



Winnebago County

Health Department

NEWS RELEASE

April 1, 2024

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 1- 7 Is National Public Health Week

WINNEBAGO COUNTY – Each year the first week of April is designated as National Public Health Week (NPHW), a time to recognize the contributions of public health and bring awareness to the issues that impact health in our communities. The theme for National Public Health Week 2024 is *Protecting, Connecting and Thriving: We Are All Public Health*.

The Winnebago County Health Department (WCHD) will be taking part in NPHW by recognizing our residents and partners role in shaping the health and in sharing ongoing efforts to better health in our community.

“The local public health system includes the multiple sector partners including but not limited to healthcare systems, faith-based entities, community-based organizations, businesses, educational institutions, and first responders that shape health through collectively creating the conditions that support health for all of our resident,” said Dr. Sandra Martell, Public Health Administrator. “The health department does not operate in isolation but in partnership.”

Thank you to all our partners and residents who recently shared what impacts their health to help shape the health of Winnebago County! Over 2,800 residents completed the online questionnaire. We are working closely with some of you this month to further explore the health needs identified by our community and prioritize these needs. If you are asked to take part in a focus group this month, we look forward to seeing you there.

You can take part in National Public Health Week too!

- **Share “We Are All Public Health” messages** on social media from [WCHD’s Facebook page](#) each day this week.
- **Prepare for emergencies**, especially severe weather, by knowing how you will get information and reunite with family. Build your emergency kit with tips from [ready.gov](#)
- **Make a plan for your health** that includes regular health care screenings
- **Clean up for spring** to decrease mosquitoes, ticks, and other pests around your property.
- **Listen to the daily *Public Health History Minute*** by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and ***This is Public Health: The Podcast*** for ***30 Days of Public Health***, an extended observance of National Public Health Week, available on IDPH’s social medial channels and Spotify.

For more information, about your Winnebago County Health Department go to: publichealth.wincoil.gov.

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