



July 15, 2024

Dear Business Owner,

Since 2018, Tazewell County has seen a 31% increase in overdose deaths. Local emergency departments are also seeing 3 times the number of substance use related visits than they were 10 years ago. The Tazewell County Overdose Response Team has launched a “Save a Life” campaign that will expand access to naloxone (also known as Narcan) by distributing free overdose response kits to more public places, including businesses and community organizations.

Naloxone is a lifesaving medication that reverses an opioid overdose. Increasing naloxone access in communities is known to reduce the likelihood of an overdose death. Naloxone is a standard emergency tool that should be easily accessible just like fire extinguishers, automated external defibrillators (AEDs), EpiPens, bleeding control items, and other common-sense items that usually stock first aid kits. An overdose can occur at any time or any place and can happen with both prescription and street drugs.

Naloxone rapidly reverses an opioid overdose and can restore normal breathing within minutes for a person whose breathing has slowed, or even stopped. Naloxone is a safe medication and is given intranasally (or in the nose like a nose spray for allergies). Laypeople can administer naloxone to those experiencing a suspected overdose and are protected by the Good Samaritan Law.

The Tazewell County Overdose Response Team asks all our local businesses and organizations to lend their support in protecting the health of the public by readily accepting a free overdose response kit.

Those interested can request an overdose response kit from the Tazewell County Overdose Response Team by clicking the link <https://tazewellhealth.org/461/Respond---Locate-Naloxone-Narcan> or by scanning the QR code and filling out the form.

Please email narcanreporting@tchd.net or call 309-929-0281 if you have any questions.

Thank you for your consideration,

Tazewell County Overdose Response Team



Megan N. Hanley, MPH
Tazewell County Health Department

Chief Shawn Darche
Morton Police

Chief Robert Siwak
Tremont Police Department

Deputy Chief Jeff Stevens
Washington Police Department

Interim Chief Dale Orr
Fon du Lac Park Police

Chief Justin Egan
Creve Coeur Police

Chief Trent Steiner
Tremont Rescue

Josh Bradshaw
Advanced Medical Transport

Chief Roger Ristow
Creve Coeur Fire Department

Chief Seth Ranney
Pekin Police

Sue Tisdale
Community Educator, Trillium Place

Thomas P. Haas
Tremont Fire & Rescue

Charles R. Hanley
Tazewell County Coroner

Abby Hobbs
Director, Tazewell County Consolidated Communications

Jeffrey Lower
Tazewell County Sheriff

Chief Trent Reeise
City of Pekin Fire Department