



DAVIS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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FACT SHEET

DAVIS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

"Serving Davis County since 1934"

With its beginnings back in 1934, the Davis County Health Department is now the oldest established local public health department in Utah. The Health Department's staff strives to ensure quality public and environmental health and senior services in Davis County. Under the policy direction of the Davis County Board of Health, the Davis County Health Department's Health Officer and the approximately 160 employees serve county residents through the **Communicable Disease & Epidemiology Division**, the **Environmental Health Services Division**, the **Family Health & Senior Services Division**, and the **Health Administration Services Office**.



Communicable Disease & Epidemiology Division

The Communicable Disease & Epidemiology Division is responsible for the detection, control, and prevention of communicable diseases. This is accomplished through the following programs and activities:

- ❖ **Infectious Disease Program:** Utah law requires that certain human diseases be reported to local health departments. Reporting comes from laboratories, physicians, clinics, and sometimes citizens. Public health nurses make contact with infected individuals to conduct an interview/investigation. They determine possible sources of infection, ensure that proper treatment has been given, and identify others who may have been exposed. A disease investigation can involve one individual or many, as in an outbreak.
- ❖ **Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Program:** Responsible for interviewing individuals infected with reportable STDs to: verify that appropriate treatment was prescribed and taken; identify and notify potentially exposed contacts/partners of infected individuals to facilitate testing and treatment; and provide risk-reduction counseling and education.
- ❖ **Tuberculosis (TB) Program:** Dedicated to the prevention, control, and elimination of TB disease. Free treatment is provided to those who are identified with a latent TB infection or active TB disease.
- ❖ **Bloodborne Pathogen Prevention:** Classes are offered to EMS workers and other individuals or agencies who need to meet an annual OSHA requirement for bloodborne pathogen training. Services are provided for EMS workers who require a baseline blood draw and Hepatitis B vaccine.
- ❖ **Epidemiology:** An epidemiologist is on staff to assist in preventing and controlling the spread of communicable diseases by: monitoring and establishing surveillance systems; determining the occurrence and severity of infectious diseases; and conducting timely investigations.
- ❖ **Public Health Emergency Preparedness:** An emergency response coordinator works in conjunction with the state health department, other local health departments, and other partner agencies (fire, police, hospitals) to create emergency response plans for infectious disease outbreaks (influenza, West Nile virus, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, etc.), natural disasters (earthquakes, floods, tornados), bioterrorism attacks, and other emergencies affecting public health.

Environmental Health Services Division

Four bureaus make up the Environmental Health Services Division:

- ❖ **Air Quality Bureau** staff members oversee a wide variety of air quality programs within Davis County. Activities include: oversight of the wood burning stove program (in conjunction with the State's Division of Air Quality); providing clearing index information and burning conditions to citizens and applicable

agencies; informing the public about air quality conditions, regulations, and programs; and enforcing county and state air quality regulations.

- The federally mandated Inspection/Maintenance program conducted by the bureau performs vehicle emission testing, safety inspections, and registration at the county's Technical Center in Kaysville. The center also handles public inquiries and provides oversight for commercially operated Inspection/Maintenance program stations as well as their mechanics.
- ❖ The **Food Service and Facilities Bureau** staff performs routine inspections on all permitted restaurants, schools, Job Corps facilities, commercial day care facilities, and jails. Other inspections are performed at snow shacks and at seasonal or temporary events. Inspectors investigate food borne illness complaints, lead paint complaints, and elevated blood lead levels in children. The bureau staff issues permits to food handlers, temporary food vendors, snow shacks and seasonal food vendors. Staff also review plans for food service establishments and institutional facilities.
- ❖ The **Waste Management and Environmental Response Bureau** staff conducts routine, complaint-based, and emergency inspections. The staff can answer any waste, housing, vector, rabies, or site assessment questions. The bureau's staff monitors emergency environmental response and cleanup following hazardous spills or other material releases potentially detrimental to the natural environment. The Tri-County Weatherization Program also is included within this bureau.
- ❖ The **Water Resources Bureau** staff periodically conducts sanitary surveys of drinking water systems in the county to assure the purity of the water supply. The bureau's water laboratory is nationally accredited and operates under the strictest requirements. Fluoride levels in the drinking water are monitored within this lab. Public pools and spas require permits and are inspected every month to ensure they meet rigorous standards for operation within the county.

Family Health & Senior Services Division

The Family Health & Senior Services Division conducts a variety of public health and senior-related programs and services for Davis County citizens.

- ❖ **Health Promotion Bureau** staff plans and implements healthy lifestyle programs through evidence-based prevention and education. Program goals and objectives focus on reducing morbidity and mortality in three major areas: Physical Activity, Nutrition and Obesity, Tobacco Prevention and Control, Violence and Injury Prevention.
- ❖ **Immunization & International Travel Clinic** services are provided through locations in Clearfield and Woods Cross. The Immunization clinics are for walk-in clients while the International Travel Clinic is by appointment-only. Children 0-18 years old without health insurance, on Medicaid, CHIP, or American Indian can receive vaccines through the Vaccines For Children Program for a nominal cost of vaccine administration. The International Travel Clinic is a certified Yellow Fever vaccine center.
- ❖ Davis County's three senior activity centers are gathering places where active, mature adults can explore a multitude of interests or eat a full meal. Volunteers deliver hot, nutritious meals to homebound seniors out of each center. The centers are open weekdays from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Transportation is provided for those who need help getting to the center. Medical Transportation is available for those who need a ride to the doctor, therapy, pharmacy, or hospital in Davis County.
- ❖ The **WIC (Women, Infant, Children) Bureau** provides clients with a combination of nutrition education, supplemental foods, breastfeeding promotion and support, and referrals to health care. The program is federally funded and serves pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children up to age 5 who have low to moderate income.
- ❖ **In-Home Services Bureau** provides assistance for income-eligible seniors to remain safely in their homes for as long as possible by arranging supportive services. State and federal programs provide funding for approved services including the Alternatives Program, Medicaid Aging Waiver, New Choices Waiver, and a Transitional program. A Caregiver Support Program provides classes and respite for caregivers. The bureau coordinates individuals and business volunteers to assist seniors with a variety of service-oriented activities.
- ❖ The division provides other senior-oriented services including senior employment, ombudsman, Davis County Senior Visitor Program, Prescription Assistance Program, Private Pay Case Management, and Medicare information and coordination.

Health Administration Services Office

The Health Administration Services Office staff manages accounting, budget, purchasing, travel, and personnel functions for the entire health department.

- ❖ **Vital Records** staff provides services to the public by issuing birth and death certificates.

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