Marion County
Medical Multi-Agency Coordination Center
DAILY SITUATIONAL AWARENESS BRIEF
July 21, 2011

COMMON OPERATING PICTURE
Air Quality Index – 58 (moderate)
Today’s Forecast – Moderate
Pollen Count – 5.6 (medium)
UV Index – 9 (very high)
Radiation Level - Beta Gross Count Rate (CPM): Monitor Currently Unavailable

NATIONAL TERRORISM ADVISORY SYSTEM - No Active Alerts

THREAT ANALYSIS
Excessive heat warning remains in effect until 8 pm EDT Saturday
Extreme Heat Can Have Impact on Food Safety. Marion County Public Health Department Food and Consumer Safety inspectors are continuing to work with licensed food handlers to ensure the heat wave is not having an impact on the safe preparation and storage of food served to the public. Power outages associated with heat waves can also impact safe food storage. If a cooler or freezer has not been able to maintain the proper temperature for more than four hours, the products need to be discarded.

ACTION STEPS
For those planning a picnic or taking food outdoors with them, certain precautions need to be taken
[1] The consumer guidelines for keeping food safe in the summer at outdoor events is to never leave food out of temperature control for more than an hour if temperatures are above 90 degrees. Consumers should also use an insulated cooler with sufficient ice or ice packs to keep the food at 41 degrees or below.
[2] The food should be packed right from the refrigerator into the cooler immediately before leaving home. During transport, the cooler should be kept in the air-conditioned vehicle not the trunk. Once at the picnic or event, the cooler should be kept out of the sun. Beverages should be packed in one cooler and perishables in another cooler while avoiding opening the cooler’s lid (which lets cold air out and warm air in).
[3] Any food (hot or cold) that is left out of temperature control for more than an hour in the summer heat should be discarded.
[4] As always, consistent and thorough hand washing is critical when handling food. For more information, contact the Marion County Public Health Department at 221-2200.

Weather
Today: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2pm. Sunny and hot, with a high near 98. Heat index values as high as 114. West Southwest wind between 3 and 9 mph.

Tonight: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 8pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 77. West Southwest wind between 3 and 6 mph.

Severe Weather is Not Expected Today.

INDY EVENTS
The following events have an expected attendance of at least 500 people. Mass gatherings are of concern to the healthcare sector for multiple reasons, including being potential mass casualty incidents as the result of natural or man-made hazards, and also provide venues for transmission of communicable diseases.
[1] 5 Cities Plus Conference (Lucas Oil Stadium)
[2] Charlotte Knights vs. Indianapolis Indians (Victory Field)
[3] 81st Annual Marion County Fair (Marion County Fairgrounds)
[5] The Sword with Mount Carmel and Goliathon (The Vogue)
[6] Circle City Equestrian 500 Horse Show (Indiana State Fairgrounds)
[7] Concert on the Canal (Indiana History Center)

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