



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION

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TEMPORARY FOOD LICENSES ARE REQUIRED TO SELL FOOD OR DRINK AT EVENTS

Summer is a great time to fundraise for your favorite organization or cause. Events such as the Bix, RAGBRAI, and others are wonderful opportunities to try to sell food and drink to the people who are enjoying the festivities.

As you prepare your booth, remember to get a temporary food license from the Scott County Health Department. There is a nominal fee if you are a for-profit agency or group or a non-profit agency operating for two or more consecutive days.

There is no fee for non-profit agencies operating a booth for one day if all proceeds are used for charitable purposes. However, it is still necessary to get a license. A temporary food service license is required to sell any food or drink.

You can download a temporary food license application and view guidelines for your booth at www.scottcountyiowa.com/health.

Applications for temporary food licenses for RAGBRAI must be received by the

Scott County Health Department by Tuesday, July 22, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.



Download a temporary food license application on our Web site: www.scottcountyiowa.com/health.

PREVENT FOODBORNE ILLNESSES AT PICNICS

Nothing says summer like a picnic in the park, at the ball park, or in the backyard. Unfortunately, warm temperatures help bacteria to grow faster and if your food is not handled safely, you can end up with a foodborne illness.

As you pack your picnic, remember to keep cold food cold and hot food hot. There must be ice in a cooler to keep the food cold. Melted ice water is not cold enough and the food should be thrown out.

Also, remember to keep foods covered to limit the exposure to insects.

Food should be left out no more than two hours. If the temperature outside is 90°F or warmer, food should be left out no more than one hour. Grilled food should be eaten shortly after it is cooked. Place leftovers that have been out for less than two hours immediately in a cooler or throw them out. If there is a doubt of how long the food has been sitting out, throw it out.



Enjoy your picnic!

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- **U.S. Will Go Digital in Feb '09 (2)**
- **Stay Away From Strange Dogs (2)**
- **Increase in Shigellosis (2)**
- **Waste Commission of Scott County (3)**
- **Health Reform Bill (3)**
- **Sanitization vs. Disinfection (3)**

NOTE FROM PUBLIC HEALTH SAFETY SERVICE AREA:**U.S. WILL GO DIGITAL IN FEB '09**

On February 17, 2009, all full-power broadcast television stations in the U.S. will stop broadcasting on analog airwaves and begin broadcasting only in digital.

The impact to local public health service areas could mean that residents may lose access to emergency

broadcasts unless they purchase a new TV or other equipment.

To help consumers with the transition to all-digital TV broadcasting, the federal government has established the Digital-to-Analog Converter Box Coupon Program. Every U.S.

household is eligible to receive up to two coupons, worth \$40 each, toward the purchase of digital-to-analog converter boxes. Visit www.ntia.doc.gov/dtvcoupon/ for more information or call 1-888-DTV-2009.

**NOTE FROM ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE AREA:****STAY AWAY FROM STRANGE DOGS**

A dog may look friendly, but unfortunately looks can be deceiving sometimes. A rule of thumb to follow is to never go near a strange dog. If a dog comes near you, do not run, yell, or look the dog directly in the eyes. If the dog makes you fall down, lie flat, cover your ears with your hands, and remain still until the dog leaves. Avoid dogs that are sleeping, eating, caring for puppies, behind fenced walls, or in parked

cars. Do not let children go near a dog unless an adult is present. Always let a dog see and sniff you before trying to pet it.

Never try to catch a strange animal yourself. If a dog is acting strange or tries to or does bite, call the owner to find out if the dog is current on its vaccinations. If the dog's owner cannot be identified, alert the Scott County Humane Society

Animal Control and your physician. They will work with the Scott County Health Department to decide if rabies shots should be given or not.

Rabies is a disease that affects the brain. The animal could have rabies, which could be passed on to you. Rabies is ALWAYS fatal in humans, which is why it is very important to get rabies shots if needed.

**Rule of Thumb:
Never Go
Near a
Strange
Dog.**

NOTE FROM CLINICAL HEALTH SERVICE AREA:**SCOTT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORTS INCREASE IN SHIGELLOSIS**

The Scott County Health Department has received reports of an increase in the number of Shigellosis cases that have occurred in Eastern Iowa over the past few weeks. During May, there were 30 cases reported in Scott County. Typically fewer than 5 cases are reported each month.

Shigellosis (bacterial dysentery) is an infection of the gut caused by the bacterium *Shigella*. *Shigella*

is found in the stool (feces) of infected people. The main symptoms are diarrhea with cramps, often bloody. Shigellosis is very easily spread to others when the bacteria get on the hands of an infected person after they use the bathroom and fail to clean their hands appropriately. The bacteria are transferred from the sick person's hands to other people, and to food or drink that others will consume.

When one person in a family gets sick it is very common for others to become ill because basic hand hygiene practices are widely disregarded.

