



Welcome to the Allegan County Health Headline!

The Health Headline is a quarterly interactive newsletter developed by the Allegan County Health Department to better inform our citizens about current topics dealing with personal and environmental health. Partnering with our social media sites, such as Facebook and Twitter, our goal is to reach and educate as many members of our great community as we can. Try clicking one of the many links throughout this newsletter to take advantage of web pages filled with more information on current health topics!

www.AlleganCounty.org

**Michiganders recycled
more than 3 pounds of
electronics per person
in 2013!**

[Read More Here!](#)

Spring Flooding

**Turn to page 2 to learn
about tips on keeping
your property and
yourself safe from
flooding this spring!**



Click to find out more!



**To learn more about
the Allegan County
Health Department
click on the links to
our Facebook and
Twitter!**

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Photo Courtesy of Wood TV 8, Credit : Kelli Schumacher

Flooding Tips

If you live in a high flood risk area, personal preparation is the key to avoiding disaster. Take solid steps ahead of time to ensure the safety of your family and minimize property loss, even when the flood waters come lapping at your doorstep. For the latest updates on weather conditions or tips about protecting your property please contact Allegan County Public Safety Hotline at 269-686-4570 or visit the web site by [clicking here!](#)

Health Department FAQ's

The boxes below are filled with links to additional information on topics pertinent to your health and environment.

Click a topic of interest to find out more!

[BLACK
MOLD](#)

[RADON](#)

[TICKS](#)

[VACCINE
SAFETY](#)

Allegan County Food Service Inspection Reports

Food Establishments with a fixed license are inspected two times annually while establishments that are considered seasonal or operate less than nine months out of the year are inspected once annually. These reports are uploaded to our online database monthly and are available for anyone to see.

To check out your favorite Establishment in Allegan County go to www.allegancounty.org and click "Restaurant Inspections" located on the side bar of the home page. Or click the link below!

[Restaurant Inspections](#)

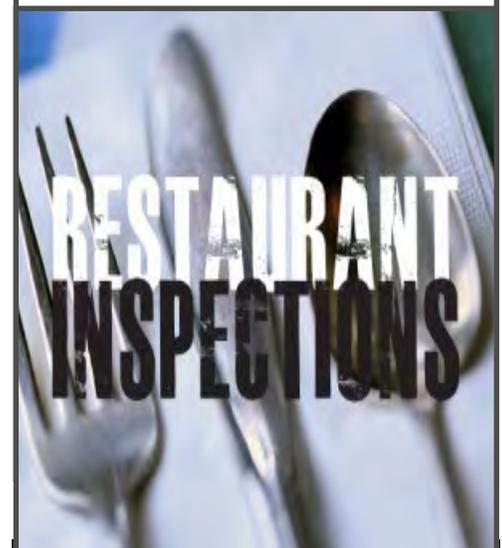
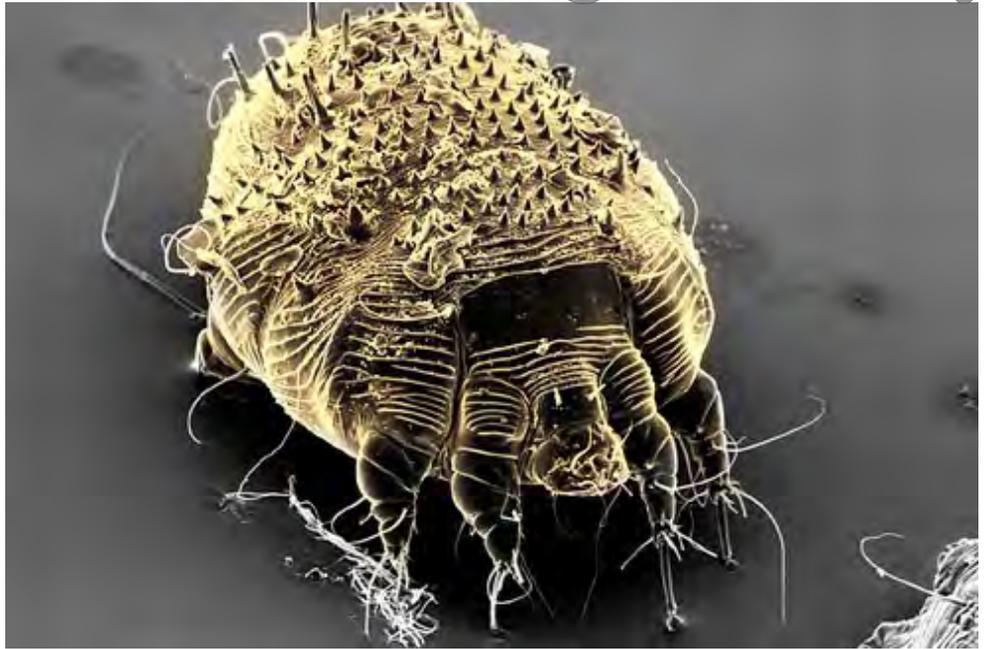


Photo Courtesy of Google Images

The Allegan County Health Department has received multiple calls in the last few weeks regarding scabies. Scabies infestations are not reportable to the health department and while we can't say just how many cases there are we know that there are cases in Allegan County. Scabies does not pose a health threat to people but is a health nuisance. Scabies affects all people, regardless of income, sex, age or personal hygiene.

