



# Dickinson-Iron District Health Department

## Public Health Press

SUMMER 2024

JUNE, JULY, AUGUST

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Kindergarten Hearing & Vision Clinics**
- **Beach Monitoring**
- **Back-To-School Vaccines**
- **WIC Celebrating 50 years!**
- **Vector-Borne Disease Surveillance**

## Kindergarten Hearing and Vision Clinics

The Dickinson-Iron District Health Department will be conducting hearing and vision screenings for pre-school as well as school age children at upcoming clinics. Those who may have missed previous screenings and home-schooled students are welcome at this FREE screening. Clinics will be held throughout the summer.

Michigan Law requires that children entering school be tested for hearing and vision problems prior to enrollment. In addition, health care professionals encourage young children to be screened to detect problems at an early age.

Appointments are required. Please contact us at 906-265-9913 (Iron County) or 906-774-1868 (Dickinson County) to schedule.

### Clinic Dates (Appointment Required)

#### Dickinson County:

- Friday, June 21, 2024
- Monday, June 24, 2024
- Monday, July 15, 2024
- Wednesday, July 31, 2024

#### Iron County

- Wednesday, June 12, 2024
- Friday, June 28, 2024
- Friday, July 12, 2024
- Monday, July 29, 2024



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# Beach Water Monitoring

The Dickinson- Iron District Health Department will be participating in a beach water quality testing program in the summer of 2024. This is the fourth summer that the department has participated in the program. Environmental Health staff collect water samples at each beach and test them for the presence of E. coli, a disease-causing bacteria.

Sampling will begin the week of June 17<sup>th</sup> for the summer beach season. These beaches will be sampled weekly for ten weeks. Dickinson County- Lake Antoine, Cowboy Lake, and Lake Mary. Iron County – Sunset Lake, Pentoga Park, Bewabic, and Runkle Lake.



This department will post the beach testing results on our Facebook page and on our website. If bacteria levels exceed acceptable levels, the beach will be posted with signs to warn swimmers. The beach will continue to be resampled until safe levels are obtained. The Health Department’s beach sampling program contributes to a safer and healthier beach experience for our residents.

## Back-To-School Vaccines

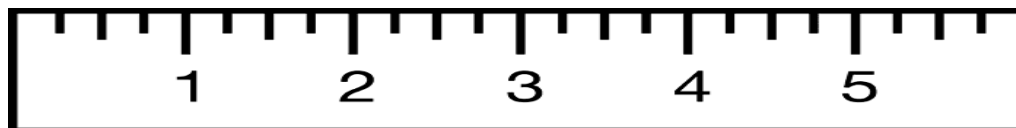


Vaccines are one of the most important ways to prevent children from getting some dangerous diseases. By exposing them to a germ in a controlled way, vaccines teach their body to recognize and fight that disease.

State law require Michigan students to have certain vaccines before they can

go to daycare, school, or college. Per the Public Health Code, vaccines needed for school entry can be found at [www.michigan.gov/immunize](http://www.michigan.gov/immunize).

Vaccines protect not just your child, but everyone they come in contact with. The more people who get vaccinated, the harder it is for a disease to spread.



# WIC Celebrates 50 years!

Join DIDHD in celebrating 50 years of Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program! For 50 years, WIC has helped empower countless mothers by providing nutrition education, supplemental foods, and personalized support tailored to their needs. WIC staff are devoted to creating better health outcomes for mothers, babies, and families.

The WIC program is available for pregnant, breastfeeding or postpartum women, infants and children up to age 5 who qualify. To see if you qualify visit our website at [didhd.org/wic](http://didhd.org/wic) or contact us at 906-265-4173 (Iron County) or 906-774-1868 (Dickinson County).



CELEBRATING  
WIC  
50 YEARS

**FACT**

**WIC helps reduce instances of low birthweight rates and can increase the duration of pregnancy for many women.**

## Vector-Borne Disease Surveillance Project

We have joined the MDHHS Vector-Borne Disease Surveillance Project! Throughout the summer, our staff will set mosquito traps and drag for ticks in highly recreated areas. The goal of this project is to identify threats and invasive species to better educate and protect local communities from potential disease risk. We are most concerned with mosquitoes that transmit West Nile Virus, and Eastern Equine Encephalitis; however, many mosquitoes will be sent to a state lab for further Arbovirus testing. Any “black-legged ticks” collected will be sent to a CDC lab at the end of the season for additional testing for Lyme Disease, Anaplasma,

and Babesia. We are very excited to be the first county in the UP to provide data for this project!



Blacklegged Tick (*Ixodes scapularis*)





## Dickinson-Iron District Health Department

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[didhd.org](http://didhd.org)

### HEALTH DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

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Director

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Finance Director

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### Mission Statement:

The mission of the Dickinson-Iron District Health Department is to assure the highest possible level of health for the people of the communities it serves. To fulfill this mission, the Department works with individuals and organizations to prevent premature death, disability, illness and injury, to prolong life, and to promote the public health through disease prevention and control, health promotion and healthy environments, and through the provision of direct services for particularly vulnerable high risk population groups.



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