Anyone who develops severe diarrhea should contact their healthcare provider to be tested. *Shigellosis* is reportable to the Scott County Health Department which tracks the number of cases in order to take steps to control the spread of the illness.



Always wash hands thoroughly before preparing food.

**COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT:
WASTE COMMISSION OF SCOTT COUNTY**

Are you concerned about our environment? If so, you are not alone. Waste Commission of Scott County is an inter-governmental agency charged with protecting both our local environment and public health.

One of the services the Commission provides to fulfill its mission is free disposal of household paints, pesticides,

cleaners, automotive products, fluorescent bulbs and other potentially toxic materials in the home. Properly disposing of these items helps prevent accidental poisonings, fires and protects our groundwater. To use the free disposal service, call 563-381-1300 or visit www.wastecom.com and look under the Household

Hazardous Materials (HHM) section.

In addition to the HHM program, the Commission also operates the Scott Area Landfill, Scott Area Recycling Center, Electronic Demanufacturing Facility and provides educational programming on a variety of solid waste topics for all age levels.



The Waste Commission of Scott County is dedicated to protecting our environment.

**NOTE FROM COMMUNITY RELATIONS,
INFORMATION AND PLANNING SERVICES:
GOV. CULVER SIGNS HEALTH REFORM BILL**

Governor Culver signed the Health Reform Bill, House File 2539 on Tuesday, May 13, 2008. The bill expands Medicaid to include infants whose families are at or below 300% Federal Poverty Level (FPL). It also expands *hawk-i* to provide health insurance to children who are at or above 300% FPL. This will go into effect July 1, 2009.

Beginning in tax year 2008, a person who files a tax return with the State of Iowa has the option to indicate if their dependents have health care coverage. If the taxpayer indicates that they do not have health care coverage and is below the financial limit for *hawk-i* eligibility, then the Department of Human Services (DHS) will notify the taxpayer that their child/ren

may qualify for Medicaid or *hawk-i* and will send them enrollment information.

Visit www.legis.state.ia.us/asp/Cool-ICE/DisplayBills.htm to look up House File 2539 and visit www.hawk-i.org to learn more about the *hawk-i* program.

Health Reform Bill Goes Into Effect July 2009.

**COMMON CONFUSIONS: SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT
SANITIZATION VS. DISINFECTION**

Many people do not know the difference between sanitization and disinfection.

Sanitization means that the number of germs have been reduced by 99.99%. In other words, sanitization reduces germs to safe levels. However, it does not kill all of the germs on the surface.

Disinfection means that one hundred percent of germs are killed when the product is used correctly. However, it does not kill spores, which cause microorganisms to grow.

When shopping for cleaning products, be sure to read the label before buying. On the label look to see the

effectiveness of the product and the correct way to use the product. If the product is not used correctly, it will not be as effective.

You may be asking yourself which method is the best. There is no right or wrong answer. You should use which method best fits your needs and your overall goal.



What is the difference between sanitizers and disinfectants?

We are on the Web!

www.scottcountyiowa.com/health

**SCOTT COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

OUR MISSION:

The Scott County Health Department is committed to promoting, protecting and preserving the health of the community by providing leadership and direction as advocates for the individual, the family, the community and the environment we serve.

OUR VISION:

As recognized and respected leaders in serving and protecting our citizens, we at the Scott County Health Department are committed to a safer, healthier community and environment. In so doing, we provide a multitude of services with Professionalism, Responsiveness, Involvement, Dedication, and Excellence.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- Thursday, June 19, 2008; 12:00-1:00 p.m.; Scott County Board of Health Meeting
Open to the Public; Location: Scott County Administrative Center, Board Room-1st Floor
- Tuesday, July 1, 2008; Iowa's Smokefree Air Act goes into effect
Visit www.tobaccofreeqc.org for more information.
- Wednesday, July 9, 2008; 10:00-3:00 p.m.; Youth Fest
Theme: "Celebrating Our Diverse Community"; Location: Fejervary Park and Children's Zoo, Davenport; Featuring: Fun, Varied, Interactive Activities for Youth and Their Families
- Saturday, July 24-27: Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Jazz Festival
Visit www.bixsociety.org/ for more information.
- Friday, July 25 and Saturday, July 26, 2008: BIX 7
Visit www.bix7.com/2008/ for more information.
- Saturday, July 26, 2008: RAGBRAI comes to town
Visit www.ragbrai.org/ for more information.
- Saturday, August 16, 2008; 8:30-Noon; Xstream Cleanup
Quad City -Wide Cleanup of Creeks, Drainage Ways, and Sections of the Mississippi and Rock Rivers. Visit www.xstreamcleanup.org for more information.

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please add your name to our e-mail list on our Web site, www.scottcountyiowa.com/health. To remove your name from our mailing list, please e-mail health@scottcountyiowa.com or call 563-326-8618.