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Rabies and dog attacks are serious problems

Few diseases bring as much fear and anxiety to a community as rabies. Rabies is a disease of all warm-blooded mammals, including man, and is universally fatal if specialized anti-rabies treatment is not obtained immediately.

To assist in public education about the disease and to encourage the annual vaccination of dogs and cats as required by law, a cooperative effort was organized by the Alabama Department of Public Health, the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association, and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

June 2-8, 2002, was designated as "Rabies Awareness Week" and "Dog Bite Prevention Week" in Alabama. Public low-cost rabies clinics were conducted in most counties throughout the state and public service announcements and education programs were promoted.

Raccoons, bats, foxes and skunks are most often responsible for transmitting the virus to domesticated animals and humans. Immunization of domestic dogs and cats provides the only "buffer" between wildlife and humans.

As summer outdoor activities begin, remember to warn children to not touch, pick up, or feed wild or unfamiliar animals. Avoid sick or strange-acting animals. A wild animal that appears friendly, docile or approaches humans should be avoided.

Nocturnal animals, such as raccoons and bats that become active in the daytime, may be suspect. Stray animals pose a continuous public health threat; not only from rabies, but from bite wounds and animal attacks in general.

"If you can touch it, don't," is a good rule of thumb according to state public health veterinarian, Dr. Bill Johnston. There are approximately 9,500 animal bites investigated each year in the state, and 31 out of the last 36 rabid dogs and cats were strays, according to Johnston.

If bitten or scratched by an animal, wash the wound with soapy water for 10 minutes and see a doctor immediately. Do not attempt to catch or kill the animal. Call officials at the animal control center. If your pet is scratched or bitten by another animal, contact your veterinarian.

Dog attacks also are a serious health problem. In health care costs alone, the estimated 650,000 dog bites that require medical attention each year in the nation include 3 percent of all emergency room visits and medical costs are over \$70 million.

Statistics indicate that half of all children are bitten by age 12, and two-thirds of those bitten are under age 20. Two times as many men as women are bitten by dogs and two times as many women as men are bitten by cats.

Of the animals involved 84 percent are dogs; 10 percent are cats. Ten percent are strays, 16 percent are the owner's pet; and in 74 percent of bites the owner is unknown.

Dog owners are criminally and civilly liable for injuries. Seventy percent of bites are on the extremities; 11 percent are disfiguring wounds to the face. About a dozen people die each year from dog bites.

Responsible pet ownership can help. These are some tips to prevent dog bites:

Rabies.....continued on page 10

Sumter County Health Department wins trophy for Relay for Life

Staff of the Sumter County Health Department participated in Sumter County's annual Relay for Life to raise money for the American Cancer Society on April 19. The relay, held annually on the campus of the University of West Alabama, is truly a community activity in which teams compete to see which can raise the most money.

With 38 teams from around the county participating this year, competition was intense and spirits were high. In the months leading up to the main event, Health Department personnel participated in a variety of activities to raise money for the team event. An Easter Basket Raffle raised over \$400 and a yard sale netted over \$300.

In addition, each team member worked to get donations from friends and relatives in order to raise at least \$100 each. A local patron, Charles McGough, donated a prize of a weekend trip to New Orleans to the team member who raised the most money. Team members thanked him for his help and support.

On the evening of the event, staff worked cooking steaks, shrimp, beef and chicken kabobs, crawfish etouffe, and red beans and rice to sell. Other items sold to add to the team total included water and soft drinks.

At the end of the evening, the Sumter County Relay raised a total of \$50,000 with the Sumter County Health Department winning the trophy for having raised the most

money of all the teams. The team's total was \$6,162, beating the team from the Department of Human Resources handily.

The Dallas County Health Department also participated in the local Relay for Life on May 17. Ten employees took part in the Selma event.



Team members from the Sumter County Health Department raised more than \$6,000 for the 2002 Relay for Life. Volunteers sponsored numerous events, with proceeds going to the American Cancer Society.

