



SCOTT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION

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National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (NLPPW)



“Keep Kids Safe from Lead”

This is the theme for the 2026 National Lead Poisoning Prevention week campaign that runs from October 25, 2026, to October 31, 2026, during Children’s Health Month. This campaign is organized through collaborative efforts from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week strives to reduce childhood exposure to lead by increasing lead poisoning prevention awareness and education across the United States. It is vital that families learn about lead hazards that can be present in the environment, understand the dangers of lead exposure, and gain knowledge on how lead exposure can result in harmful health effects.

Get the Facts

Approximately three-quarters of the homes in the U.S. built before 1978 still have some lead-based paint, which can be found on both interior and exterior surfaces. Lead-based paint that is in a deteriorated condition is considered a hazard and can pose serious health risks. Children aged six and under are especially at risk.

Get Your Child Tested

A venous blood test is the most effective way to test your child for lead poisoning. This test is done by taking a sample of blood from a vein in the arm to measure the amount of lead in the blood. This test checks for exposure or poisoning and is more accurate than capillary testing (finger-prick). Parents should have their children tested early and follow the recommended testing schedule by their doctor.

Get Your Home Tested

If you plan to renovate, repair, or paint a home built before 1978, you should hire a certified lead-based paint inspector or risk assessor to determine if your home has lead-based paint. If lead-based paint is present, hire certified contractors who are trained in lead-safe work practices.



Prevent the Flu: Simple Steps to Stop the Spread

Is the flu really that serious?

The flu can be much more serious than the common cold, especially for children, older adults, and those with chronic health conditions. While most people who get the flu will recover, some will develop complications (such as pneumonia), which can be life-threatening.

Flu symptoms appear suddenly and can last for as long as two weeks. Symptoms can be mild to severe, including fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, body aches, and fatigue.

The good news is that protecting yourself from the flu can be so simple.

It only takes a few minutes to get a flu shot, which reduces your risk of getting sick or hospitalized. A flu shot is recommended for everyone 6 months and older every year.

Other everyday actions can also help stop the spread of germs, including flu:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after touching shared surfaces.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth - this is where germs spread!
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Make the time to get your flu shot. It's a small step that can make a big difference!



Upcoming Events

- 10/15/2026, 12:00 PM: Scott County Board of Health Meeting, Scott County Administrative Center, 1st Floor Boardroom

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YOUR **HEALTH.**
Our priority.