closures at three beaches, making it one of our healthiest beach seasons on record. Improved water quality has been made possible by reducing pathogen sources through sewer separation projects, elimination of illicit discharges, and installation of green infrastructure. All sampling data was entered daily into Michigan Beach Guard, a website provided by EGLE, showing real-time information on sampling results and beach closures. St. Clair County samples submitted during the summer will be analyzed over the winter to link the bacteria to human or animal sources.
- The St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) offered a back-to-school vaccination catch-up and waiver opportunity on September 11. Nursing staff administered 59 total vaccines to 19 children/adolescents. 17 vaccine waivers were also signed.
- SCCHD leadership, general staff and key partner agencies are in the process of receiving and completing the health department COVID-19 Response Assessment. The intent is to use the data to formulate the SCCHD After-Action Plan and Improvement Report (AAR-IP). This activity supports Medical Countermeasures Operational Readiness Review (MCM ORR), and meets one of the CDC Cooperative Agreement requirement for State and Local Health Departments. This report is due year-end, but may be extended due to ongoing disease activity and related challenges.
- Appointments for flu vaccinations are now available at the Health Department (ages 6 months and older) and Teen Health location (ages 10-21). While supplies last availability includes; FluMist (no needle) for ages 2-49; enhanced for ages 65 and up; and standard flu vaccine for all ages. Call (810) 987-5300 to schedule. Other locations for flu vaccine includes local pharmacies and health care provider offices.