Alabama Department of Public Health

Mission

To serve the people of Alabama by assuring conditions in which they can be healthy.

Value Statement

The purpose of the Alabama Department of Public Health is to provide caring, high quality and professional services for the improvement and protection of the public's health through disease prevention and the assurance of public health services to resident and transient populations of the state regardless of social circumstances or the ability to pay.

The Department of Public Health works closely with the community to preserve and protect the public's health and to provide caring quality services.

ALABAMA'S HEALTH

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Informational materials in alternative formats will be made available upon request..

Innovative approach promotes HIV/AIDS awareness



Moving billboards, known as “Haul Ads,” are the latest component of an African American HIV/AIDS awareness campaign in Alabama. These truck billboards promote HIV/AIDS awareness through posters on both sides and the rear of 18-wheelers. The HIV/AIDS Division is hoping this innovative approach will get the prevention message out to a greater number of people at risk. The high and rising rates of infection in African Americans led to the creation of the campaign formed in partnership with Alabama State University. The billboards include the HIV/AIDS statewide toll-free hotline number, 1-800-228-0469.

Promoting home health



Mary Gray, nurse consultant with the Bureau of Home and Community Services, is shown with Mayor Jim Byard of Prattville and Carolyn Morgan, director of the Home Care Division, Bureau of Home and Community Services. They promoted home health at a health fair at the Doster Community Center in Prattville April 27 sponsored by the Autauga County American Association of Retired Persons.

Alabama Public Health Association honors professionals

The Alabama Public Health Association recently recognized persons from across the state who demonstrated exceptional merit during the past year in the field of public health. The following individuals were presented awards at the association's Annual Meeting and Health Education Conference at the Mobile Convention Center April 19.

June Cox of Brent was selected as the recipient of the Virginia Kendrick Award. This prestigious award goes to an individual who has provided notable service to the people of Alabama while serving in a supportive position in public health. Nominators said Ms. Cox has been a loyal public health employee for 33 years who "assists in any job assignment that promotes public health." She was praised for her pleasant attitude and willingness to assist other employees and clients. Another supporter praised her efforts on behalf of patients.

The Guy M. Tate Award was presented to **Michael Jones** of Montgomery. This award is presented annually to a public health employee, group or agency with 10 years or less service for contributions to public health beyond the job assignment which promote and protect public health in Alabama. Jones directs the Data Management Division of the Computer Systems Center.

Supporters stated that Jones "uses outstanding customer service skills to reach and learn what each bureau and office needs from his division." Jones has been active as deacon and Sunday School teacher at Taylor Road Baptist Church.

George H. Moore of the Mobile County Health Department was presented the prestigious Frederick S. Wolf Award, which is given to an individual active in public health at the local level for more than 10 years. Moore is an environmentalist who has worked 23 years in public health. He has been "very enthusiastic, dedicated and hard working" in combating rodent and mosquito problems in Mobile. A nominator said he had been a frequent witness in environmental court to protect the public's health. Moore possesses "an infectious enthusiasm that pushes him to excel."



Roger Norris

Roger Norris, administrator of Public Health Area 1, was presented the D.G. Gill Award. This award is given to



Michael Jones, June Cox and George Moore hold their plaques after receiving awards from the Alabama Public Health Association. Not shown is Dr. Edward Partridge.

an individual who has made an exceptional contribution to public health in Alabama which is statewide in scope.

A nominator credited Norris for his efforts in raising immunization levels throughout the state. In the late 1970s he was the North Alabama coordinator for school-based immunization which has resulted in drastic declines in vaccine-preventable diseases.

Dr. Edward E. Partridge of Birmingham was honored with the Ira L. Myers Award for Excellence. The Myers Award was established in 1986 to recognize an individual, group or organization that, through excellence in their work, has made a significant impact upon some aspect of public health in Alabama.

Dr. Partridge has worked tirelessly and with professional dedication on the prevention and early detection of cancer control. He recognizes the potential of bringing together numerous organizations. Nominators described him as a "can do" person when it comes to bettering the health of Alabama women, "a visionary and trailblazer."

