Since the coronavirus pandemic hit Lenawee County over four months ago, county government has been working to address the challenges created by this virus in our community. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated with the identification of the first positive case in the county. The members of the EOC met virtually twice a day until early June and have been meeting regularly since then. The Health Department has provided a great deal of information and guidance to help residents protect themselves and their community. County government has hosted several townhall meetings to exchange information with community leaders.

Early concerns about availability of personal protective equipment, such as masks, gloves and gowns, and hospital capacity have been addressed and are under control. Concerns about community spread are still very real and the number of positive cases in the county has increased sharply since the first of July. It is critical that all Lenawee County residents take precautions to protect themselves and their community and reduce the spread of the virus.

How can we do that? An excellent example of protecting our community has been going on for the last couple of weeks. The Lenawee County Fair was cancelled this year and hundreds of participants in 4-H programs throughout the county were unable to come to the fair, enter their project, and socialize with their friends. However, the youth leaders in the program responded by creating and participating in a virtual fair to provide opportunities and recognition for 4-H youth.

I am sure this was not the fair or program that they were looking forward to, but they accepted the cancellation of the fair as a necessary step to combat the spread of the virus and then did their best to create opportunities for program participants. They sacrificed to protect their community and they developed a plan for an alternate 4-H program. They are an example of true leadership in crisis and I thank them for that leadership.

If we can let this example serve as a model for our behavior in this pandemic Lenawee County will be better for it. We all want to get back to our pre-pandemic lives but pretending that the virus does not exist or cannot affect us will only make it worse and increase the impact on our lives.

In Lenawee County, in Michigan, we are at a pivotal point in our response to this crisis. We all have the ability, through our personal choices, to nudge the needle one way or the other. Right now, that needle is going in the wrong direction largely because of choices made by individuals. Please act responsibly. Please do not have parties where people congregate without social distancing. Please wear a mask when you are in a public space and take care of your community.

We want to thank the following individuals and organizations for donating their time and talent to make cloth face coverings. Because of their generosity, the health department has been able to distribute over 3,000 cloth face coverings to essential workers, grocery stores, senior apartments, home health agencies and food service providers:

* Quilts of Compassion *
* Lenawee County 4-H Council *
* First United Methodist Church, Pillowcase Project *
* The Quilt Patch *
* Lenawee Community Foundation *
* Material Obsession * Joann Fabrics *
* Andrea Ahearn * Rochelle Bird *
* Suzette Brown * Debbie Burgess *
* Linda Butler * Susan Deemer *
* Joyce Lammers * Barb Merritt *

We appreciate their commitment to keeping Lenawee County healthy!

If you are interested in donating cloth face coverings, have questions, or need more information, please call (517) 264-5226, option 5 or lenaweehd@lenawee.mi.us
Invasive Species Pull ~ August 8, 1-4pm
Riverbend Preserve: 12639 Allen Rd. Clinton, MI
The Washtenaw Co. Parks & Recreation Commission and RRWC need some volunteers to help remove invasive spotted knapweed from the field to make room for native plants to get re-established. Bring your own sunscreen, water, and wear long pants and close-toed shoes. Masks are required. Everyone will be working at least 6 feet apart from each other. There is limited space, so please email carlislec@washtenaw.org to reserve your spot to volunteer!

Virtual RRWC Video Premiere ~ August 14, 7pm
Watch on our Facebook Page and find on our website after the premiere
RRWC has been working with Advantage Visuals for over a year to create a video that will tell you what RRWC is all about. Be a part of the premiere by watching it on our Facebook page!

Virtual River Storytime ~ August 21, 2pm
Premiering on our Facebook Page and available on Youtube after the premiere
Watch and listen to a story about rivers across the USA! Kids ages 3-8 will love reading along to the book Over in a River by Marianne Berkes. We will learn about different animals that live in and around the river, practice counting, and discover ways we can all take care of our river. Video will stay posted after Aug. 14!

Be sure to check out our ever-expanding YouTube channel to watch short videos about the River Raisin and what you might find in the watershed.

Program directors from the Lenawee Community Mental Health want to share information on community mental health services, how to access them, and answer questions from community members.

We will be hosting live events on Tuesday evenings at 4:00 p.m.
*July 21st  -  *July 28th  -  August 4th  -  August 11th

Watch it live on LCMHA Facebook
Join us by following the link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85887764695?pwd=K01yVDcxnQwbTV6OXVYUU_4VHqUT09

* Don’t worry if you miss one, the events will be recorded and available on the LCMHA Facebook page

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support a charity of your choice every time you shop, at no cost to you.
To date, AmazonSmile has donated a total of $503.71 to the Lenawee County Department On Aging’s Mobile Meals Foundation and we thank you for supporting us by shopping at smile.amazon.com.

