

WHAT'S NEW IN PUBLIC HEALTH?

BACK TO SCHOOL MONTH

With the end of summer, there is much to do to prepare for the new school year! From health assessments to school safety, Back to School Month is full of opportunities to protect your family's health and safety!

Children's Eye Health & Safety Month

August is Children's Eye Health & Safety Month and now is the best time to schedule routine eye exams for your child. Healthy eyes will help ensure a safe and healthy school year! Contact your family care provider to get your child's eye exam scheduled today!

Child Health Assessments & Immunizations

Many schools and child care providers also require health assessments and immunizations! The Health Department provides the full spectrum of immunizations required by schools. We also administer health assessments to ensure that your child is developing normally.

Don't wait until the last minute! Call the Health Department today to get your child's health assessment and immunizations scheduled!

Arkansas City: (620) 442 3260

Winfield: (620) 221 1430

Children's Preparedness Month

Disaster can strike at any time and every member of your family should be prepared! Help your children prepare for disaster by involving them in building your emergency kit and creating your plan. Don't forget to test those plans, too! Know that your plans work before disaster can strike! For more information and ways to get your children involved, visit ready.gov/kids

NATIONAL FARMERS MARKET WEEK

From August 7th to the 13th, it's National Farmers Market Week! Be sure to visit your local farmers market for the freshest produce and to support your local farmers!

Cowley County is home to the Cowley Farmers Market Association which represents the farmers markets in Ark City and Winfield. Both accept SNAP, Double Up Food Bucks, and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition vouchers.

Ark City Farmer & Art Market: Wilson Park, Arkansas City, KS 67005 | June-September | Tuesdays 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM

Walnut Valley Farmers' Market: North Main, Island Park, Winfield, KS 67156 | May-September | Saturdays 7:30 AM to 11:00 AM



FEELING SICK?

If you do become ill, please do not participate in any group events until after you have fully recovered from your illness. For as long as the pandemic persists Cowley County residents are advised to take all necessary precautions to prevent the contraction and spread of ANY illness.

- Stay home if you feel ill.
- If you develop symptoms of illness, be tested to determine if you are infected.
- Wash your hands frequently and use hand sanitizer.
- Clean high touch surfaces with disinfecting cleaners (doors, counters etc.).
- Wear a mask that properly covers your nose and mouth while in public.
- When ill stay home and isolate from others so you will not spread illness.

COVID & ILLNESS REPORT

July has seen an extreme increase in COVID cases within the county with more cases than the previous 4 months combined! July is second only to January in active viral transmission. A total of 517 cases have been recorded as of July 29th.

We urge the public to take all necessary precautions to prevent the spread of illness. This sharp rise in cases could prove extremely dangerous to the most vulnerable members of our community. We recommend mask-wearing and social distancing as appropriate in order to help prevent the spread of illness. COVID has not left the community and now is not the time to let our guard down. By taking necessary precautions, we can all do our part in protecting the health of our fellow citizens.

Month to month new case information

New Cases	2021	2022	*=month to date
Month	2021	2022	
January	828	2675	
February	304	321	
March	90	61	
April	47	44	
May	59	112	
June	28	174	
July	153	517*	
August	488		
September	592		
October	386		
November	606		
December	653		
TOTAL	4159	3904	

Comparison of previous year, 2021, with current year to date

Year Total	2021	2022
Total Cases	4159	3904
% of cases	100%	93%

HEALTH DEPARTMENT PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT:



Women, Infants, & Children (WIC)

Today's highlight is the WIC program! This program provides supplemental nutrition support as well as educational opportunities for pregnant women and new mothers. The program improves health outcomes through encouraging better nutrition and health choices. Women participating in this program have longer, safer pregnancies and deliver babies with higher birth weights. The program also contributes directly to the local economy by providing grocery vouchers to over 900 families! WIC is provided out of both the Arkansas City and

Winfield locations of the Health Department. If you are interested in participating, call the Health Department today!

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World Breastfeeding Week

Another key part of ensuring the health of children is to breastfeed. Next week from August 1st through the 6th, it's World Breastfeeding Week. This week is dedicated to promoting breastfeeding and providing resources for mothers to do so. Part of the Health Department's services include a breastfeeding peer counselor. She helps guide women throughout their breastfeeding journey and provides resources and education at no cost! Her services are available to all women and if you are interested in participating, contact the Health Department today!

MOBILE APP GIVEAWAYS

Users of the Health Department's new mobile app can gain entry to our Friday prize drawings! From rounds of trivia, to games of Wordle, there are many opportunities for you to win a prize! Stay up to date with all the latest news and updates in public health by downloading the Health Department Mobile App! Scan the QR code or search for "City-Cowley County Health Department" in the Google Play or Apple Store!