Dr. Partridge is Director, Division of Gynecologic Oncology, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Alabama at Birmingham; and Associate Director for Cancer Prevention and Control, UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center. He serves as Professor and Vice Chairman, Department of OB//GYN; Scientist,

Honors.....continued on page 5

Area 2 nurse named UAB's 2002 Public Health Hero

Judith M. Smith, M.P.H., nursing director for Public Health Area 2, recently received the 2002 Public Health Hero Award from the School of Public Health at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Smith, who lives in Cullman, is the public health nursing director for Cullman, Jackson, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marshall and Morgan counties.

The award and a check for \$1,000 — funded by Peter Cowin and the Hillcrest Foundation — was presented to Ms. Smith in recognition of her public health efforts to improve and protect the health of Alabamians.

“For Smith, ensuring healthy communities in Alabama isn’t just a job; it’s her passion,” says Dr. Max Michael, dean of the School of Public Health at UAB. “She is the true essence of a public health servant and hero.”

Friends and colleagues nominated Ms. Smith for the award based on her service to Alabama communities, particularly those in Public Health Area 2. Among her contributions, she has written grants on behalf of the Department of Human Resources for funding to reduce unwed pregnancies; she worked with the Alabama

Public Safety Car Seat Project and the Tobacco Coalition project to reduce teenage smoking; she established a bilingual education and training center in Marshall County; and she is a volunteer with the American Red Cross.

Following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Ms. Smith led a team of Alabama public health nurses from northeast Alabama to New York City. There, the team provided nursing care to family members of those involved in the attacks and to rescue workers searching for survivors.

In a nomination letter, one of Ms. Smith’s co-workers writes: “She accomplishes more in a day than most people accomplish in a week, and she inspires others to accomplish. In my 27 years in public health, I don’t know of anyone who has made a bigger impact than Judy Smith.”

Ms. Smith, an alumnus of the UAB’s School of Public Health, graduated with honors from the master’s in public health weekend program in 1992 to continue her life’s work in public health, a career path she began in 1973.



Judith M. Smith

Honors.....continued from page 4

Comprehensive Cancer Center, Senior Scientist, Center for Aging, and holds the Margaret Cameron Spain Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Alabama in Birmingham.

A native son of Demopolis, Dr. Partridge was recognized for his professional and personal dedication to improving the health and well being of citizens of our state through his work in the prevention, early detection, and control of cancer. Nominators describe him as a “visionary leader with a commitment to reaching underserved populations in our state with lifesaving prevention education and state-of-the art cancer treatment.”

Supporters say his tireless efforts to bring communities

and resource organizations together in partnership to make a difference in the war on cancer is working in Alabama.

It was also announced that **Ricky Lee Elliott** of Bradley is the recipient of the Ira L. Myers Scholarship to the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He is a community health developer and part-time public health environmentalist with the Escambia County Health Department who has more than 10 years’ public health experience. A graduate of the University of South Alabama in biology and earth science, he will be pursuing a master’s degree in public health.

Healthy lifestyle results in 74-pound weight loss for nurse

Kim Henry's wedding band now fits perfectly on her index finger, her shoe size has changed from a 9 to an 8, and she's getting new rollerblades as a Mother's Day gift.



Kim Henry

As Ms. Henry leaves her position as a contract nurse with the Worksite Wellness Division in the Bureau of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease, she leaves 74 pounds lighter than when she was first employed two years ago.

Ms. Henry said she has struggled with her weight for her entire life, only reaching a one-time low of 170 pounds on her five feet, five-inch frame. But her weight total has been "largely" much larger. She estimated her weight was between 218 and 220 when she accepted the Wellness job.

An Air Force wife who has been stationed in a number of locations worldwide, Ms. Henry's two daughters were reaching college age and she decided to alter her lifestyle as they anticipated leaving the nest.

Ms. Henry's major change came about as she was working counseling other state employees and teachers about their health status. One of her duties was to calculate body mass indices of persons being screened at health fairs for the HealthWatch and

HealthWise wellness programs.

