

## **Communications Bulletin 11/15/2024**

Visit the [LPHA Info Hub](#) for news and links to resources.

Attachments:

- Drinking water testing fee waived due to emergency declaration

## **UPDATES**

**Private drinking water testing fees** will be waived at the State Public Health Lab while Missouri is under a [state of emergency](#) (through Dec 5) declared by Governor Parson in response to flooding earlier this month. (attached)

**Environmental Health Self-Assessment for LPHAs:** The Bureau of Environmental Health Services is in the process of reviewing the state of Environmental Health Operations in Missouri. The Environmental Health-Local Evaluation and Assessment Program aka EH-LEAP is the process that the bureau is using to conduct this review. As the name indicates EH-LEAP is a two-step process. This first step of this process is the assessment. This step is conducted by the LPHA through the completion of the Local Environmental Health Self-Assessment and Data Questionnaire. The assessment portion is designed to gather specific data while the questionnaire is used to obtain your opinions on environmental health operations. Please complete the [Local Environmental Health Self-Assessment and Data Questionnaire](#) by **November 27<sup>th</sup>**. Inquiries about the questions within the Self-Assessment and Data Questionnaire should be directed to [Aaron Winslow](#).

**Flu shot promotion:** This week, Governor Parson and First Lady Parson received their flu shots and took part in promoting them with DHSS. Special thanks to the Cole County Health Department for coordinating and vaccinating them once again this year! View photos or share DHSS Facebook post here: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/15RQrUVGH6/>

## **NEWS**

**11/14/2024:** A study published in the Lancet tracks obesity rates in the US and predicts that if these trends continue, by 2050, two in three adults will be obese and one in three adolescents will be obese. <https://tinyurl.com/5n8xwxt>

**11/14/2024:** New FDA rules for drug advertising go into effect Nov 20, requiring language on risks and side effects to be more clear and more direct. <https://tinyurl.com/mts2vtcn>

**11/14/2024:** New research shows that loneliness increases the risk for dementia. Loneliness has previously been shown in studies to increase the risk of premature death, heart disease, stroke, anxiety and depression. <https://tinyurl.com/84hpyank>

**11/14/2024:** St. Louis County Health Department works an investigation of at least 19 people with *E. coli* infection linked to an off-campus event sponsored by a local high school. <https://tinyurl.com/msdnpu9>

**11/13/2024:** Opioid overdose deaths have now slowed to the lowest levels nationwide since 2020, according to new estimates from CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/drug-overdose-data.htm>

**11/13/2024:** CBS reports nearly 4 in 10 seniors have gotten a COVID-19 vaccine so far this year, based on new survey data published by the CDC, marking a steep increase in vaccination rates compared with the same time last year. <https://tinyurl.com/33p2uucn>

## RESOURCES

[Needs Assessment Toolkit: Dementia, Cognitive Health, and Caregiving](#). This toolkit from ASTHO guides multisystem teams from public health groups through the steps necessary to complete a comprehensive needs assessment of dementia, dementia caregiving, and cognitive health in their communities.

[Evidence-based Technical Packages](#) from ASTHO provide interventions that collectively work to more effectively impact public health challenges. The strategies integrate public health and medical practices rooted in peer-reviewed science and evidence, creating a stronger foundation for public health practice.

## WEBINARS/TRAINING/CONFERENCES

Nov 18, 11:30 am, **Working Together to Build Trust in Public Health**. Hosted by Public Health Communications Collaborative. Overview of how community engagement can strengthen public health communication and storytelling tips for sharing the initiatives and impacts of these partnerships. [Register](#)

Nov 19, 2:00 pm, **Creating Communities to Support Healthy Aging**. Hosted by County Health Rankings and Roadmaps. Older adults often face difficult choices — like deciding to pay for food or medicine — because of the economic, social and environmental conditions that surround them. Learn how public health can help create age-friendly communities and support the policies and systems that encourage healthy aging environments. [Register](#)

Nov 20, 1:00 – 2:00 pm, **Leading the Way for Community-Driven Health Transformation: Lessons Learned from the Vaccine Equity Project**. Hosted by ASTHO and the National Community Action Partnership. Provides an in-depth look at insights and strategies gained from the Vaccine Equity Project. Learn how to utilize new tools and resources to address health disparities, including vaccination rates, in different jurisdictions. Hear practical approaches for community engagement and evidence-based interventions to benefit communities and promote health equity. [Register](#)

Nov 20, 12:00 – 1:30 pm, **After the Election: What's Next for Health?**, hosted by Boston University School of Public Health. Deans of schools of public health from across all four regions of the US share thoughts on what's next for health in the coming years, taking local and national election results into account. [Register](#)

Dec 3, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. **Public Health Nursing Community of Practice Regional Public Health Nurse Meetings.** In person in Springfield. Topics: communicable diseases, immunizations, networking and sharing. All meetings have the same agenda. Select the date/location that works best for you. [Register](#)

- Dec 4, 2024, Cape Girardeau
- Dec 5, 2024, Marceline

Dec 4, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. **Public Health Nursing Community of Practice Regional Public Health Nurse Meetings.** In person in Cape Girardeau. Topics: communicable diseases, immunizations, networking and sharing. All meetings have the same agenda. Select the date/location that works best for you. [Register](#)

- Dec 5, 2024, Marceline

Dec 5, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. **Public Health Nursing Community of Practice Regional Public Health Nurse Meetings.** In person in Marceline. Topics: communicable diseases, immunizations, networking and sharing. [Register](#)

Dec 5, 10:00 – 12:00 pm, **Transforming Narratives around Health Equity, Workshop 3**, hosted by MOCPE and OPHI. 3-part virtual series of workshops focused on creating transformative narratives – ways of communicating that engage people to consider their own understanding of the world around them and imagine solutions to a more equitable world. [Register](#)

January 2025, **Inspector Boot Camp** and **Advanced Inspector Boot Camp**, hosted by Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO). The course is free and is only offered once each year. It is virtual, four hours per day, one day per week, for three weeks. [Register](#)

Jan 14 – 16, 2025, **Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training** (live virtual training). [Apply](#) by Dec 1. Fully accredited by The Council for Tobacco Treatment Training Programs (CTTP). It provides a comprehensive approach for individuals to learn the core competencies necessary to apply for the National Certificate in Tobacco Treatment Practice (NCTTP). Prerequisites and a deposit of \$100 are required. Deposits are fully refunded after the completion of the entire program. Direct questions to: [quitnow@health.missouri.edu](mailto:quitnow@health.missouri.edu).

January 27 – 31, 2025, **Basic Inspections and Investigations Course for New Manufactured and Retail Regulators.** \$350 fee and class size limited to 18 people. [Register](#)

May 5 - 9, 2025, **Basic Inspections and Investigations Course for New Manufactured and Retail Regulators.** \$350 fee and class size limited to 18 people. [Register](#)