

What Happens in a Heat Emergency?

The Department on Aging collaborates with Milwaukee County Emergency government, the City of Milwaukee Public Health Department, and other agencies during officially declared states of emergency in our community.

The City of Milwaukee Health Department monitors National Weather Service predictions for our area. If conditions match those on the chart below, Heat Health alerts are issued by the City of Milwaukee health Department.

The City of Milwaukee Health Department sends faxes to all of the heat task force members in the city including the Department on Aging. Milwaukee County Emergency management notifies Health Departments in all local municipalities.

Weather Conditions	Alert Name	Danger Level	Emergency Government Action
Very hot conditions are predicted in 2 to 4 days	Heat Outlook	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Health Department sends an alert to the Heat Emergency Task Force member agencies to remind them to review the Heat Plan and be ready for possible further action
Daytime highs of at least 100 are predicted in 6 – 24 hours. (If weather predictions show possible heat advisory conditions for 4 or more days – a heat warning may be issued)	Heat Advisory	Higher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Department begins active surveillance of heat injuries Health Department begins 24-hour response to heat-related calls Health Department alerts Heat Emergency Task Force member agencies to prepare for heat advisory or warning within 24 hours Health Department issues Excessive Heat Health Watch info to mass media Special congregate cooling sites will be opened if demand warrants extended hours will be considered. Heat Task Force agency members initiate daily check-in on high-risk persons. Alert state agencies regarding possible resource needs Health Department considers multi-agency command post Continue above activities
Very hot conditions are expected in 24 – 48 hours AND there is a case of heat related illness, heat stroke or heat related death in a residential setting.	Heat Warning	Very High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue above activities
The daytime Heat Index is expected to be around 105 or more and the minimum Heat Index is around 75 or more during a 48-hour period or longer. And there are multiple cases of heat-related illness, heat stroke, or heat-related deaths in residential settings.	Excessive Heat Warning	Highest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue above activities