"Looking at that blasted BMI chart all day made a difference," she said, discussing her frequent consciousness of her weight and its adverse effects on her health. "I also got a lot of encouragement from the people I work with."

Ms. Henry finds that she has been able to get good results primarily with exercise—she's on the treadmill 30 minutes daily, rides a bike, does sit-ups and lifts weights at

the Maxwell Air Force Base gym. More than a year ago she began using the elliptical trainer. She enjoys listening to music CDs as she trains.

To lose the weight she drank a morning milkshake of a soy protein drink made with bananas and whatever fruit was in her house. A vegetarian for the past 10 years, she ate nuts and yogurt for lunch, and then ate the normal evening meal she served her family for dinner. A major change was that she limited herself to one-half serving of bread. Formerly, she baked (and enjoyed) delicious homemade bread every day. Now she's a salad eater.

"My tastes have changed," she said with enthusiasm. And her weight loss has brought her freedom. She said she had always wanted to participate in sports such as rollerblading, and now she can. She and her husband are moving to Cheyenne, Wyo., and she is looking forward to skiing, hiking and other winter and summer sports.

The reader may wonder if she will keep off the weight. Well, her fellow employees attest that she has succeeded for more than a year. But she realized during the Christmas season that she CAN regain weight, so she stays vigilant.

When employees she's counseling at health screenings complain that they can't change their lifestyles, Ms. Henry quietly tells them her own story of her years of fighting excessive weight to illustrate that it can be done. She's proof of it, and her story is an inspiration to others.

ADPH employee gets American citizenship



Before Shen could apply for American citizenship she had to obtain a green card and then maintain continuous permanent residency in America for five years. The final process for citizenship involved a personal interview and a test on American history and the Constitution. A ceremony to swear in new citizens was held where Shen was also given a certificate of citizenship that allows her to obtain an American passport.

Shen originally came to United States to attend graduate school at the University of Illinois where she received a Ph.D. She then worked at the University of Alabama at Birmingham as a post doctoral fellow working in the department of Genomics and Pathobiology laboratory from 1998 through 2001. She also received a Master's degree in the program of health informatics during that time.

Fellow employees congratulate Shen with a sign about her new American citizenship.

On April 4, 2002, employee Xuejun Shen received something most of us are simply born with— her American citizenship. Shen, who is originally from the People's Republic of China, has lived in the United States for 12 years and will now have all the rights Americans possess including the right to vote and hold federal employment.

Currently, Shen works with the Alabama Statewide Cancer Registry as an operations analyst. She is the support administrator for the registry's computer system and the Web administrator for its Web site. Shen has been working at the department since June of 2001.

By *TAKENYA STOKES*

PHASES gets off to a favorable start

More than half of the health department's employees statewide have participated in the two basic level courses of PHASES (Public Health of Alabama Staff Enrichment) training to date. Nearly 2,000 employees have taken part in the video-based workforce development program which provides opportunities to enhance their understanding of public health.

After an orientation session attended by 63 facilitators from throughout the state, PHASES was offered to employees in all 11 public health areas and at the central office. A total of 1,486 attended the "Orientation to the Essentials of Public Health" and 32 attended "Community Partnerships and Perspectives" at the county and area levels. Four hundred seven employees participated in the orientation program and 151 attended "Community Partnerships and Perspectives" from the central office in Montgomery.

"We hope many of the employees who participated in the first two PHASES courses now have a better understanding of what's happening in public health outside their immediate area of work," said Frances Kennamer, director of the Office of Professional and Support Services and chair of the Workforce Development Committee. "Through PHASES we will continue to provide a variety of opportunities for professional development."

PHASES provides opportunities for public health workers not only through training but through internal and external internships and job shadowing experiences. For more information about workforce development opportunities and PHASES contact Frances Kennamer, Office of Professional and Support Services, The RSA Tower, Suite 1010, P.O. Box 303017, Montgomery, Ala. 36130-3017, (334) 206-5226, e-mail fkennamer@adph.state.al.us.

