



June 2023



Excerpts from the

Beach Safety Guide

for Seniors & Their Caregivers

by Vicky Reddish

Going to the beach should be fun for everyone! Seniors are no exception. Seniors need some extra care and prep beforehand to make sure they're safe in the sands.

What to Pack

There are a few things you should pack and put on before heading out to the beach. Beach chairs and frisbees are things you definitely shouldn't forget, but other items like medication and water are crucial for older adults. We highlight a few of these important things in this list.

- **Beach shoes:** At the beach, a pair of snug and lightweight shoes can protect feet from sand burns, cuts from broken shells or rocks, and help prevent falls.
- **Cool water:** Water is essential for any beach day to stay cool and manage <u>your body temperature</u>.
- **Emergency contact information:** Keep this information in your phone and paper in case your phone loses battery. Get information as well for nearby doctors and health facilities.
- **Hats:** A wide-brim hat protects your face from the sun and gives you extra protection while you're walking on the beach.
- **Healthy snacks:** Snacks are especially important for people with <u>diabetes</u> or who otherwise have <u>low blood sugar</u>. Keep some healthy options close like fruit kabobs and trail mix.
- **Identification:** Adults with dementia or similar ailments may have trouble finding you if they get lost. Keep contact information sewn into clothes or on an accessory in case of an emergency.
- **Medication:** Bring their medication for the day so they don't miss a dose. Check the labels to see if they need to keep any prescriptions at room temperature. If so, ask their doctor for storage recommendations while traveling.
- **Mobility aids:** Don't leave behind their wheelchair, cane, or walker! Some beaches rent beach-specific mobility aids that are better suited for the terrain. You can also get wheelchair mats to make the terrain safe and flat.
- **Protective clothes:** Long sleeves and long skirts can keep your skin protected. Dense fabrics and loose clothes are good choices to protect yourself from the sun.
- **Sunscreen:** Sunscreen is important for seniors to prevent skin cancer and slow skin aging. When <u>picking sunblock</u>, choose one that has broad-spectrum protection against UVA and UVB rays, a sun protection factor (SPF) of 30 or higher, and water resistance. Consider <u>reef-safe sunscreen</u> to keep the sea safe from harmful chemicals.
- **Sunglasses:** <u>Johns Hopkins Medicine</u> recommends getting sunglasses that wrap afound your face. They also recommend shades that protect against UVA and UVB rays.
- **Umbrellas:** Beach umbrellas can give you a shady spot to relax. Hand umbrellas can give you portable shade while you walk along the shore.



June is **Elder Abuse Awareness Month**

The YCAAA investigates approximately 36 cases of elder abuse each week. Throughout the month of June, we will be sharing information about elder abuse and what YOU can do about it. We are also asking everyone to wear purple on June 15th to promote Elder Abuse Awareness.

Turning 65? New to Medicare? PA MEDI is here to help

with "Medicare 101"!

Understanding Medicare can be Understanding worlded by Pennsylvania Medicare Education and Decision Insight, PA MEDI, this free presentation introduces you to Medicare and gives you the opportunity to ask questions to PA MEDI's specially trained staff and

"Medicare 101" will help you learn about: • Medicare Eligibility & Enrollment

- Notices, Costs & Penalties
- Notices, Costs & Penalities
 Original Medicare, Medigap,
 & Medicare Advantage
 Services under Medicare
 Parts A & B
 Medicare Prescription Drug
 (Part D) Benefit
 Switching Plans

- Medicare Appeals Medicare Savings Programs to save you money
- How PA MEDI can assist you. and much more!



Join Us!

York County at Pleasant Valley Road 2401 Pleasant Valley Road York, PA 17402

Register: Call 717-771-9908 or Email: aging@yorkcountypa.gov

Presented by Pennsylvania Medicare Education and Decision Insight, PA MEDI, the known and trusted resource at your local Area Agency on Aging for unblased, easy-to-understand Medicare information.





PA MEDI's "Medicare 101"

will be Tuesday, July 25th 6 - 9 pm

Click on the flyer for a printable version.

Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Vouchers Delayed





Due to a printing delay by the PA Dept of Agriculture, vouchers will not arrive until the beginning of July.

During the month of JUNE, those attending our distribution events will receive applications to complete. VOUCHERS WILL THEN BE MAILED TO YOU when they are received by our agency.

Vouchers will be handed out IN-PERSON at the distribution events from JULY through SEPTEMBER.

For qualifying information and/or a distribution event schedule, please click on one of the images above or visit our website at: https://yorkcountypa.gov/189/PA-Senior-Farmers-Market-Nutrition-Progr

YCAAA Advisory Council Meeting

Monday, June 12th Meeting begins promptly at noon



Eligibility Criteria

65 years of age or older or married to someone 65 years of age or older; or 50 years of age or older and a

widow/widower; or 18 years of age or older and permanently disabled

And: Owned and occupied your home or rented an apartment, nursing home, personal care boarding home or similar residence in PA during the period for which you are claiming the rebate.

For More Information:

https://yorkcountypa.gov/227 /PA-Property-Tax---Rent-Rebate



The York County Area Agency on Aging offers a variety of health & wellness classes to help you live your best life. From **fall prevention** to **managing chronic conditions** we can help to keep you moving and preserve your peace of mind.

Click the button for <u>class descriptions</u> and a link to our schedule.

Find a Class



Sometimes called Emancipation Day, Juneteenth (June 19th) is a federal holiday that commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African Americans. It is often used as a way to remember the history and celebrate accomplishments of black Americans. From York & Dallastown to Hanover, there will be several Juneteenth celebrations throughout the county. Find one near you and join the celebration.

Want to read more?

Check out the **spring/summer edition** of New Horizons, the official newspaper of the York County Area Agency on Aging.

New Horizons Online



About York County Area Agency on Aging
The primary focus of the York County Area Agency on Aging is to provide education, advocacy and coordination of community-based services to empower older adults to maximize their independence and quality of life.