## **Heat Stress Prevention**

### **Stay hydrated**

- -Stay away from sugary, caffeinated, and/ or alcoholic beverages.
- -Drink about 1 cup of water every 20 min.
- -Be aware that certain medications may make you more sensitive to heat or sun.

#### Stay cool

- -Avoid long periods of time in direct sunlight (use work/rest cycles).
- -Wear loose fitting, light weight, light colored clothing.
- -Wear wide brimmed headwear and sunglasses.
- -Take cool showers or baths.
- -Basements can be cooler and provide relief.
- -Umbrellas can be used for shade.
- -Find an air conditioned location or shelter.

### Stay informed

- -Pay attention to weather forecasts and news
- Check on others and share information.

### **Grant County Cooling Centers List**

http://www.co.grant.wi.gov/docview.asp?docid= 20436&locid=147

Call 2-1-1 or Grant County Health Dept at (608) 723-6416

## Resources For You!

## Safety/worker rights:

www.osha.gov 1.800.321.6742

## General Information:

www.211wisconsin.org 2-1-1

## **Emergency Medical Services:**

www.911.gov

9-1-1

## Medical/Preventative Information:

www.cdc.org

1.800.232.4636

# Aging and Disability Resource Center

(ADRC)

1.608.723.6113

Information was gathered from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. www.cdc.gov

This pamphlet is not a substitute for medical care. If you have questions or concerns, please talk with a health care provider.

# **Grant County Health Dept**

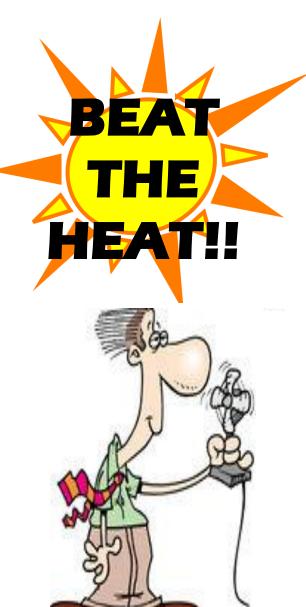
111 S Jefferson St. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Lancaster, WI, 53813

Phone: 608.723.6416

health@co.grant.wi.gov www.co.grant.wi.gov







Grant County Health Department

Phone: 608.723.6416

# Heat stress in Grant County is a problem!

# What is *Heat Stress*?!

# Signs & Symptoms

# **FACT:**

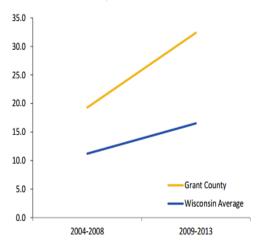
Grant County's rate of
Emergency Room
visits due to
heat stress is nearly
twice
the state average!

Grant Co.: 32.4 per 100,000

Wisconsin: 16.5 per 100,000

#### **HEAT STRESS**

RATE OF ER VISITS PER 100,000 PEOPLE



(Grant County Environmental Health Profile, 2015, p.13)

An acute illness caused by extreme heat or a combination of heat and humidity that can range from mild to severe.

Examples of Heat Stress include:

## **Heat cramps (muscle cramps):**

- -Occurs from a loss, or drastic reduction, of salts in the body.
- -Salts aid in proper muscle function.

## **Heat syncope:**

-Fainting

## **Heat rash:**

-Sweat pores become clogged, which impairs the cooling abilities of the skin.

## **Heat exhaustion:**

- -Body temperature rises to abnormal level for a prolonged period of time.
- -Precursor to heat stroke.

## **Heat stroke (EMERGENCY):**

- -Extreme increased body temperature (103°F or higher)
- -Body loses ability to cool itself and organs may be damaged.
- -Life threatening

### **Heat Exhaustion**

Including, but not limited to:

- ❖ Dizziness/nausea
- Excessive sweating
- Chills
- Elevated body temperature
- Headache
- ❖ Weakness/fatigue
- Muscle cramps
- Vomiting
- Clammy skin
- Rapid pulse

## **Heat Stroke (EMERGENCY)**

Including, but not limited to:

- Heat exhaustion signs & symptoms
- Body temperature over 103° F
- Rapid and strong pulse
- Slurred speech
- Possible unconsciousness
- Confusion/loss of awareness