



MERIDEN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



August 2025

MONTHLY HEALTH Newsletter

WWW.MERIDENHEALTH.COM

CONTACT INFO

165 Miller Street
Meriden, CT 06450

(203) 630-4226

Monday-Friday
8:00am - 4:30pm

Clinical Services

(203) 630-4234

Environmental Health

(203) 630-4226

Public Health Education

(203) 630-4288

Meriden Early Start

(formerly School Readiness)

(203) 630-4222

Youth Services

(203) 639-5058

Public Health

Emergency

Preparedness

(203) 630-4288

School Health

(203) 630-4239

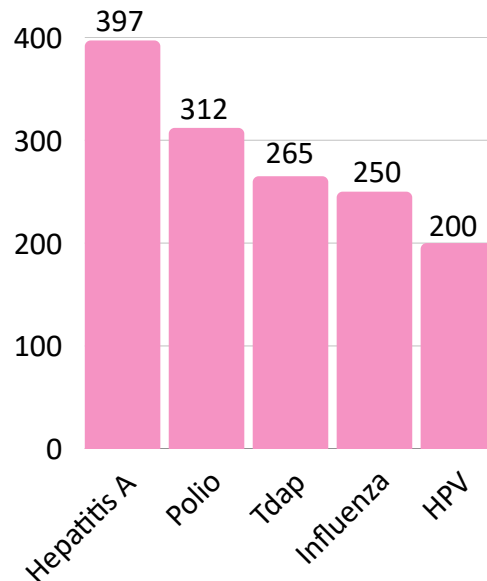
Senior Center

22 W. Main St
(203) 237-0066

NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS MONTH

Marley the Meriden Lion is here to remind you that August is National Immunization Awareness Month! As your local health department, we encourage everyone to stay up to date with their vaccinations, but particularly babies and children since their immune system is still developing.

Last fiscal year (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025) our Public Health Clinic administered **2,154** childhood vaccines! Below is a graphic showing the top 5 most frequently given vaccines to children 18 and under in our office.



Childhood vaccines are provided free of charge for children 18 and under, regardless of health insurance status, through the Connecticut Vaccine Program.

School starts August 27!

If your child is in need of vaccines for school, call our Public Health Clinic to schedule an appointment.

MENINGOCOCCAL B VACCINE AVAILABLE

Do you have a child 16 years or older? The CDC recommends the Meningococcal B vaccine as an extra layer of protection against Meningococcal Disease for teens and young adults.

Call our Public Health Clinic to schedule an appointment.

Meriden Department of Health and Human Services



Meningococcal B Vaccine Available

Public Health Clinic Location: 165 Miller Street

Do you have a child 16 years or older? The CDC recommends the Meningococcal B vaccine as an extra layer of protection against Meningococcal Disease for teens and young adults.

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Call our Public Health Clinic
at (203) 630-4234 to
schedule an appointment.



RABIES PREVENTION

Rabies is a viral disease that is deadly in people if medical care is not received before symptoms start. Rabies is spread to human and pets primarily through bites or scratches from an infected animal. In Connecticut, rabies is usually carried by skunks, raccoons, and bats but any mammal could carry the disease.



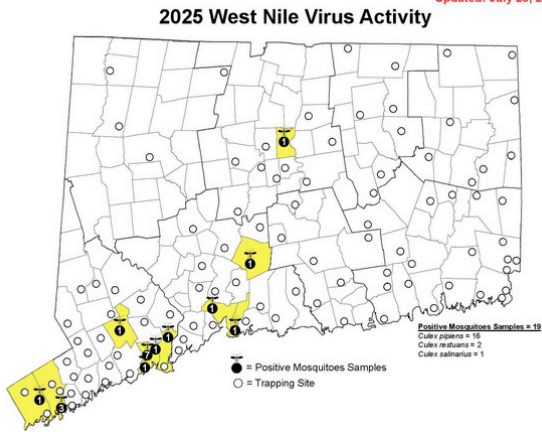
Prevention:

- Make sure your pets are up-to-date with their rabies vaccines.
- Avoid contact with wildlife for both your safety and your pet’s safety. Supervise pets outdoors and do not feed wildlife.
- Don’t try to handle sick animals - call Animal Control with any concerns.
- Secure your garbage cans to prevent attracting wildlife and bat-proof your home to prevent them from entering.

If bitten or scratched - wash the wound immediately with soap and water, seek medical attention and call our office for further guidance.

STATEWIDE MOSQUITO TRAPPING AND TESTING

Updated: July 28, 2025



As of July 28, 2025:
Towns with West Nile Virus Infected Mosquitoes:
Bridgeport, East Haven, Easton, Greenwich, Hartford, New Haven, Stamford, Stratford, Wallingford
Towns with Eastern Equine Encephalitis Infected Mosquitoes: **NONE**
Meriden’s testing location is Falcon Park.

Click the link below for a resource from the CT Dept. of Public Health:
[**Insect Repellent Essentials: A Brief Guide**](#)

RISE IN TICK BITES OBSERVED IN THE U.S.



Data from the CDC has shown an increase in the number of emergency department visits for tick bites this summer.
Did you know if you find a tick on yourself, you could bring it to our office to submit for testing?

Bring the tick in in a crush proof container (or sealed plastic bag). Do not place tape on the tick! We will send it out to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station to be identified and tested for common tick-borne illnesses as a public service free of charge. Questions? Call our Environmental Health Office.

UPCOMING EVENTS



- **Summer Meal Site Outreach** - August 1 at Washington Park, August 6 at Ceppa Field, August 8 at the Meriden Green, August 13 at City Park, and August 15 at John Barry.
- **Puerto Rican Festival** on August 3, 12:00 - 8:00pm at Hubbard Park (we will be there 12:00pm -4:00pm).
- **National Night Out** on August 5, 5:00 - 8:00pm at Hubbard Park.
- The **Meriden Farmers Market** on August 9, 8:30am - 12:00pm at the Meriden Green.
- **Meriden Pride Fest** on August 16, at 328 Paddock Avenue (we will be there from 11:00am - 2:00pm).
- **Back to School Expo** on August 22, 10:00am - 1:00pm at the Meriden Green.
- **Overdose Awareness Day** on August 30, 10:00am - 1:00pm at the Meriden Green.

COVID-19 HOME TEST KITS

Kits are available for Meriden residents in our office (165 Miller Street) Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:30pm. The kits expire in December 2025. We cannot provide bulk kits to businesses or organizations. Call (203) 630-4221 with questions.



www.meridenhealth.com



City of Meriden Health & Human Services Department

FREE In-Person QPR Suicide Prevention Training



**Wednesday, August 20, 2025
10:30 - 11:30 AM**

**165 Miller Street, Meriden, CT 06450
2nd Floor - Teen Conference Room**

What You'll Learn:

- How to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis.
- How to question, persuade, and refer someone to help.

Participants will receive a certification as a QPR Gatekeeper upon completing the training.

**Space is limited, so registration is REQUIRED.
For more information and to register please contact:**

Elizabeth DeMerchant, Public Health Educator
edemerchant@meridenct.gov or (203) 630-4288

