



JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

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Jefferson County Celebrates National Public Health Week

Watertown, NY – Every April, the American Public Health Association (APHA) unites communities nationwide to celebrate National Public Health Week (NPHW). It is a time to honor the essential contributions of public health and shine a light on the issues shaping the nation’s well-being. This year’s NPHW theme, “Ready. Set. Action!” invites us to celebrate our progress while committing to the steps needed for a healthier future. Because one truth guides it all: Good health doesn’t just happen.

Public health is diverse and extends beyond the walls of local health departments. During NPHW, we celebrate everyone who helps make our communities healthier and safer places to live. For more than 150 years, public health has reshaped what is possible in the United States, dramatically increasing both life expectancy and quality of life. These milestones were no accident; they are the result of medical professionals, scientists and advocates pushing for policies grounded in evidence.

Our department serves as a bridge, connecting resources to needs through essential partnerships. We don't work in a vacuum; we collaborate with wildlife and animal control experts to keep rabies at bay, and with healthcare providers and code inspectors to keep homes lead-safe. These collaborations are the engine behind our success—proving that we are always healthier together.

We recognize that public health is a team sport; we simply cannot do this work alone. Our impact is amplified through a network of partners who help us meet people where they are. Whether we are collaborating with Jefferson County Dog Control, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Wildlife Services program, and the NYS Department of Conservation (DEC) to manage rabies through vaccination clinics and specimen testing, or partnering with healthcare providers and code enforcement to eliminate lead hazards in the home, these alliances are vital. From working with school nurses on student immunizations to coordinating with Jefferson County Home Health Care to vaccinate our homebound neighbors, these partnerships ensure that no corner of our community is left behind.



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