



# WARREN COUNTY COMBINED HEALTH DISTRICT

Prevent - Promote - Protect



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## NEWS & INFORMATION

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Health Commissioner

### FLU SHOTS Will Be Available Soon

The Warren County Combined Health District expects to receive flu vaccine in around the first of September.

Once the vaccine is received flu vaccination clinics will be scheduled.

Check our website for up to date schedules of clinic dates, times, and locations.

[www.wcchd.com](http://www.wcchd.com)

## National Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month which is a nationwide effort to encourage families to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools. The goal is to increase the awareness of how important it is to be prepared in an emergency and for individuals and families



to take action. Take these simple steps to prepare your family for an emergency or disaster:  
**Get a Kit.** Create an emergency kit. This kit should include items such as water, shelf stable foods, batteries, a radio, flashlights, medications, and a first aid kit.

**Make a Plan.** Create a family emergency plan. Include in your plan a designated place to meet

in an emergency, and contact numbers for everyone.  
**Be informed.** Learn more about the potential emergencies that could happen where you live and the appropriate way to respond to them. In addition, learn about the emergency plans that have been established in your area by your state and local government. Visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) for more information on what to have in your emergency kit and for templates to help you create your own family emergency plan.

## In an Emergency: Text First. Talk Second.

Safe America created the Text First. Talk Second. campaign to raise public awareness around the importance of utilizing text messaging for non-emergency communications during a disaster. When disasters strike, voice networks can become congested with people trying to call each other for non-vital communications. This can result in people in desperate need of help being unable to contact those they need to reach, such as emergency services, friends or loved ones. In some instances, this may also result in emergency service personnel being unable to communicate with each other. Here is what you can do: **Take the Pledge!** Join hundreds of thousands of your fellow citizens in pledging to participate in a preparedness activity (texting) this September. **Get the word out.** Let your family and friends know if

a natural or man-made disaster happens in your vicinity, the best way to find out if you are okay is to first try and contact you via text message and then phone. Make sure everyone in your family knows how to use the text messaging function on their mobile phone and if they don't, teach them. **Finally, this September, do one of the following texting activities:**  
**Drill A – Family/Friend/ Emergency Contact: Send, Receive, and Confirm text message with family member or friend.**



message to a family member and/or friend during the exercise, "I M OK"/ "R U OK"  
2. Family member/friend responds with "I M OK"  
**Drill B – Employer to Employee Groups: Send, Receive and Confirm text messages with employees.**  
1. Employer sends text message to employees announcing a drill, "This is a texting drill through the alert notification system. For more information on preparedness, please go to [www.safeamericaprepared.org](http://www.safeamericaprepared.org) or insert organization website or contact person, for more information."  
2. Employees respond by going to the website and/or making the suggested contact for more information on preparedness.

1. Individual sends a text

## Food Licenses at Fall Festivals

Each year there are numerous fall and winter festivals where organizations and individuals will set up temporary food booths.

These temporary food operations must be licensed based on the type of food that they are serving and the type of organization that is operating the food booth. You must secure a license to operate your temporary food booth from the Warren County Health Department at least 48 hours prior to the event. License fees are based on profit and non-profit organizations with this years fees being set at



\$30.00 per event for commercial, for-profit organizations and half that or \$15.00 for non-commercial, non-profit organizations. Each license is good for a single event, maximum 5 days in length, except for the County Fair where the license is good for the entire length of the fair. An individual or organizations are allowed to obtain up to 10 temporary licenses for 10 separate events each year. You can obtain information on the requirements to set up a food booth, the required questionnaire on the booth and event, and

the license application at the Warren County Health Department Office, 416 South East Street, Lebanon, Ohio. The questionnaire and application are also on the Health Department Website at [www.co.warren.oh.us/health/forms/34a.pdf](http://www.co.warren.oh.us/health/forms/34a.pdf). If you have any questions regarding temporary food operations please contact the Environmental Health Division, Warren County Combined Health District at 513-695-1220, 513-261-1220, 513-925-1220 or 937-425-1220.

## Lithium Batteries Hide Dangers

They don't look dangerous, but lithium batteries are especially damaging if swallowed by a young child. Babies and toddlers explore with their mouths, and small "button" batteries that power remote controls, toys, musical greeting cards and many other household items are especially tempting. Although rare, deaths have occurred when these batteries are swallowed and the battery's current sets off a chemical reaction in the body. This chemical reaction has been seen to burn through a child's esophagus or trachea, damage the vocal cords or injure the gastrointestinal tract. Poison centers have always gotten calls about children swal-



lowing batteries, but the development of larger stronger lithium cell batteries has increased the risk of serious complications. The batteries that pose the greatest risk are those that start with the number 20. Batteries numbered 2032, 2025 and 2016 are responsible for more than 90 percent of serious injuries. While child safety experts are pushing for safer batteries, parents also need to be vigilant about watching young children around remote controls, garage door openers and other products intended for adults that may not have the battery compartments secured with screws. (Excerpt from *Growing Together* published by the Children's Medical Center of Dayton.)

### Want to Quit Smoking?

In addition to the free Ohio Tobacco Quit Line at 1-800-Quit-Now (1-800-784-8669), the state now offers a free online cessation program, Quitlogix, at <http://ohio.quitlogix.org>.

Quitlogix enables online users to access information and quitting support after registering.

Quitlogix users who want to take advantage of two weeks of free nicotine patches still need to go through a phone counselor at the Ohio Tobacco Quit line. A combination of the online and telephonic counseling services is available to all Ohioans.

The Ohio Tobacco Quit Line and Quitlogix are provided free to all Ohioans who need the services and are funded by the Master Tobacco Settlement funds in addition to ARRA funds.