



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To: Local Media and Press Release Subscribers  
From: Katrina Harwood, Health Officer  
Date: April 1, 2024

### Rock County Public Health Celebrates National Public Health Week by Unveiling New Department Logo

Rock County, WI – April 1-7, 2024 is [National Public Health Week](#) in the United States, and this year's theme is "Protecting, Connecting and Thriving: We Are All Public Health". It is a time when Rock County Public Health (RCPH) celebrates our staff and the progress we have made. As a special way to celebrate this year, RCPH is proud to unveil its new logo:



The new RCPH logo represents the department and its work. The five shapes represent the [five foundational areas within the foundational public health model](#). The shapes, like leaves, represent our work to improve the whole environment to ensure Rock County can reach its full health potential. Like conversation bubbles, the shapes also represent the importance of community engagement.

As an addition to our public health week celebration, RCPH has recently published its [2023 Annual Report](#), which is located on the RCPH website.

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*Please send all media inquiries to:*

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**Helping Rock County Reach Its Full Health Potential**

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To: Local Media and Press Release Subscribers  
From: Katrina Harwood, Health Officer  
Date: April 23, 2024

**Free NARCAN® Vending Now Available at  
Lakeside Fire-Rescue District Headquarters in Edgerton**

**EDGERTON, WI** – Edgerton area residents now have access to free NARCAN® and fentanyl test strips via a vending machine located at Lakeside Fire-Rescue District Headquarters at 617 North Main Street in downtown Edgerton.

This newspaper-box style vending option will bring free NARCAN® and fentanyl test strip kits to Northern Rock County. Free NARCAN® vending machines are also available in several other locations in Rock County including the Rock County Jail and the Beloit Public Library.

This effort is the result of collaboration between Rock County Public Health and Lakeside Fire-Rescue and is intended to help the community continue to respond to the [opioid overdose crisis](#). Although overdose rates continue to be high, the County has seen overdose trends moving in the right direction. Emergency calls and visits for opioid overdoses have been trending downward over the past couple of years and the increased availability of these lifesaving supplies are likely contributing to this trend.

“We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with the Lakeside Fire-Rescue District to continue promoting access to life-saving resources. Carrying NARCAN® is one step each person in our community can take to help respond to the opioid overdose crisis,” said Katrina Harwood, RCPH Director and Health Officer.

“Having access to NARCAN® is the next step in the fight against the opioid crisis,” agreed Lakeside Fire-Rescue Deputy Chief Brandon Whitmore.



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NARCAN<sup>®</sup>, a name-brand version of naloxone, is a medicine that can reverse an opioid overdose. Especially in its nasal form, NARCAN<sup>®</sup> is easy and safe to use. It can quickly restore normal breathing to a person if their breathing has slowed or stopped because of an opioid overdose. There is no harm if NARCAN<sup>®</sup> is administered to someone who isn't overdosing or if too many doses are accidentally given.

To access the NARCAN<sup>®</sup> and test strips from the machine, a person just needs to visit the 24-hour vestibule at the Lakeside Fire-Rescue headquarters, open the box and remove the supplies they need. No money or identifying information is required. Instructions are available both in an easy-to-read graphic on the machine and in short videos accessible through a QR code. Spanish-language videos are also available using QR codes.

Users of the machine can choose whether to participate in an anonymous, 30-second survey that will help provide additional feedback regarding the process and the service.

Anyone who has a loved one who use opioids is encouraged to have these products on hand in case of an accidental overdose. For assistance accessing treatment for a substance use disorder, call [211](tel:211) to be connected to the [Wisconsin Addiction Recovery Helpline](https://www.wisconsinaddictionrecoveryhelpline.com/).

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To: Local Media and Press Release Subscribers

From: Katrina Harwood, Health Officer

Date: April 26, 2024

**Measles Exposure in Rock County**

**Rock County, WI** – Rock County Public Health has been notified that a person residing in Dane County has a confirmed case of measles and spent time in Rock County while infectious.

Rock County Public Health, in coordination with Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Public Health Madison & Dane County and SSM Health, is working to identify and notify people who may have been exposed to the measles virus.

Individuals who were at the following locations may have been exposed to measles:

- Kwik Trip at 603 W Madison Ave in Milton, WI on Sunday, April 21 between 2:45 pm and 5:00 pm
- SSM Health Dean Medical Group - Janesville, 3200 E Racine St, Janesville, WI, on Monday, April 22 between 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm
- SSM Health Mary's Hospital – Janesville, 3200 E Racine St, Janesville, WI, on Tuesday, April 23 between 8:00 am and 6:00 pm

Anyone at these locations during these dates and times should check their vaccination status. Immunization records are available at the [Wisconsin Immunization Registry](#).

Anyone who is unvaccinated and was at these locations should stay home and contact RCPH or their local health department for guidance.

SSM Health is working to contact any known patient who may have been exposed to measles while on the campus Monday afternoon or Tuesday by MyChart or phone.

The measles vaccine is highly effective. Fully vaccinated people are at low risk of contracting measles even with exposure to a contagious person.



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**Anyone who develops measles symptoms including a cough, high fever, runny nose or watery eyes should call their primary care provider or contact them via MyChart and let them know about possible exposure to measles. Anyone having severe symptoms that require immediate care, please call the Urgent Care or the Emergency Room before you seek care so they can arrange for proper precautions.**

The measles virus is commonly [spread](#) through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes and can remain infectious in the air or on surfaces for up to two hours after an infected person leaves an area. Symptoms of measles can appear from 7 to 21 days post-exposure. People with measles may experience a high fever, cough, runny nose, tiny white spots (Koplik spots) inside the mouth, and a rash. Infected people can spread measles to others from four days before through four days after a rash appears.

The best protection against measles is the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine. The MMR vaccine has been used for years to protect against measles and provides long-lasting protection against all strains of the virus. Two doses of the vaccine are 97% effective at preventing the virus. One dose is about 93% effective. All children should get two doses of MMR, starting with the first dose at 12 through 15 months of age, and the second at four through six years old. Everyone six months and older who are [travelling internationally](#) should also get the MMR vaccine at least two weeks before they travel.

While Rock County has high measles vaccine coverage, there are still folks in our community who are at risk. Help prevent measles in Rock County by checking your vaccination status in the Wisconsin Immunization Registry, and using common [respiratory virus prevention](#) like practicing good hygiene, or wearing a mask and physical distancing if you are sick. If you or your child are due for vaccines, contact your healthcare provider. If you are uninsured or underinsured, contact Rock County Public Health at 608-757-5440. If you need assistance finding a doctor or community clinic near you, call 211.

For information on measles, including the ongoing measles outbreak, visit the CDC.

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