ASAI kicks off its campaign in Brent

The Alabama Smoke Alarm Initiative officially began on April 20 in a kickoff event to promote the campaign's program to help bring awareness to Alabamians about the importance of smoke alarms and the free installation of smoke alarms offered by the program. The event, held in Brent in Bibb County, is one of many kickoff campaigns that will be held across the state in counties with a high risk of fire fatalities. Project coordinator for the initiative Amanda Calhoun and local volunteers distributed information, pencils and potholders to adults and firefighter hats to children to help promote the program. Free hot dogs and drinks were also given away.

Local volunteers will go into all homes within the city limits of Brent to inspect existing fire alarms and install new alarms for those that do not have them. Volunteers will wear badges to identify themselves and make people feel more at ease at their presence in their homes. The goal is to have 100 percent coverage in Brent.

"I would like to see fire alarms in every house in Brent. I'd also like to see the program extended to other communities," said Jerry Pow, the local volunteer fire chief for Brent.

The Alabama Smoke Alarm Initiative was created to increase fire education and to decrease fire incidences in Alabama, which is ranked among the top 10 states nationwide for fire-related deaths and injuries.

Local participant Tracy Sanders has volunteered for 12 years at the fire department and is excited about the program because of the high fire fatality rate in the community.

"Proper installation of fire alarms will hopefully save lives in this community," said Sanders.

Tragically, an elderly couple died the Saturday before the kickoff event from a fire in their home, stressing the importance of a program such as the Alabama Smoke Alarm Initiative.

"I want to see people's homes better protected and personal safety increased as a result of this program," said Deputy State Fire Marshal Scott Pilgreen.

Field representative for U.S. Representative Bob Riley, Betty Bennett, stopped by on behalf of the congressman to support the event.

"Programs like these are important because many people do not realize that they need fire alarms or they cannot afford them," said Bennett.

The initiative is administered by the Alabama

Department of Public Health in conjunction with the Center of Community Health Resources at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the State Fire Marshal's Office. It is also funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"We had a wonderful turnout and I am excited about working with this project," said Calhoun.

By TAKENYA STOKES



There was a joint effort in Brent to make the first kick off event for the Alabama Smoke Alarm Initiative a success. Shown, left to right, are local Walmart manager Harley Blackstock, UAB coordinator Tom Struzick, local ASAI coordinator Dennis Stripling, Savannah Stripling, Deputy Fire Marshall Scott Pilgreen and project coordinator for ASAI Amanda Calhoun.

Jamie Medley receives Mullins Award

Fairness, consistency, objectivity, helpfulness. These adjectives describe Jamie Medley of the Marion County Health Department who was awarded the Ansel C. Mullins Award of the Alabama Environmental Health Association. The award is presented to an outstanding environmentalist with less than five years' experience.

One of Medley's supporters praised him for having "the ability to accurately interpret rules and develop rapport with citizens in order to obtain compliance with Health Department requirements," and stated, "Jamie seems to strike a balance with seasoning rule enforcement with the right amount of common sense."

Although Medley has only been employed with the department since April 1997, he has made a favorable impression on local government and law enforcement officials. One official stated that after he had accompanied Medley on food inspections and a trip to an illegal dump, "It reinforced my feelings about the valuable services conducted in environmental health."

During his tenure food inspection frequencies increased to a bimonthly basis, which has raised the sanitation levels of restaurants and markets to degrees never before achieved. He helped start food sanitation classes which have been popular in Public Health Area 1. As of the March 12 class, 90 percent of all permitted facilities had sent at least one employee to the class.

"Jamie's superb work ethic has tilled his mind into fertile ground for all sorts of ideas," said Sam LeMaster, supervisor of Marion County Environmental Health. "He recently crafted a plan to enable the Marion County Solid Waste Authority to collect delinquent garbage bills."

Medley was credited with abating innumerable dumps, all located in rugged terrain. "These dumps were at least one-half acre in size and quite old—some dated back to the late 1980s," LeMaster stated.

