

December 2024

Points of Interest...

- The Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP) is continuing its Diaper Drive through 1/15/25. Donations go to eligible MIHP participants and will help families in need. New packages of baby diapers (all sizes), baby wipes, rash creams, or baby hygiene items are accepted. Drop off donations (during regular business) at the St. Clair County Health Department. Monetary donations are also accepted via PayPal <https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/sccmitreasurer>. Call (810) 987-4903 for details.
- Alicia Hawkins passed the national Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) examination. Professionals who hold this credential have demonstrated competency in an impressive wide range of environmental health topics including vector control, water quality, hazardous materials, air quality, and food sanitation.
- Completion of fifth Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) case took place. The OFR team examines circumstances surrounding the death of those in our community who have overdosed and makes recommendations to drive that number down.
- The last Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) meeting for 2025 was held. A progress report on objectives was shared, as well as local county data obtained from the Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth (MiPHY) survey. For CHIP information visit <https://healthyscc.org/>.
- A total of 8 presentations were provided by Teen Health/Adolescent Health Centers nursing staff to schools within St. Clair County, including vaping, marijuana, STI, contraception and healthy lifestyles education.
- The Environmental Health Educator presented the *One Drop and Pollution Solution* programs to 4H members at their *Waters of Wonder* winter program. To view a menu of free Stormwater educational programming, visit [St. Clair County Health Department \(stclaircounty.org\)](https://stclaircounty.org).
- The Health Department played a role in addressing the recent water main break affecting Harsens Island. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated, and the Emergency Preparedness staff supported the response by addressing public health-related concerns. The Public Information Officer (PIO) team shared messaging to support communication efforts. Meanwhile, the Environmental Health staff-maintained communication with licensed food establishments, offering guidance on managing the situation effectively.
- Throughout January, the Health Department will be offering free radon test kits to residents (while supplies last) during National Radon Action Month. Radon is a naturally-occurring, invisible, odorless gas that is usually harmless outdoors. When the gas is trapped in a building or home, however, it can be a health hazard. Radon is considered the second leading cause lung cancer in the US. Call the Environmental Health Division for details (810) 987-5306.