



## What's New in Public Health? **Health Department Mobile App Feature Highlight**

### Request Appointments

Save time and cut down on paperwork by requesting appointments through the mobile app! Simply tap the Request Appointment button on the home screen and fill out the form. You'll receive a call to confirm your appointment and you'll be set! This feature is also available in Spanish as well!

### Weather Forecasts and Alerts

Did you know you can check the forecast on the Health Department Mobile App? Simply tap the button in the upper left corner of the home screen to see the current weather conditions. Here you can also see today's hourly forecast and the 7-day forecast as well. Another neat feature is the ability to check the Doppler radar map for local, regional, and nationwide!

The mobile app will also receive alerts from the National Weather Service (NWS). With these alerts, you can stay up to date on the latest severe weather in your area! Tap the button in the upper right corner of the home screen and check the notification settings to enable NWS alerts.

## 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.

## World Photography Day - August 19

Next Friday is World Photography Day and the Health Department is holding a photo contest! We're looking for a new photo to use for our mobile app's home screen. For the next 2 weeks submissions are open! So, send us your best snapshots from around the county, and, if your photo is selected, you will win a prize! The winner be announced on August 26th. Check our mobile app or our social media pages for the upload link today!



## World Mosquito Day - August 20

Next Saturday is World Mosquito Day and with the heat turned up, mosquitos can be quite the nuisance! However, let's not forget that they can spread serious illnesses like West Nile virus and malaria. If you find yourself spending time outside, take the steps to protect yourself from these pests. Wearing long-sleeve shirts or pants, applying insect repellent, and avoiding peak mosquito hours are just some of the ways you can protect yourself from their bites! Visit [cdc.gov/mosquitoes](https://www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes) for more information.



## COVID and Illness Data

In only 8 months, 2022's case count has exceeded that of 2021! July's sharp rise in cases continues into August with 246 cases reported as of August 12th.

With a shorter incubation period and the ability to skirt existing immune system response, the Omicron B.5 variant has been spreading quickly throughout the community and is still the predominant variant. This variant's contagious nature is why we urge the public to take every necessary precaution to prevent its spread. The sharp rise in cases could prove dangerous to the vulnerable within our community. If you are ill, please stay home until you have fully recovered. We recommend mask-wearing and social distancing as appropriate in order to prevent the spread of illness. Through application of the best practices, we can all help to protect our fellow citizens.

Month to month new case information

New Cases	2021	*=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	528
August	488	246*
September	592	
October	386	
November	606	
December	653	
TOTAL	4159	4161

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

Year Total	2021	2022
Total Cases	4159	4161
% of cases	100%	100%

## Health Department Program Highlight:

### Immunizations

With the next school year almost here, let's take a look at the Health Department's immunization program! Did you know that you can get every required immunization right here at the Health Department? Let the Health Department be your one-stop shop for your child's immunizations this year. Call the Health Department today or use the Mobile App to request an immunization appointment for your child today!

