

COMMISSIONERS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY

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PRESS RELEASE

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Cumberland County Reminds Residents to Check on Seniors During Heat Wave

Carlisle, PA – The Cumberland County Office of Aging and Community Services today issued a warning for older adults, due to the excessive heat we are experiencing. Seniors are urged to take precautions to avoid serious illness or even death.

Cumberland County recommends the following:

- Stay indoors in cool environment and avoid long periods in the sun.
- When outdoors, wear lightweight, light-colored, loose fitting clothing, a hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen.
- Eat frequent small meals.
- Drink plenty of water. Avoid alcohol and caffeine.
- Drink even if you aren't thirsty unless your doctor has advised otherwise.
- Avoid doing strenuous activities especially during the hottest part of the day.
- Take cool baths or showers; it cools your body faster than air conditioning.

"Older adults face an even greater threat from the heat because of physiological changes and possible reactions to medications as some can interfere with the body's natural cooling system," said Sandy Gurreri, director of the Cumberland County Office of Aging and Community Services. "Neighbors and family should check on seniors, making sure they are in a cool area, and staying hydrated. Care managers are also contacting at-risk seniors to ensure their safety and well-being."

During the week, seniors can visit one of the six <u>senior centers</u> in the county. Cumberland County seniors who are in need of assistance in a heat-related emergency can contact the Cumberland County Office of Aging and Community Services at 717.240.6110, after hours contact Cumberland County 9-1-1.

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Editors' Note: Cumberland County Senior Centers

Branch Creek Place Senior Center 115 North Fayette Street, Shippenshurg Monday – Friday: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

717.300.3563

Big Spring Senior Center

91 Doubling Gap Road Suite 1, Newville Monday – Friday: 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. 717.776.4478

Carlisle Senior Action Center

20 East Pomfret Street, Carlisle Monday – Friday: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. 717.249. 5007

Mary C. Schaner Senior Center

98 South Enola Drive, Enola Monday – Friday: 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. 717.732.3915

Mechanicsburg Place, closed due to storm damage.

West Shore Senior Center

122 Geary Avenue, New Cumberland Monday – Friday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. 717.774.0409