



Barry-Eaton District Health Department

Be Active • Be Safe • Be Healthy

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Wear One

February is National Condom Month, and the Barry-Eaton District Health Department encourages individuals who are sexually active to practice safe sex. Correct and consistent condom use remains to be the most effective way to reduce the risk of sexually transmitted infections. Many people aren't aware that in Barry and Eaton County, the rates of chlamydia and gonorrhea (common STIs) continue to increase each year.

The Barry-Eaton District Health Department offers FREE condoms through the Wear One Campaign. The Wear One Campaign was developed to increase free condom availability, create awareness, and promotes acceptance of condom use. The goal is to decrease sexually transmitted infections (STI's) and unplanned pregnancies by removing barriers to condom use, such as cost, embarrassment, and lack of access.

Wear One is a health department and local business partnership that has been successfully welcomed in counties across Michigan. The health department supplies condoms for distribution at no cost, and the community business partner serves as the point of distribution. The CDC endorses condom distribution programs like Wear One as a proven way to increase condom use, prevent HIV/sexually transmitted infections, and save communities money in health care costs.

According to the CDC:

- There are 20 million new STI cases in the U.S. every year.
- The medical costs for these new cases are \$16 billion.
- Adding the new cases each year with existing infections, there are an estimated 110 million total STIs among Americans.

Individuals can pick up a Wear One packs at the Charlotte or Hastings office, or any of the Wear One community partner locations. For more information about Wear One and partner locations visit www.barryeatonhealth.org/wear-one-campaign.