



September 2023

September was National Preparedness Month. Preparedness is one of the foundational services for public health. In collaboration with our community partners, we continuously plan and practice for public health emergency events both large and small. It is also important for every citizen to be as prepared as possible! There are several tips on how you can be prepared in the attached report.

There will also be some important changes to note in regard to influenza and COVID reporting. KDPH is currently finalizing the process, and we will share the information as soon as it is available to us.

We have Flu vaccine doses available for all ages. Please call 270-527-1496 to schedule an appointment. We have not yet received COVID or RSV vaccine doses for adults. Please watch our Facebook page or our website for more information as it becomes available.

And Thank You to Blake Johnson, Regional Epidemiologist, for the attached report!

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Marshall County Health Department

September 2023 Update

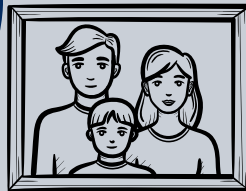
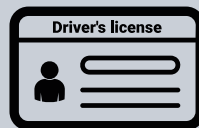
September is National Preparedness Month!

Take Control in
3..2..1

Important

Documents
In an

Emergency



- Drivers License
- Birth certificate, Marriage certificates,
- Death certificates, Divorce, Adoption Records
- Social Security Cards
- Financial Records
- Debit/Credit Cards
- Medical Records
- Family photos, keepsakes, and mementos

What should be in a basic disaster kit?

- Water (one gallon per person per day for several days, for drinking and sanitation)
- Food (at least a several-day supply of non-perishable food)
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA weather radio with tone alert
- Flashlight
- First Aid Kit
- Extra Batteries
- Whistle
- Dust Mask
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags, and plastic ties
- Wrench or pliers
- Manual can opener
- Local Maps
- Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery

DID YOU KNOW?

About half of all Americans take a prescription medicine every day. An emergency can make it difficult for them to refill their prescription or to find an open pharmacy. Organize and protect your prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, and vitamins to prepare for an emergency.

Marshall County Health Department

September 2023 Update

Public Health Topics of Interest

HAN Alerts

[Sept. 5, 2023: No. 498: Increased Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) Activity in Parts of the Southeastern United States: New Prevention Tools Available to Protect Patients](#)

Changes for Influenza and Covid Reporting

CDC, Kentucky Dept. for Public Health, and many other state health departments are moving into a direction of “living with Covid.”

With this change, comes a change in reporting requirements, KDPH is working to update 902 KAR 2:020, which will change Covid reporting guidance. Providers will be kept updated on the changes in guidance, as it becomes available.

Guidance on Influenza mortality is also being updated. This guidance will no longer require that every adult influenza related death be reported, Influenza deaths that will remain reportable include: childhood, pregnant, and post-partum (<3 months following delivery).

A new dashboard is being developed to include influenza and Covid data. This dashboard will be updated weekly and is anticipated to go live on October 12th.

Respiratory Illnesses

The official 23-24 Influenza surveillance season begins October 1st. Last year, Kentucky saw an early peak in Flu cases starting in early November and running through mid-December.

It's recommended that individual should get their annual flu shot in late Sept- early October. With colder weather and more time spent inside looming, RSV illness sees an increase in the colder months. An RSV vaccine is recommended for infants and adults that are 60 and older. Kentucky saw an increase in Covid cases at the end of August, beginning of September. An updated Covid vaccine was approved for use of the 23-24 Respiratory Illness Season on September 12th. This vaccine has been updated to provide better protection against the Omicron variants.

This is the first winter season where vaccines for Influenza, Covid, and RSV are available to prevent hospitalizations.

Marshall County Covid Cases, September 2023
n=95

