



# PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION

JULY 2008

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**PUBLIC HEALTH SAFETY NOTE** 2

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NOTE** 2

**CLINICAL SERVICES NOTE** 2

**COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT** 3

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS, INFORMATION AND PLANNING SERVICES NOTE** 3

**COMMON CONFUSIONS** 3

**CALENDAR** 4

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- **The Flood of 2008 (2)**
- **Flood Cleanup (2)**
- **Animal Bites: What To Do (2)**
- **Bi-State Regional Commission Monitors Air Quality in Scott County (3)**
- **Smoke-Free Iowa (3)**
- **Tetanus Shot (3)**

## WASTE COMMISSION LAUNCHES NEW ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The Waste Commission of Scott County launched a new environmental outreach program at the Earth Week Fair in April at the QCCA Expo Center in Rock Island. The new program is called, iLivehere: myhome ourcommunity,™ and centers around a message of environmental stewardship.

The new program replaces the Commission's previous Keep Scott County Beautiful program, which had been in place since 2001.

"We wanted our new program to be more about overall environmental stewardship and doing good for the community, rather than just being about litter and cleanups. This new program celebrates our community and the reasons why we should protect our local environment," said Kathy

Morris, director of Waste Commission of Scott County.

The program uses its new Web site, [www.ilivehereqc.org](http://www.ilivehereqc.org), as an information hub. It contains a message board, group and business features, news, resources, upcoming events, e-news signup and information on the new MAKE it YOURS program, which allows groups and businesses to adopt and care for an area that means something to them. They clean, beautify and maintain it throughout the year and are recognized with MAKE it YOURS signage.

The program also fosters idea exchanges on environmental topics and issues and connects like-minded individuals through social networks. By visiting the



[www.ilivehereqc.org](http://www.ilivehereqc.org)

Web site, you can join the iLivehere Online Community and share your environmental videos and photos on the iLivehere YouTube and Flickr pages. To join, go to [www.ilivehereonline.com](http://www.ilivehereonline.com).

"We want Quad Citians to be proud of where they live, work and play. The iLivehere program gives citizens a chance to tell us why they live here and what they are doing to keep the Quad Cities clean and green," Morris said.

For more information about the iLivehere program, visit [www.ilivehereqc.org](http://www.ilivehereqc.org) or call 563-468-4218.



**FLOOD OF 2008**

Recent flooding has devastated Iowa. See pages 2 and 3 to learn more about the flood, how to clean up after the flood, and information about Tetanus shots.

## THE FLOOD OF 2008

NOTE FROM PUBLIC HEALTH SAFETY SERVICE AREA

The Quad Cities, like lots of other areas in the state, has experienced extensive flooding in June. To protect the health and safety of our residents, the Health Department suggests the following:

- Do not wade, swim, or play in the water. Water currents can be extremely swift and dangerous.
- Avoid contact with flood waters as much as

possible. Always wash hands thoroughly before eating, drinking, or smoking. Flood water is contaminated and can cause illness if swallowed.

- If you are working in a flood area wash your hands thoroughly and frequently with soap and water.
- If you become injured, contact your healthcare provider for wound care

and to determine if a Tetanus vaccination is needed. If a Tetanus vaccination is recommended, the Scott County Health Department has this service available to the public at no charge.

For more health and safety flood-related information, please visit the Health Department's Web site:

[www.scottcountyiowa.com/health](http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/health).



Iowa experienced lots of flooding in June.

## FLOOD CLEANUP

NOTE FROM ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE AREA

Once the flood waters recede, it is time to begin the cleanup.

First of all, always wear protective clothing, such as rubber boots, rubber gloves, and goggles during cleanup of an affected area.

If possible, begin cleanup and drying within 24 to 48 hours after water damage to prevent mold growth. To do this, open doors and windows and use fans. Thoroughly

clean all hard surfaces (such as flooring, concrete, wood and metal furniture, countertops, appliances, sinks, and other plumbing fixtures) with hot water and laundry or dish detergent.

Next, disinfect clean surfaces with a chlorine solution of one-quarter cup of household bleach mixed in a gallon of water.

Remove and throw away items that cannot be washed,

disinfected, or dried quickly (such as carpet, rugs, upholstered furniture, stuffed animals, baby toys, pillows, books, wall coverings, and most paper products). Also, an immediate evaluation of stored food should be done. Throw away all foods that may have come in contact with the water.