Historical Site Discovery ~ August 12 – 15
Our sites are open to the public from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.
Visit our website for a full list of our locations.

It’s summer field season at Invasive Species Pulls! For more information on our pull sites and when they are open, visit our website.

Invasive Species Pull ~ August 8, 1-4pm
Riverbend Preserve: 12639 Allen Rd. Clinton, MI

*Note: These pull events are subject to change due to the weather.

Visit Bicentennial Park
Bicentennial Park - 78 acres
5543 Tipton Hwy. - Tipton, MI
Beautiful hiking trails wind through a prairie grass field and one of Lenawee County’s virgin timber wood forest. Park amenities include a soccer field, volleyball, playground area and softball field. There are also picnic shelters with grills and tables, a hand water pump, and an outhouse.
People and businesses from all over the state of Michigan continue to adapt to the changes brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. The nationwide cooperative educational program 4-H, is no exception. The Michigan 4-H program is the largest youth development organization in Michigan, and is currently running in partnership with Michigan State University (MSU).

Lenawee County has a very strong 4-H program. With 43 clubs all over the county, it reaches over 3,000 kids each year through programs and camps. Young people learn and develop leadership skills through mentoring and hands-on projects throughout the year. Lenawee County’s 4-H program is unique among the Michigan programs in that it has a strong Teen Leadership Program. A Teen Leader is on each of the advisory boards in Lenawee County. In other counties, all board members are adults. This year, these teen leaders were faced with the unprecedented.

To protect the Lenawee County community and prevent virus spread, the Lenawee County Agricultural Society decided on May 8, 2020 to cancel the 2020 Lenawee County Fair. However, it was not all bad news for the 4-H program. The Press Release stated that, “The board will support the MSU extension office and 4-H with the costs associated with virtual exhibits and animals shows.”

Michigan 4-H explains that 4-H is growing current and future leaders: growing kids who are confident and strong, curious enough to question and capable enough to find the answers; growing youth who stick to a job until the job gets done and know how to work with others, as well as lead. And that’s exactly what we’re seeing right here in Lenawee County.

The funding for 4-H program in Lenawee County comes predominately from the county government. This is supplemented by state and federal funding, but most of the 4-H funding is received directly from Lenawee County. It is a non-mandated service. Without that funding, the 4-H program would not be able to operate within our county as it does today.

This investment into our community is building Lenawee’s future. During these trying times, these teenage leaders are taking the skills that they’ve learned through 4H, adapting quickly, and leading our program. They’ve embraced this as an opportunity for growth, and with these kids leading the way, our tomorrow looks bright.

Read this article in its entirety

1040 S. Winter Street
Adrian, MI 49221
(517) 264-5300

2020 SHOW RESULTS & PHOTOGRAPHIC PHOTOS CAN BE SEEN ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE
MSUELenawee
The Lenawee County Recycling Center will reopen on weekends beginning Saturday, JULY 18TH. County personnel will be on site. We continue to operate on reduced hours:

Monday: Friday 7 am to 6 pm
Saturday: Sunday 8 am to 4 pm

Please remember to take all clean, broken down, corrugated cardboard boxes to Goodwill (Next to Lowes) for recycling in an open container at the backside of the parking lot.

QUESTIONS?
Lenawee County Solid Waste
517-264-4511

The Most Up To Date Information Covid-19 in Lenawee County is Available on the County website: www.lenawee.mi.us
- Health Guidelines – take a moment and review precautions
- Testing guidelines
- Contact information for public health experts
- Lenawee County cases
- Latest information (Newsflashes)
- Lenawee County Orders
- Michigan Orders
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Local Resources & Information

Worth repeating...
Our lives continue to change dramatically during this COVID-19 pandemic, and it can feel a little overwhelming at times.

As in past times of turmoil, Lenawee County residents have always found a way to support each other. Although we need to abide by the social distance rule, we will once again stand together to deal with our current crisis.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact the Administrator’s Office at 517-264-4508.

If you haven’t taken the Census yet for your household, you can quickly fill it out online, if you have the survey code. (Lost the code? Click here)

Responding to the Census is crucial to ensuring proper allocation of resources and representation for states and cities. Specifically, data from the 2020 Census are used to:
- Ensure public services and funding for schools, hospitals, and fire departments.
- Plan new homes and businesses and improve neighborhoods.
- Determine how many seats your state is allocated in the House of Representatives.

Find out more about the Census - and take the survey -- here