

PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION

JUNE 27 is *National*
HIV TESTING
 DAY



National HIV Testing Day

Know your status. Get tested for HIV!

Each year, on June 27, we observe National HIV Testing Day (NHTD). On this day, we join other health departments and organizations in raising awareness about the importance of HIV testing and early diagnosis of HIV.

HIV has cost America too much for too long and remains a significant public health issue: we have lost more than 700,000 American lives since 1981, more than 1.1 million Americans are living with HIV with an estimated 38,000 newly diagnosed each year. There is a real risk of an HIV resurgence due to upward trends in injection drug use, HIV related stigma, homophobia, transphobia, and lack of access to HIV prevention, testing, and treatment. Now that COVID-19 has captured so much attention, it's easy to forget that HIV is still impacting our communities. NHTD is an opportunity to remember, reflect, and act to address this ongoing epidemic.

Fortunately, we have effective tools to protect and promote health both for people at risk for and living with HIV infection. Antiretroviral therapy has advanced to the point those living with HIV may reliably suppress their viral load for better individual health outcomes and prevention of transmission of HIV to partners. We have Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) medication that can be used to prevent HIV in those at risk, and the Integrated Testing Services (ITS) Program at Scott County Health Department works to promote awareness of our free testing and prevention services. For this year's NHTD, we will be holding a walk-in HIV testing clinic Friday, June 25th at the Health Department to promote HIV testing to the public, offering incentives and prevention education for everyone who tests. Together we can end the HIV epidemic.



OUR MISSION:

The Scott County Health Department promotes, protects, and preserves health through leadership, services, education, and partnerships.

OUR VISION:

Scott County —
 A safe and healthy
 community.



SPECIAL EVENTS

- *Scott County Board of Health Meeting, 12:00 PM, Thursday, June 17, 2021.*

Links

Scott County Health Department HIV Testing Program:

<https://www.scottcountyiowa.gov/health/hiv-testing>

Scott County Health Department Swimming Pools Inspection Program:

<https://www.scottcountyiowa.gov/health/public-swimming-pools-spas>

Pool Safety and COVID-19

Can you get COVID-19 from swimming pools?

With hot weather on the way, are you wondering how safe it is to go swimming? Many pools did not open last summer. Others limited the number of bathers for safer distancing. Now we know that the COVID-19 virus is not waterborne. It spreads from person-to-person and does not survive in chlorinated pool water.

Help Keep Swimming Healthy and Safe for Everyone

It is still important to remember: don't swim if you are sick, especially with diarrhea. You may be sharing your germs with other swimmers. Cryptosporidium and Giardia cause diarrhea and are resistant to chlorine. Stay home if you are sick. Wash your hands. Learn more about Healthy Swimming at the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention website. <https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming/swimmers/rwi/diarrheal-illness.html>



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