In matters of sewage enforcement Medley has been equally diligent, LeMaster added. Rather than being dependent upon complaints and chance discoveries, Medley took the initiative to obtain monthly lists of new addresses from the local 911 office.

"Our departmental mission thus shifted from a reactionary footing to a proactive one. While illegal sewage disposal problems remain, they are at distinctly lower rates than in the period from 1990 to September 1999 when word of our detection abilities began to spread through the countryside."

Medley and his wife Cassie are the parents of Sydney Grace, who is 4 months old. A Gideon, he teaches Sunday School and enjoys many hobbies.

LeMaster summarized, "Jamie's character is no less than magnificent." He said with a wink, "The only tarnish in an otherwise sterling character is the fact that he insults his hardworking secretary every chance he gets."

Retirees

The following employees announced their retirement effective May 1:

Carol Dykes - Bureau of Clinical Laboratories
Angela Garthright - Elmore County Health Department
Donna Hill - Morgan County Health Department
Bill Johnson - Financial Services
Charlotte Morris - Tuscaloosa County Health Department
Earnestine Swain - Shelby County Health Department
Nadine Vines - Chilton County Health Department

These employees' retirements were effective on June 1:

Margaret Bostick - Marion County Health Department
Sara Bowman - Health Care Facilities
Ann Couch - Marion County Health Department
Rebecca Gilbreath - DeKalb County Health Department
Janice March - Choctaw County Health Department
Marie Parker - Cullman County Health Department

Commendations

Health department employees who are listed here have received letters of commendation recently. To recognize other employees, please send letters through your supervisors or the state health officer to *Alabama's Health*.

Alan Bridges

Don Cook

Jason Dixon

Georgia Minor

Operations Resources Division

from Geraldine Daniels

Montgomery, Ala.

Jonita Calhoun

Elva Goldman

Evelyn Johnson

Linda Thomas

Health Provider Standards

from Tommy F. Pike, N.H.A.

LaFayette, Ala.

Jackie Esty

Center for Health Statistics

from Wayne McDanal, M.D.

Mount Airy, Mary.

Amelia Flowers

Center for Health Statistics

from Eva Moon

Mabelvale, Ark.

Brenda Furlow

Jeff Meank

Health Provider Standards

from Bruce M. Lieberman

Montgomery, Ala.

Rick Harris

Health Provider Standards

from U.S. Sen. John Breaux

U.S. Sen. Larry E. Craig

Washington, D.C.

Karen Rasberry

Center for Health Statistics

from Angela D. Gober

Berry, Ala.

Georgia Reynolds

Center for Health Statistics

from John D'Anzieri

Address unlisted

Betty Thomas

Center for Health Statistics

from Cherie Jones

Farmington Hills, Mich.

Rabies.....continued from page 1

- Realize that there is no such thing as a "bad breed" of dog. All dogs can bite if provoked.
 - Carefully consider pet selection and consult a veterinarian.
 - Socialize your dog so it feels at ease around strangers and other animals. Do not put your dog in a position where it feels threatened and teased.
 - Train your dog to respond to basic commands.
 - Keep your dog healthy and have it vaccinated against rabies. Be alert to signs your dog is uncomfortable or feeling aggressive.
 - Have your dog spayed or neutered. Studies show that unsterilized dogs are three times more likely to bite than sterilized dogs.
- These are some ways to protect yourself and your family:
- Never leave a baby or small child alone with a dog.
 - Be on the lookout for potentially dangerous situations.
 - Teach young children to be careful around pets. Children should be taught not to approach strange dogs and to ask permission from a dog's owner before petting the dog.
 - Never disturb a dog that's caring for puppies, sleeping or eating.
 - If a dog approaches to sniff you, stay still. In most cases, the dog will go away when it determines you are not a threat.
 - If you are threatened by a dog, remain calm. Don't scream or run. If you say anything, speak calmly and firmly. Avoid eye contact. Try to stay until the dog leaves, or back away slowly until the dog is out of sight. Again, do not turn and run.

