



Chippewa County Department of Public Health

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Health Department Warns of Vaping and COVID-19

Chippewa Falls, WI—June 30, 2020 8:31 AM—As the world focuses on COVID-19, Chippewa County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) is reminding everyone that other health issues still exist. In some cases, health issues, including vaping, may make the effects of COVID-19 even worse. Early evidence around COVID-19 and vaping points to the possibility that vaping could raise your risk of getting COVID-19, as well as getting very sick from it.

A disruption of the school year, stress, and anxiety may cause youth to vape even more than normal. According to the 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 33% of Chippewa County high school students and 8% of Chippewa County middle school students have reported vape/juul/or e-cigarette use in the past 30 days and an even greater number (33% HS, 35% MS students) perceive tobacco to not be a moderate or great risk of harm.

“Youth vaping rates are still a public health issue. I encourage parents and youth to take this time to discuss healthy coping skills,” says Angela Weideman, Chippewa County Health Officer/Director.

Because COVID-19 is an illness that attacks your lungs and vaping has been linked to respiratory illness, CCDPH is recommending that adults and youth that vape make a quit attempt this month. CCDPH encourages retailers to complete online training at WITobaccoCheck.org in order to keep tobacco products of all forms out of the hands of Chippewa County youth.

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