

PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION



Preparedness Month

Helping Older Adults Prepare for Disaster

The theme for the 2023 National Preparedness Month in September is “Helping Older Adults Prepare for Disaster.” Like all people, older adults should be prepared in case a disaster or emergency happens. However, older adults may have special circumstances to consider, especially if they live alone, have a disability, are low-income, or live in a rural area. **According to Ready.gov (2023), the following are some ways to be more prepared:**

- **Create a support network of family, friends, and others that can help during an emergency.** At least one person should have an extra house key, know where emergency supplies are kept, and can help with medications and assistive devices (such as walkers, wheelchairs, and canes).
- **Make a plan.** Keep a list of key contacts (i.e., doctors, relatives, friends, etc.) and know what to do in the event of an evacuation or shelter in place order. Be sure to practice the plan as well!
- **Build an emergency kit of basic survival items** (like drinking water and non-perishable food for several days, a flashlight, first aid kit, weather radio, etc.) **plus additional essential items** (like prescription medications and copies of important documents).

Visit ready.gov/older-adults to learn more about how older adults and others can prepare for disasters and emergencies.

Alert Iowa

Signing up for Alert Iowa is a helpful way to get important real-time alerts and be able to react more quickly during an emergency. Alerts are available in multiple languages and can be received by voice message, text, and email. Visit scottcountyiowa.gov/ema/alert-iowa/information to learn more.



OUR MISSION:

The Scott County Health Department promotes, protects, and preserves health through leadership, services, education, and partnerships.

OUR VISION:

Scott County—
A safe and healthy
community.



SPECIAL EVENTS

- *SCHD will be closed Monday, September 4, 2023 in observation of Labor Day.*
- *Scott County Board of Health Meeting, Scott County Administrative Center, 1st Floor Boardroom, 12:00 PM, Thursday, September 21, 2023*

Links

- [Ready.gov/plan-form](https://www.ready.gov/plan-form) (Provides a fillable form to help create an emergency plan that can be printed and saved)
- scottcountyiowa.gov/ema/alert-iowa (Sign up for Alert Iowa at this site)
- Iowa Environmental Health Association: <https://www.ieha.net/>
- National Environmental Health Association: <https://www.neha.org/>

World Environmental Health Day

World Environmental Health Day is September 26, 2023. This day occurs every year and is declared by the International Federation of Environmental Health. The theme for the 2023 World Environmental Health Day is “Global Environmental Public Health: Standing up to protect everyone’s health each and every day.”

Environmental health is the branch of public health that focuses on the interrelationships between people and their environments. It promotes human health and well-being by fostering a safe and healthful environment, both built and natural.

Our department has an environmental health service area. Employees in this service area conduct inspections of food facilities, septic systems, water wells, spas and swimming pools, tattoo/body art facilities, tanning facilities, hotels, lead remediation projects, and nuisance properties.

For more information about our environmental health programs, check out our website:

<https://www.scottcountyiowa.gov/health>.



Scott County Health Department
Scott County Administrative Center, 4th Floor
600 West 4th Street Davenport, Iowa 52801-1003
Phone: 563-326-8618 | Fax: 563-326-8774
Email: health@scottcountyiowa.gov
Website: www.scottcountyiowa.gov/health
Follow us on: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Pinterest](#)



To receive this newsletter electronically, please subscribe at www.scottcountyiowa.gov/health/connection or email health@scottcountyiowa.gov or call 563-326-8618.

