Clayton County Board of Health
Epidemiology Newsletter
April - June 2018

INTRODUCTION

It is officially summertime!!! In the second quarter of 2018, the epidemiology department has continued with ongoing activities including disease surveillance, preventing the spread of infections and monitoring health among Clayton County residents.

QUARTER IN REVIEW

- The department received and worked on (some ongoing) approximately 640 reportable infections in the second quarter of 2018. Approximately 300 were general notifiables and 340 Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs).

- A total of 30 incidents of animal bites were reported this quarter. Prophylaxis was recommended for the victims involved as needed.

- National HIV Testing Day was observed on June 27th, 2018. Free HIV testing services was provided for the public in collaboration with Walgreens.

- World Asthma Month was observed in May. In Georgia, Asthma is a high priority health condition. About 11% of children in the state have asthma, many others are undiagnosed.

  For more information visit:
  https://dph.georgia.gov/Asthma

- As we enjoy all the outdoor activities in the summer months, take appropriate precautions to protect your skin.

  According to information from DPH, "Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States. Ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun can damage skin in as little as 15 minutes even on cloudy or overcast days. Most skin cancers can be prevented. Apply sunscreen and stay safe in the sun.

Have a great summer! ☺

DID YOU KNOW…

- If you have travel plans over the summer, the Travel Clinical Assistant (TCA) provides pre-travel vaccine recommendations. Information on symptoms, transmission, testing and/or treatment is also available.

  To learn more, please visit:
  https://dph.georgia.gov/travelclinicalassistant

- Youth tobacco use dropped between 2011 – 2017. According to a survey by the CDC and the FDA Center for Tobacco Products, 3.6 million middle and high school students reported using any tobacco product in 2017. This is down from 4.5 million in 2011

  More information about how to prevent young people from using tobacco products can be found on: **www.betobaccofree.gov**

- According to a recent Vital Signs report from a CDC press release, suicide rates are rising across the United States. Researchers examined state-level trends from 1999 to 2016. Although rates varied widely in each state, the rate in Georgia increased 16.2% with an overall national rate increase of 25.4%. Collective efforts are needed to help save lives and prevent the rise in suicide.

  Visit the link for the press release as well as further information for a wide range of prevention and support activities:
  https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2018/p0607-suicide-prevention.html

Have questions? Call the Epidemiology department
678-832-7193 or 770-656-1714.

References: www.https://sendss.state.ga.us; www.cdc.gov; www.dph.georgia.gov; https://www.hhs.gov

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