



HEALTH MATTERS

Helping Rock County Reach Its Full Health Potential

A newsletter from Rock County Public Health

PUBLIC HEALTH NEWSLETTER | VOLUME 1 | JUNE 2023

JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST TICK BORNE DISEASES IN ROCK COUNTY



PUBLIC HEALTH HIGHLIGHT: TICK AWARENESS

Rock County Public Health Department (RCPHD) and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services have joined forces and are asking for your help to collect ticks found in Rock County!

The 2023 tick season is underway. To help prevent the spread of disease in Rock County, RCPHD's Environmental Health team is providing tick collection vials to local veterinary clinics in order to better track the County's tick population.

Don't take home hitchhikers!

When enjoying Rock County's beautiful public parks, look out for tick collection stations where you can place ticks to be collected at a later date. Before leaving the park, check yourself, your family, and pets for ticks. Placing them in the jar below the sign at each station will ensure they don't catch a ride with anyone else. Make sure to submerge the tick into the solution in the jar so they don't crawl out.

For more information, visit the [Environmental Health website](#).



IN THE COMMUNITY



RCPHD is proud to once again attend Beloit's annual Juneteenth Day hosted by YWCA Rock County and the Elite Ladies of Beloit. Join us **Saturday, June 17, 2023** at Telfer Park for a day of learning, cultural events and fun while enjoying fellowship, good music, great food and the opportunity to support local businesses and organizations. For event information, visit the [YWCA of Rock County](#) website.

Pictured: Governor Evers with RCPHD staff, Juneteenth 2022



IN THE MEDIA



Food Environment Report

RCPHD is pleased to announce the release of the first [Rock County Food Environment Report](#). This new report describes how food insecurity impacts Rock County residents and provides recommendations for improving food access throughout Rock County. Thank you to our friends at WCLO for highlighting this important work.



PARTNERSHIP SPOTLIGHT



Walking School Bus Program

Congratulations to Beloit School District's [Gaston Elementary School](#) for the recent implementation of their Walking School Bus Mini-Grant award!

Walking school buses offer many benefits for students and families. Walking with others provides increased safety, physical activity, community engagement, and an environmentally friendly transportation option. Walking even helps relieve stress and helps students arrive at school awake and ready to learn.

Family members at Gaston have reported their kids getting out of bed quickly to make the "bus" on time, and that students love the opportunity to burn off extra energy on the way to school.

This grant opportunity will be offered again in August 2023. Be sure to follow [RCPHD news](#) for future Walking School Bus Mini-Grant opportunities in your community!



Questions or feedback? We would love to hear from you! [Send us a message](#) on our website.