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HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
NEWS RELEASE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 14, 2018

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**Kent County Health Department to Hold Saturday Hepatitis-A Vaccination Clinic**

**GRAND RAPIDS** – The Kent County Health Department will hold a vaccination clinic for Hepatitis -A on Saturday September 15, 2018 from 9AM until Noon at KCHD’s main clinic at 700 Fuller NE, Grand Rapids, MI. The clinic is being held out of an abundance of caution and as a public service to those who attended the Michigan Renaissance Festival in Holly, MI. during the Labor Day Weekend.

KCHD was informed today of a confirmed case of Hepatitis A in an attendee who was at the festival on September 1<sup>st</sup>. While the risk of exposure is minimal, anyone who attended the festival should get vaccinated with the Hepatitis A vaccine, if they have not been vaccinated previously.

“Vaccination can prevent the disease if given within 14 days of exposure,” says Adam London, Administrative Health Officer at the Kent County Health Department. “We are recommending anyone who attended the festival during the Labor Day weekend get the vaccine.”

People who attended the festival on September 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> should take advantage of the September 15 walk-in clinic. People who attended only September 3<sup>rd</sup> may also attend the clinic or wait until Monday September 17<sup>th</sup>.

The Kent County Health Department will accept walk-ins at any of its four clinic locations ([https://www.accesskent.com/Health/health\\_clinics.htm](https://www.accesskent.com/Health/health_clinics.htm)) until 4:30PM on Friday and on Monday from 8AM until 4:30PM.

Staff will also be able to answer the public’s questions at (616) 632-7100 from 8AM until noon on Saturday September 15.

Hepatitis A is an infection of the liver caused by a virus. The infection can range from a mild illness lasting several weeks to a serious condition lasting several months; some may die of liver failure. People who already have a chronic liver disease or are immune compromised are at a higher risk of developing a serious case of Hepatitis A. More information about the disease can be found here <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hav/>.

KCHD has been in the business of providing health services to Kent County since 1931. The Health Department is home to nearly 265 employees including public health nurses, sanitarians, health educators, technicians, public health administrators, and specialized staff at the Kent County Animal Shelter. The Health Department operates one main clinic and three satellite clinics located in Kentwood, Rockford, and Grand Rapids. To learn more about KCHD services, visit [www.accesskent.com/health](http://www.accesskent.com/health).

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