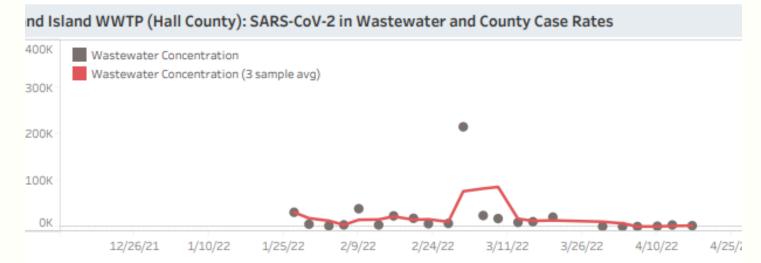
# **HEALTH NOTES**

### The CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Source: Nebraska Wastewater Surveillance System (NeWSS), Nebraska DHHS in collaboration with UNMC and UNL



#### WASTEWATER HELPING TRACK COVID-19 IN THE CENTRAL DISTRICT

In the fight against COVID-19, the Central District is utilizing an unlikely tool – wastewater.

The chart above shows levels of COVID-19 detected in wastewater from the middle of last month. This data has been shown to be weeks ahead of traditional ways to count COVID-19 infections, including testing and hospitalizations.

While still a relatively new way to track COVID-19, it's another data point to help people protect themselves. You can learn more by **following this link** from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, who are monitoring waste water throughout the state. We will also post sporadic updates on our social media.

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## STI TRACKING RETURNS TO CENTRAL DISTRICT

CDHD has received funding to resume training of personnel to track Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) across the Central District.

We will be tracking syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia, hepatitis and HIV/AIDS as part of this program, all of which were present in the Central District the last time we participated in this program in 2020.

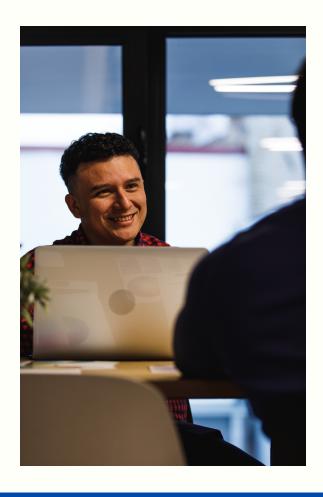
Current national trends concerning STIs are troubling, with certain diseases spreading at record amounts. Below are some resources from the Center for Disease Control on how to lessen your risk of sexually transmitted infections. You can also find STI testing near you and learn more about testing at this link.

If you have questions, please contact us at (308) 385-5175.

As part of CDHD's accreditation process, we recently conducted a survey of employee satisfaction within our organization. The results were encouraging.

- 97% of our staff agree that our work positively impacts people's lives
- 94% of our staff agree that CDHD makes efforts to understand the needs and values of all of our customers

We will continue to talk about accreditation in future newsletters.



#### **NOTES FOR MAY**

- -You can sign up for the Diabetes Prevention Program, for free, by calling (308) 385-5175.
- -The Central District continues to see "low transmission" of COVID-19.
- -Free COVID tests are still available at our office.
- -The Women, Infant and Children (WIC) program is now providing services in person.
- -You can pick up free Radon test kits at our offices, 1137 South Locust Street.
- -Have a great May!