

# METROWEST SHARED PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

December 2023



## National Influenza Vaccination Week

National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) is a great opportunity to remind everyone that there's still time to protect themselves and their loved ones from flu this season!

CDC data shows that **flu vaccination coverage was lower last season**, especially among certain higher risk groups, such as pregnant people and children.

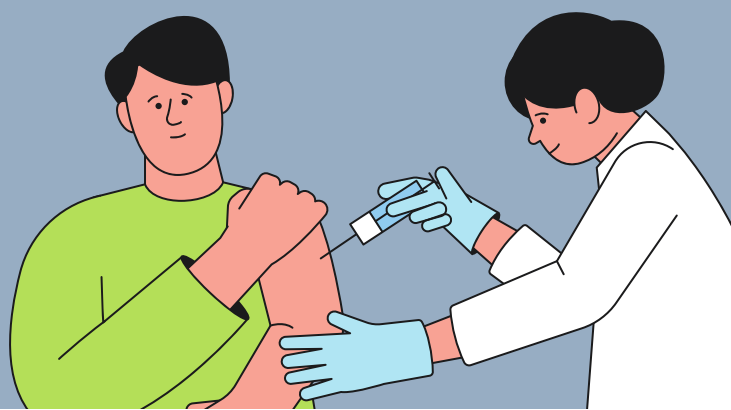
This week is meant to remind people that there is still time to benefit from the first and most important action in preventing flu illness and potentially serious flu complications.

Check out CDC's NIVW toolkit for more shareable resources and content!

# National Influenza Vaccination Week!

December 4th - 8th

- [Respiratory Illness Dashboard](#)
- [CDC's Influenza social media Toolkit](#)
- [CDC data on flu vaccination coverage](#)
- "It's a good time to get your flu vaccine" by FDA
  - [English](#)
  - [Spanish](#)



# Infectious Disease:

## West Nile Virus Social Media Materials

With confirmed West Nile virus (WNV) cases in Massachusetts, it's important to remind your community that although temperatures are starting to fall, there is still some risk from mosquito-borne diseases.



**Access materials here.**



*More information, including all WNV and EEE positive results, can be found on the Arbovirus Surveillance Information web page at [Mosquito-borne Diseases](#)*



## Last month's successes

Check out some of the work the MWSPHS team has been up to!