**Wear protective gear when cleaning up after a flood.**

## ANIMAL BITES: WHAT TO DO

NOTE FROM CLINICAL HEALTH SERVICE AREA

Here is the situation: a strange dog bites you and you are not sure what to do.

The first thing you should do is to wash the area with soap and water and report the bite to the Scott County Human Society Animal Control. It is very important to contact them right away so that they can try to catch

the animal that bit you. Never try to catch a strange animal yourself. The Scott County Humane Society will work with the Scott County Health Department to decide if rabies shots should be given.

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.

Remember, it is important to not wait to call the Scott County Humane Society if you are bitten by a strange animal.



Call the Scott County Humane Society if you are bitten by a strange animal.

## BI-STATE REGIONAL COMMISSION MONITORS AIR QUALITY IN SCOTT COUNTY

**COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT:  
BI-STATE REGIONAL COMMISSION**

The Bi-State Regional Commission is a local, voluntary organization that covers five counties and forty-three municipalities. Among other responsibilities, the Commission works with local government on air quality issues.

Recently, the Environmental Protection Agency reduced the amount of allowed emissions for fine particle pollution. This type of pollution penetrates deep

into the lungs and other parts of the respiratory system.

In Scott County, there are three monitoring stations set up to record fine particulate levels. One of the monitoring stations registered high readings and it has the potential of being recommended by the Department of Natural Resources as an area of non-attainment. The federal Environmental Protection Agency will make the final

determination.

A letter has been sent to Governor Culver to seek a one-year extension of further action until more research can be conducted. If an extension is granted, the research may include investigating how the monitoring system is set up and air quality events that are unusual and peculiar to the entire Midwest.



*Did you know that air quality is measured in Scott County?*

## SMOKE-FREE IOWA

**NOTE FROM COMMUNITY RELATIONS,  
INFORMATION AND PLANNING SERVICES**

Iowa's Smokefree Air Act went into effect on July 1, 2008. This law prohibits smoking in all enclosed public places and workplaces and in some outdoor areas. The law does not give a specific distance from entrances that smoking is allowed.

This law requires that signs be posted at every entrance to a public place and place of employment where smoking

is not allowed, and at every entrance to outdoor areas where smoking is not allowed. Signs must also be posted in public vehicles and in vehicles owned, leased, or provided by an employer.

The signs must include the words "no smoking" or the international "no smoking" symbol, the Smokefree Air Act Helpline number, and the official Web site, [www.iowasmokefreeair.gov](http://www.iowasmokefreeair.gov).

The signs must be at least twenty-four square inches in size and the font must be legible.

To learn more about Iowa's Smokefree Air Act, to view the administrative rules, or to download approved "no smoking" signs, visit [www.iowasmokefreeair.gov](http://www.iowasmokefreeair.gov).

**Starting  
July 1,  
Iowa is  
smoke-  
free!**

## TETANUS SHOT?

**COMMON CONFUSIONS:  
SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT**

During floods, many people wonder if they need to get a booster dose of the Tetanus vaccine. Flooding has not been shown to be a risk for Tetanus (lockjaw). However, a Tetanus infection can form in an open wound, puncture, or deep cut.

Tetanus can cause serious and painful muscle spasms

and can lead to the "locking" of the jaw where a person cannot open his or her mouth or swallow.

If you become injured during flood cleanup, contact your healthcare provider for wound care and to determine if a Tetanus vaccination is needed. To decide, the healthcare provider will look

at your vaccination history, injury, risk, and allergies. If a Tetanus vaccination is recommended, the Scott County Health Department can provide this service to the public free of charge. To schedule an appointment call 563.326.8618.



*When should you get a Tetanus shot?*

## SCOTT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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### 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!

- Tuesday, July 1, 2008; Iowa's Smokefree Air Act goes into effect  
Visit [www.tobaccofreeqc.org](http://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/](http://www.bixsociety.org/) for more information.
- Friday, July 25 and Saturday, July 26, 2008: BIX 7  
Visit [www.bix7.com/2008/](http://www.bix7.com/2008/) for more information.
- Saturday, July 26, 2008: RAGBRAI comes to town  
Visit [www.ragbrai.org/](http://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](http://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](http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/health). To remove your name from our mailing list, please e-mail [health@scottcountyiowa.com](mailto:health@scottcountyiowa.com) or call 563-326-8618.



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.