

## Media Placement Highlights

October 2021

### Notable media placements:

#### Lake County News-Sun

"Health officials 'cautiously optimistic' as Lake County moved from high to substantial risk for coronavirus spread" – October 22, 2021

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/lake-county-news-sun/ct-lns-lake-vax-update-st-1023-20211022-bbfi7ppatbfsvhhfxn5bygmace-story.html>

- After nearly 11 weeks, Lake County moved from high risk to substantial risk for the spread of COVID-19 in the community.
- Lake County Health Department Executive Director Mark Pfister said he is glad that new cases are trending downward and remembers that new cases increased last year as the weather cooled.
- Pfister said, "We still have people who are unvaccinated, but we are seeing how valuable a resource it is. I am cautiously optimistic."
- Indoor masking remains in place even with the move into a lower risk category. For the mask mandate to be lifted, the county needs to move into the moderate classification for COVID-19 spread in the community.

"Number of new COVID-19 cases in Lake County declines while vaccination rate inches up" – October 8, 2021

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/lake-county-news-sun/ct-lns-lake-vax-update-st-1009-20211008-aujtvh2hnfh63e4yq2mit7mroy-story.html>

- The Lake County Health Department is preparing for the federal approval of COVID-19 vaccines for children ages 5-11.
- COVID-19 cases have been declining while the number of people eligible to get vaccinated increases. The percentage of fully vaccinated individuals, who are eligible to receive the vaccine, is close to 70%.
- Lake County Health Department Executive Director Mark Pfister said that there is a correlation between the declining numbers and the increasing number of people getting vaccinated.
- With the expected authorization later in the month, the Health Department is making plans to vaccinate children either in their pediatricians' offices or at school.
- Pfister said, the Health Department is building a network of trusted individuals like coaches, educators, faith leaders and others who can speak out around the time elementary school children are eligible.
- Pfister said, "Parents really trust coaches and principals. We hope that will get parents to bring their 5 to 11-year-olds for a vaccination and those between 12 and 17 who are not vaccinated yet."

## Daily Herald

"Ethylene oxide emissions down significantly at two Lake County companies, EPA data shows" – October 1, 2021

<https://www.dailyherald.com/news/20211001/ethylene-oxide-emissions-down-significantly-at-two-lake-county-companies-epa-data-shows>

- After reviewing data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), emissions of cancer-causing ethylene oxide from two Lake County businesses have dropped significantly after controls were installed. They are now well below the permitted levels.
- The EPA provided an overview of the data as requested by Lake County Board Chair Sandy Hart and Board of Health President Tim Sashko in April; however, the EPA letter did not provide a health risk assessment.
- The report from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) is still needed and will be the basis for the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to conduct a cancer incidence study to provide a retrospective look over 20 years.
- Lake County Health Department Marketing and Communication Manager Emily Young said, "This is a lot of good information, but we're waiting on the ATSDR and IDPH reports."

## Press Releases Issued

- [Water Street Vaccination Site to Close on October 11](#)

## Total Media Placements

October 1– October 31, 2021

Press Releases Sent	1
Press Release Placements	4
Other Articles Mentioning/Quoting LCHD/CHC	6