



September 10, 2024

September is preparedness month. Most of us recall the devastation of the December 2021 tornadoes that ripped through our communities. Many are still dealing with the devastating loss. Please see the attached information about how you can be as prepared as possible for future events.

We are also rapidly approaching the peak season for respiratory disease. The CDC predicts a season comparable to last year.

As always, thank you to Blake Johnson, our Regional Epidemiologist, for the attached report!

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## Disasters

Disasters cause widespread damage and losses, they can cause disruption to every day life.

Examples of disasters may include tornados, power outages due to winter storms, and extreme flooding. Use this month to build an emergency kit for each member of your family, even the furry ones!



## Emergencies

An emergency is an event that requires quick action to save lives and property. Events such as a house fire or an automobile collision. Start the conversation of where your family would meet up, if there was to be a fire or who would pick up children from school if there was an accident.



## It's Preparedness Month

Having a conversation about what to do in a disaster or emergency is never easy but they are important conversations for the safety of your family.

Starting a conversation today can help you and your family to take more actions to prepare.

For examples on how to get started, building a kit, or important documents to have within your emergency kit, visit:

<https://www.ready.gov/plan>



## Know Your Alerts

**Watch:** Be prepared. An event is possible. Use this time to talk about your emergency plans and to grab emergency kits and comfort items.

**Warning:** An event has been sighted or indicated by radar. At this time, you should be moving into your safe areas.

**Shelter Immediately:** Highest alert level, issued when there is severe threat to human life and property. Immediately seek shelter before attempting to check on friends and family.

## Step 1: Put together a plan by discussing questions with your family, friends, or household.

Questions that you should consider when putting together your household plan includes:

1. How will you receive emergency alerts and warnings?
2. What is our shelter plan?
3. What is our evacuation route?
4. What is our family communication plan?
5. Do you need to update your emergency preparedness kit?

## Step 2: Consider specific needs in your household.

Tailor your plan to fit your specific daily living needs and responsibilities. Discuss how people in your family network will assist each other with communication, care of children, business, pets or specific needs like operating medical equipment. Create your own personal network for specific areas where you need assistance. Keep in mind the following factors when developing your plan:

- Ages of household members
- Responsibilities for assisting others
- Dietary needs
- Languages spoken
- Cultural or religion considerations
- Pets or service animals
- Households with school-aged children

## Step 3: Create a family emergency plan

## Step 4: Practice your plan with your family/household!

For more information and templates on developing a family emergency plan, visit the [Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov)

# Upcoming in Reportable Disease

## 2024-2025 Respiratory Disease Season Outlook

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) expects the upcoming fall and winter respiratory disease season will have a similar or lower number of combined peak hospitalizations due to Covid-19, Influenza and RSV compared to the 2023-2024 season.

Covid-19 outlook: Covid-19 activity this fall and winter depend on the progression of the ongoing summer wave. CDC has developed two possible scenarios for hospitalizations based on the summer wave. If the wave continues to increase and does not peak before the start of the fall and winter respiratory virus season, modeling indicates that the Covid-19 wave may peak early during the respiratory season. The second model indicates that if the summer wave peaks before the respiratory season begins, a smaller wave could occur.

2024 Respiratory virus season updates for long-term care providers webinar: September 16th, 2024 at 12:00pm CST. To register [click the link here.](#)

Influenza outlook: CDC projects the peak hospitalization rate due to influenza will look similar to or lower than that of the 2023-2024 season rate. Vaccination is a key role in preventing hospitalizations due to influenza during the respiratory season. The estimated effectiveness of the seasonal vaccine is 33%-50% effective against hospitalization.

RSV outlook: CDC projects the peak weekly hospitalization rate across all age groups due to RSV will be similar to or lower than that of the 2023-2024 season. The RSV season is expected to fall within normal seasonal patterns. For older adults, the effectiveness of RSV vaccination against hospitalization will likely be between 73%-88%.

For additional information on the 2024-2025 respiratory season, visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/cfa-qualitative-assessments/php/data-research/season-outlook24-25/index.html>

## HAN Alerts

08.07.2024: No 513- Mpox caused by Human-to-Human transmission of Monkeypox virus in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with spread to neighboring countries.

08.13.2024: No 514 - Increase in Human Parvovirus B19 Activity in the United States

08.16.2024: No. 515 - Increased Oropouche Virus Activity and Associated Risk to Travelers

**Outbreak Reporting:** If a facility has two (2) or more cases of illness, please contact the Marshall County Health Department at 270-527-1496 or the regional epidemiologist at 502-382-6438 to report.