

Public Health



Dickinson-Iron District Health Department

"Serving the community since 1936 in Health Protection, Health Education and Disease Prevention"

Public health addresses the health of the whole population, as compared to medical health care, which focuses on treatment of the individual ailment. According to the Institute of Medicine, the mission of public health is defined as "fulfilling society's interest in assuring conditions in which people can be healthy."

Public Health At Work in Michigan Communities, Workplaces, Schools and Home:

- Public Health is always working to protect families and communities
- Public Health is always working to promote healthy, safe lifestyles
- Public Health is always working for a healthier economy
- Public Health is always working to eliminate health disparities
- Public Health is always working to guard and protect against threats

Recognizing Public Health Month

RESOURCES:

Dickinson-Iron District Health Department

818 Pyle Drive, Kingsford, MI 49802

and

601 Washington Avenue, Iron River, MI 49935

(906) 774-1868 and (906) 265-9913

Fax (906) 774-9910 and (906) 265-2950

www.didhd.org

Michigan Department of Community Health:

www.michigan.gov/mdch

Michigan Public Health Association:

www.mipha.org

National Public Health Week:

www.nphw.org

American Public Health Association:

www.apha.org

University of Michigan School of Public Health:

<http://www.sph.umich.edu>



Things you can do:

- **Learn about local health promotion programs**
- **Talk to elected officials about supporting public health programs in you community.**
- **Encourage local businesses to make their facilities easily accessible to the disabled**
- **Support efforts to make healthy behavior the expectation for your community**
- **Thank local restaurants that are smoke-free**
- **Meet with school officials to discuss healthier cafeteria and snack options**
- **Have your home inspected for lead, radon, and other potential health hazards**
- **Get recommended preventive health screenings and vaccinations**
- **Start a walking club at work**
- **Discuss long-term care options with family members**
- **Organize a clean-up day at a local park or beach**

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES:

The Michigan Public Health Code stipulates that each county must have a city, county, or district health department. A local health department shall continually and diligently endeavor to prevent disease, prolong life, and promote the public health through organized programs, including:

- Prevention and control of environmental health hazards
- Prevention and control of diseases
- Prevention and control of health problems of particularly vulnerable population groups
- Development of health care facilities and health services delivery systems
- Regulation of health care facilities and health services delivery systems to the extent provided by law

A local health department shall: *(summarized)*

- Implement and enforce laws regarding local health.
- Utilize vital and health statistics for the purpose of protecting the public health.
- Make investigations and inquiries as to the causes of disease, morbidity and mortality, and especially of epidemics.
- Plan, implement, and evaluate health education.
- Plan, implement, and evaluate nutrition services.

The Dickinson-Iron District Health Department is one of 45 local health departments serving Michigan communities.