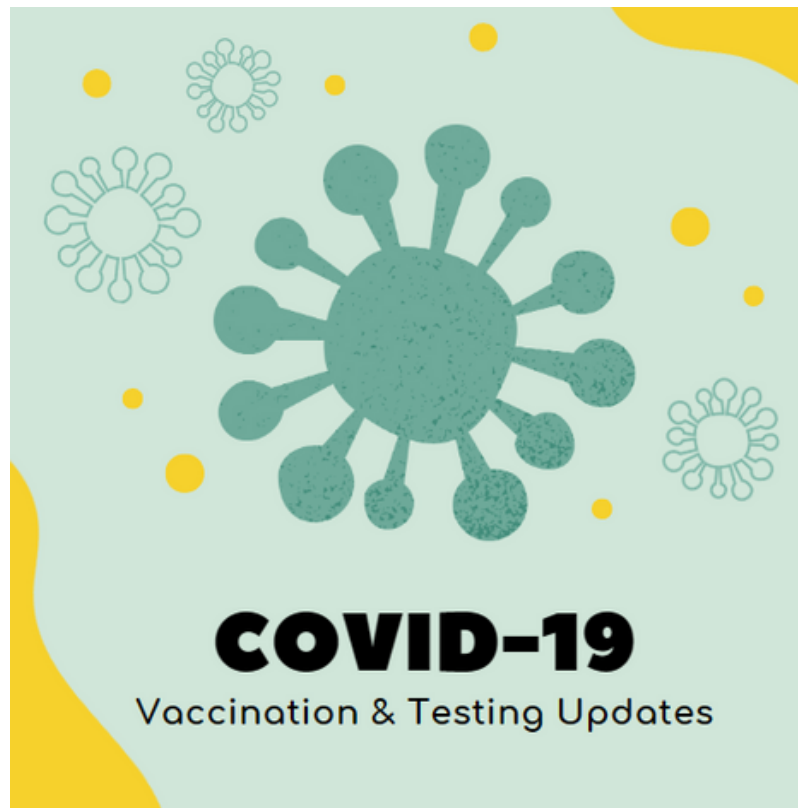


- Food inspections began in Medway.
- MAVEN: TB case follow up.
- MAVEN: Food poisoning case investigation and follow up.
- Data analysis and visualization - CIMS data and Youth substance use survey data.
- Shelter assistance beginning at Milford site.
- Continuing assistance with Ashland's childhood vaccine clinic.
- Public Health 101 and Epidemiology presentations at Curry College for undergraduate students.
- Shelter assistance continuing in Hudson.

## Updated COVID-19 Materials:

New communications materials to share with your community regarding COVID-19! Social media series includes:

- “What you should know”
- “Vaccination recommendations”
- “Testing recommendations”



Have recommendations or additional information you think should be included? Reach out to Thalita and she can edit/add your recommendations upon request.

**Access materials [here](#).**

### **Direct links to other additional COVID-19 Resources:**

- CDC recommends [updated COVID-19 Vaccine](#) for Fall/Winter Virus Season
- Vaccine Equity Initiative [Mobile Vaccine Clinics](#)
- Statewide Contract [Resources for Antigen Test Kits](#)



## Webinar and Training Opportunities:

### Discussion on Reusable Takeout Containers in Foodservice Setting

**About:** A virtual discussion on reusable takeout container best management practices. Insights and participation from local and regional health officials in this ongoing effort is encouraged.

**When:** December 7th, 2023  
10:00am

**[Register here to attend.](#)**

### PFAS: So Much Information - What's Really Needed?

**About:** This webinar will focus on the identification of PFAS as a large group of chemicals, how PFAS are defined, how people are exposed to a small subset of the PFAS chemicals that are currently regulated in drinking water sources around New England. Population health concerns and efforts being taken in the region to address PFAS will also be addressed.

**When:** December 12th 2023  
12:00-1:00pm

**[Register here.](#)**







# Webinar and Training Opportunities:

## MHOA Quarterly Meeting: Foodborne Illness Investigation

**About:** Dr. Darin Detwiler of the recent Netflix documentary "POISONED" will discuss the importance of food safety and why we, as public health professionals, do what we do. Dr. Detwiler will be joined by Hillary Johnson and Johanna Vostok from BIDLS and Nichol Smith from the Food Protection Program at MDPH to present on foodborne illness investigation, the overall flow of communication, MAVEN, and how the different parties involved work together.

**When:** December 14th, 2023  
10:00am

\*\$25 for members

\*\$40 for non-members

**Register [here](#) to attend.**

## Overview of Tanning Code

**About:** Learn the basics of the tanning code, including the required signage and recordkeeping, inspection process, and application process.

**When:** December 13th 2023  
3:00-4:00pm

**Register [here](#).**





**A special thank you to Deanna who will be gratefully missed as she moves onto a new position!**

Deanna,

Thank you for bringing out the best in our team and guiding us towards success. You have been an incredible leader and we have been fortunate to work under your guidance. Good luck with your future endeavors!

Kindly,  
MWSPHS Team





## **Reminders:**

- *If you need any documents to be copied in another format (pdf, jpeg, png, etc.) please feel free to email them to Thalita (tcampelo@townofhudson.org)*
- *All available communication materials and campaigns can be found [here](#).*
- *Materials may be used on social media and can be updated upon request.*
- *Please reach out to Thalita directly for any additional communications requests, questions or needs.*

# **THANK YOU!**

