

July 30, 2012

News Release

For Immediate Release

Heat-Related Illness Continues to Rise

With a National Weather Service heat advisory in effect in Greene County through 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 31, here is an update on local and statewide heat-related illness totals.

In Greene County, **there have been at least 147 cases of heat-related illnesses in local emergency rooms from June 1 through last Friday, July 27.** Of those, 38 were admitted to hospitals. Statewide, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services has confirmed reports of 962 heat-related emergency department visits from May 1, 2012 through July 27, 2012, including 27 deaths related to the heat. No deaths related to heat have been confirmed in Greene County. Of the 147 cases recorded locally, 104 people were Greene County residents and the total age range spans from 5 to 96 years old.

Tuesday will be the 18th day this summer that Greene County has been under a NWS heat advisory.

In Springfield, the following locations continue to serve as designated public cooling centers during each building's normal business hours during the heat advisory through Tuesday:

- American Red Cross, 1545 N. West Bypass
- Ozarks Technical Community College (Commons), 933 E. Central St.
- Salvation Army, 1707 W. Chestnut Expressway
- YMCA, 1901 E. Republic Road
- YMCA, 417 S. Jefferson Ave.
- Chesterfield Family Center lobby, 2511 W. Republic Road
- Doling Family Center lobby, 310 E. Talmage St.
- Mediacom Ice Park upper and lower lobbies, 635 E. Trafficway

Cooling centers are open to the public and meant to provide relief for those who otherwise do not have access to an air-conditioned environment. Other public services affected by the high heat include:

- City Utilities is offering free bus rides to accommodate those who may need transportation around Springfield to the centers located along city bus routes.
- With water supply levels at 74 percent, City Utilities is asking customers to [conserve water usage](#).
- Springfield Animal Control continues to suspend the trapping of animals.