Project R.O.S.E. works for a healthy environment

Used motor oil contains toxic chemicals and is a resource wasted if it is thrown away. Twenty-five years ago Project R.O.S.E. was founded to let people do their part in preserving the environment, and so became one of the oldest volunteer used motor oil outreach and education programs in the U.S.

Project R.O.S.E. stands for Recycled Oil Saves Energy. This program has gained national attention from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy, which has recognized it as a model volunteer used oil program for do-it-yourself oil changers.

Project R.O.S.E. today provides more than 500 volunteer used motor oil collection sites across the state and collects more than 8 million gallons of used motor oil for recycling annually.

The project was founded in 1977 by Gary C. April, professor and head of the University of Alabama's chemical engineering department. It has grown from the outset when there were two 55-gallon drums placed at a pair of service stations in Tuscaloosa and Mobile. Now there are more than 500 volunteer used motor oil collection sites across the state. The project collects more than 8 million gallons of used motor oil for recycling annually.

But at least 4 million gallons of used motor oil are still discharged in back yards, storm drains, landfills and streams in Alabama each year. Project R.O.S.E. is trying to change this destructive pattern by informing the public about the importance of disposing of motor oil properly. Used motor oil contains dangerous toxins such as lead, chromium and cadmium.

When not recycled or disposed of correctly, it contaminates surface water and soil; kills plants and animals; and is hazardous to the health of humans—some toxins found in used oil can cause cancer.

For more information or to locate used oil collection sites through Alabama, visit the Project R.O.S.E. Web site at www.eng.ua.edu/~prose, or call 1-800-452-5901. The database listing is also available through Earth's 911 toll-free hotline at 1-800-CLEANUP, or accessing its Web site at www.1800CLEANUP.org. Simply enter your five-digit zip code for the nearest recycling location.

Motor Oil Facts

- Americans throw away enough used motor oil every year to fill 120 supertankers.
- Used oil from a single oil change (approximately 1 gallon) can ruin a million gallons of fresh water—a year's supply for 50 people.
- Used oil is insoluble, persistent, slow to degrade, sticks to everything from beach sand to bird feathers, and can contain toxic chemicals and heavy metals that pose a health threat to humans, plants and animals.
- Over 200 million gallons of used oil are improperly disposed of nationally each year—an amount equivalent to 20 Exxon Valdez spills.
- Recycling used oil would save the U.S. 1.3 million barrels of oil per day.





June is National Safety Month.

Calendar of Events



June 12

Pharmacology Update for Women's Health Care, 2-4 p.m., Public Health Staff Development. For more information contact Debbie Thomasson, (334) 206-5655.



June 19

HIV/AIDS Pre- and Post-Test Data Collection and Counseling Guidelines, 8:30-10:30 a.m. For more information contact Brenda Cummings, (334) 206-5364.



July 10

Public Health and the Community: How to Develop and Maintain Successful Partnerships, 2-4 p.m., Public Health Staff Development. For more information contact Debbie Thomasson, (334) 206-5655.



July 11

ADPH Statewide Staff Meeting. For more information contact Jim McVay, Dr.P.A., (334) 206-5600.



July 24

Home Health Aide and Home Attendant Continuing Education, 2-4 p.m. For more information contact Brenda Elliott, (334) 347-2664, extension 402.



July 29

Positive Discipline Update, 1-4 p.m. For more information contact Frances Kenamer, (334) 206-5659.



August 14

Public Health Staff Development, 2-4 p.m. For more information contact Debbie Thomasson, (334) 206-5655.



August 22

Children's Justice Task Force, 9 a.m.-12 noon For more information contact Lucia Grantham, (334) 670-3367.



September 5

ADPH Statewide Staff Meeting, 3-4 p.m. For more information contact Jim McVay, Dr.P.A., (334) 206-5600.



September 11

Public Health Staff Development, 2-4 p.m. For more information contact Debbie Thomasson, (334) 206-5655.