

## **Communications Bulletin 10/31/2024**

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

### **Attachments:**

- User Guide for setting up Okta or Google Authenticate

## **UPDATES**

**McDonald's *E. coli* outbreak update:** Missouri now has 8 confirmed cases of *E. coli* linked to the McDonald's outbreak. CDC offers an [update](#) (10/22/2024) and the following talking points for responding to local inquiries:

### **Key Points:**

- Epidemiologic and traceback information show that fresh, silvered onions are the likely source of illness in this outbreak.
- As of October 30, 2024:
  - 15 new illnesses have been reported, bringing the total to 90.
  - Five more people have been hospitalized, bringing the total to 27.
  - The most recent illness onset date is October 16, 2024.
- All new illnesses occurred before McDonald's and Taylor Farms took action to remove onions from food service locations.
- Due to the product actions taken by McDonald's and Taylor Farms, the CDC believes the continued risk to the public is very low.

### **What You Should Do:**

- If you have severe symptoms of *E. coli* infection, seek health care, and tell your provider about what you ate.
- Businesses should not use recalled onions supplied by Taylor Farms.

### ***E. coli* Symptoms:**

- Most people infected with Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* experience severe stomach cramps, diarrhea (often bloody), and vomiting.
  - Symptoms usually start 3 to 4 days after swallowing the bacteria.
  - Most people recover without treatment after 5 to 7 days.
- Some people may develop serious kidney problems (hemolytic uremic syndrome, also called HUS) and would need to be hospitalized.
- For more information about *E. coli*, see the [About \*Escherichia coli\* Infection](#).

**Vaccine ordering:** DHSS Bureau of Immunizations reminds that providers order enough vaccine supply before November 15, 2024, to last through January 1, 2025. Reconciliations must be current or no older than 14 days to submit an order. Additional orders can be placed through December 10, 2024, but orders placed after December 10 may not arrive before the holidays.

**State Public Health Lab:** BEHS invites you to attend an Overview of the State Public Health Lab webinar on Nov14 at 9:30 am. See details in the Calendar section below or on the calendar at MO-LPHA.com. A recording of this and other sessions from the 2024 BEHS Webinar Learning Series are available at <https://clphs.health.mo.gov/lphs/behs-learning-series.php>

**Environmental Self-Assessment:** DHSS Bureau of Environmental Health Services (BEHS) is reviewing the state of Environmental Health Operations in Missouri using a tool called the Environmental Health-Local Evaluation and Assessment Program (EH-LEAP). As a first step, they ask that by November 27<sup>th</sup>, LPHAs complete the [Local Environmental Health Self-Assessment and Data Questionnaire](#) designed to gather your opinions on environmental health operations. Please direct any questions to Aaron Winslow at [aaron.winslow@health.mo.gov](mailto:aaron.winslow@health.mo.gov).

**New DHSS Staff:** Duane Heathman is currently working as a member of the Center for Local Public Health Services team to help complete contract monitoring. LPHAs may receive calls or emails from Duane regarding the Workforce Grant contracts.

**ShowMe WorldCare Update:** Environmental condition LEAD will be implemented November 18<sup>th</sup> on ShowMe WorldCare Hub

**Measles Update:** Measles cases nationwide climb to 271 as of October 25, 2024.  
<https://tinyurl.com/3rbjbjaf>

**State Email/Internet Update:** LPHAs who utilize state of Missouri email addresses (lpha.mo.gov) and the phone option (SMS text or phone call) for multi-factor authentication (MFA) will need to switch to an alternative form of verification before December 31. Hard tokens will no longer be allowed for verification, but the Okta Verify or Google Authenticator apps are free options for verification. Also, there has been a legal exclusion added to State policy that restricts your personal device from being confiscated due to a Sunshine Request if the device's ONLY work-related function is MFA. Please see the User Guide ([attached](#)) for setting up the Okta Verify or Google Authenticate app. Ryan Marsch will be hosting several "open house" WebEx meetings in November to assist anyone who is having trouble switching. Contact the OA-ITSD Help Desk at 573- 751-4941 for technical assistance. Other questions may be directed to [Ryan Marsch](#).

## NEWS

**10/30/3034:** Climate change exposed people to an average of 50 more days of health-threatening temperatures around the world in 2023 and drove heat-related deaths to record highs, according to the Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change annual report published this week.  
<https://www.thelancet.com/countdown-health-climate>

**10/28/2024:** Researchers from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and Japan find that an isolate from a sick dairy worker may be capable of replicating in human airway cells, is pathogenic in mice and ferrets, and can transmit among ferrets by respiratory droplets. <https://tinyurl.com/4zv7ccp3>

**10/23/2024:** CDC endorses the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) recommendation for lowering the age for pneumococcal vaccination from 65 to 50 years old.  
<https://tinyurl.com/37sp9zb6>

**10/18/2024:** CDC cautions that cases of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* (walking pneumonia) have been increasing, especially among children 2 – 4 years old. CDC encourages physicians to consider it as a possible cause of infection among children hospitalized for community-acquired pneumonia and run tests accordingly. <https://tinyurl.com/49uvkaz9>

## RESOURCES

**Communicating the Connection between Civic Engagement and Public Health.** Hosted by Public Health Communications Coalition. Learn practices and tools to increase civic engagement year-round and help ensure people safely get to the polls for public health—all while remaining non-partisan. [View recording](#)

## WEBINARS/TRAINING/CONFERENCES

Nov 4, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, **Mental Health First Aid for Adults** (in person). St Charles County Government – Public Health, 1650 Boone’s Lick Road, St Charles. [Register](#)

**NEW!** Nov 6, 1:00 – 2:00 pm, Zoonoses and One Health Updates (ZOHU) webinar series, hosted by CDC. <https://tinyurl.com/3av3fznu> This session’s topics include:

- Re-emergence of New World Screwworm in Central America
- Understanding The Environmental Dimensions of Antimicrobial Resistance: From Developing One Health Surveillance to Evaluating Mitigation

Nov 7, 10:00 – 12:00 pm, **Transforming Narratives around Health Equity, Workshop 2**, hosted by MOCPHE 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](#)

Nov 12, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, **Mental Health First Aid for Adults** (in person training). Burrell Behavioral Center, 2885 West Battlefield Road, Springfield, MO. [Register](#)

**NEW!** Nov 12, 1:00 pm, General Election Results: What it Means for Missouri, hosted by Missouri Foundation for Health (MFH). Will include an overview of Missouri’s general election results and what it means for advocates going into 2025. [Register](#)

Nov 13, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. **Public Health Nursing Community of Practice Regional Public Health Nurse Meetings.** In person in Sedalia. Topics: communicable diseases, immunizations, networking and sharing. Four meetings with the same agenda. Select the date/location that works best for you. [Register](#)

- Dec 3, 2024, Springfield
- Dec 4, 2024, Cape Girardeau
- Dec 5, 2024, Marceline

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](#)

**NEW!** 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](#)

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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 (CTTTP). 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](#)