

March Health Happenings

This month's installment of Health Happenings will focus on the Vital Records division at the Health Department. We have had several people come in recently requesting birth certificates in particular because they need a new driver's license. As of October 2020, the new state "Real ID" will be necessary for commercial flight travel as well as access to other places throughout the country. Part of the process in obtaining a Real ID driver's license at the BMV is showing either a birth certificate or unexpired US Passport. As a result, many people born in Marshall County are wanting a copy of their birth certificate.

To obtain a new birth certificate, you first need to make sure you were born in Marshall County. We are unable to issue birth certificates for anyone born outside of the county. Then you either can request one in person at our office or online for \$10 a copy. We only issue a birth certificate to an established immediate family member if you are unable to come in yourself. If you come into the office, you will need to fill out a birth certificate form and present a photo ID. Once we are able to locate the record, the certificate will be processed immediately for your possession. To go through the process online, you will need to find the website either by going to our Vital Records page on the Health Department website or go directly to <https://permits.schneidercorp.com>. You will need to create an account if you haven't in the past and then login to begin the process. After filling out all the information, you will be asked to scan a photo ID for the submission. Once the form is submitted, we will process it and either mail it to the address you supplied or have it ready at our office if you chose the pickup option.

Death certificates are similar to birth certificates in that they are each \$10 and you can submit a request for one in our office or online at the same webpage above. Again, you will be asked to provide a photo ID for both in-office and online requests. If you come to our office to request for one, you'll walk out the door with your copy if everything is submitted properly and the record's available. An online submission will be processed and mailed when ready or available for office pickup.

The important thing to remember when it comes to birth and death certificates is the Health Department only issues birth certificates if they were born in Marshall County and death certificates if they passed in Marshall County. For the most part, we only allow immediate family to pick up these certificates or request them online. This information is also found on the county's webpage at www.co.marshall.in.us or you can call in our office for more information at 574-935-8565. Have a healthy March, Marshall County!