Scabies in Allegan County



Caption above is of a Scabies Mite
Photo Courtesy of WedMD.com

About Scabies

Scabies is a contagious skin disease caused by a tiny itch mite that burrows under the skin to live and reproduce. Scabies is spread by close skin-to-skin contact with someone who has scabies, or by sharing infested clothing, bedding, or towels. It takes about 4-6 weeks after exposure for symptoms to appear, but the mites can spread to others during that time.

The most noticeable sign is intense itching, which is worse at night. Small, red bumps appear where the mite has been and sometimes the bumps appear to follow a line. They most often are found in skin folds between the fingers, elbows, wrist, and waistline.

Controlling Spread

Anyone can get scabies. Direct contacts of someone with scabies should NOT be excluded from school, unless they have symptoms. People are contagious until the mites and eggs are destroyed by treatment; usually 48 hours after effective treatment (no new burrows or bumps appearing during that time).

Treatment

Scabies is treated with a lotion, prescribed by a physician. Follow instructions for applying the lotion carefully. Itching may continue for a couple weeks after treatment and is NOT a sign that treatment needs to be repeated.

Environment

Pets do not carry human scabies. Very important to prevent re-infestation: After treatment, wash clothes worn recently (2-3 days before treatment), towels and bedding in hot water and dry on the hot cycle. Vacuum carpeting and furniture.

**SPRING/SUMMER 2014
VISION & HEARING SCREENING SCHEDULE**

**ALLEGAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
3325 – 122ND AVENUE, SUITE 200
ALLEGAN, MI 49010**

April 7, 2014 Monday (9-12 & 1-4)

April 8, 2014 Tuesday (9-12)

April 11, 2014 Friday (9-12)

May 6, 2014 Tuesday (1-4)

June 3, 2014 Tuesday (1-4)

NO JULY CLINIC

NOTE: Please contact 269-673-5411 for appointments

VISION SCREENING IS REQUIRED FOR KINDERGARTEN ENTRY

The following Health Departments have free vision/hearing screening clinics available by appointment only:

Kent County: 616-632-7047

Ottawa County: 616-396-5266

Kalamazoo County: 269-373-5008

Barry County: 517-541-2604

Optometrist/Ophthalmologist, Family Physician, Pediatrician

If there are any questions regarding any of the Hearing & Vision clinics please contact The Allegan County Health Department at 269-673-5411.



Will your child be in 7th grade in September?

If you answered “yes,” you will need to check with your child’s physician to see if your child is up-to-date on all vaccines. Bring your child’s immunization record to the visit with you.

Pre-teens and teens are recommended to have the following vaccines if they have not already had them:

- 1-2 doses of meningococcal vaccine (MCV4)
- 3 doses of human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV)
- 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis vaccine (Tdap)
- 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine (HepB)
- 2 doses of hepatitis A vaccine (HepA)
- 2 doses of measles, mumps, rubella vaccine (MMR)
- 2 doses of chickenpox vaccine (Var)
- At least 3 doses of polio vaccine (IPV or OPV)
- Flu vaccine every year in the fall or winter months

Beginning January 2014, schools in Michigan are required to assess the immunization status of all 7th grade students. In previous years, schools in Michigan assessed the immunization status of all 6th grade students.

The first time the immunization status of 7th grade students will be reported to the health department will be in November 2014. This will be an easy transition, since all current 6th grade students will be re-reported next year as 7th graders.

Required vaccines: 1 dose of Tdap, 1 dose of MCV4, 3 doses of poliovirus vaccine, 2 doses of MMR, 2 doses of Varicella, 3 doses of HepB.

Check to see if your health insurance will pay for these vaccines. If your child does not have health insurance or does not have health insurance that covers the cost of vaccines, ask your health care provider or the Allegan County Health Department (ACHD) about the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. Eligible children, 18 years of age and younger, may receive publicly-purchased vaccine through the VFC program.

For more information, please visit www.michigan.gov/teenvaccines or call the ACHD Immunization Program 269-673-5526.

