

March 11, 2013

News Release

For Immediate Release

Daily Pollen Counts Resume for 2013

The Springfield-Greene County Health Department is now posting daily pollen counts for the 2013 season. The counts are posted each day on the department's website at <http://health.springfieldmo.gov/pollen>. The page is mobile-friendly and features the ability to view historical local pollen data as well as the current day's count.

Pollen and spore counts are collected over a 24-hour period, from 8 a.m. until 8 a.m. the following day. The counts are typically posted online by about 10:30 a.m. Please take into consideration that the data presented each day actuality reflects the previous 24-hour period. Users can also view pollen history on the website. Pollen counts will continue through Nov. 1 or the first freeze of the winter, whichever comes first.

The health department posts pollen counts in an effort to help the public keep tabs on airborne allergens in the area. Allergies are among the most common chronic conditions worldwide. Symptoms of allergies range from making you miserable to putting you at risk for life-threatening reactions.

The Springfield-Greene County Health Department has provided pollen data to the community, news media sources, meteorologists and physicians since 1961. After earning accreditation by the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI) in 2009, the department is designated as a certified pollen counting station and joins major metropolitan areas throughout the United States in this regard. The National Allergy Bureau is the section of the AAAAI that reports pollen and mold levels to the public.

For more information, contact: Mike Brothers, Public Information Administrator, (417) 874-1205.