



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

**MUSCATINE COMMUNITY Y**  
1823 Logan Street  
P.O. Box 978  
Muscatine, Iowa 52761  
563.263.9996  
563.263.9946 (fax)  
www.MuscatineY.org

### **Head Lice Policy—July 2004**

Head lice continue to be one of the most prevalent communicable diseases among children, and outbreaks are possible whenever and wherever children gather. The Muscatine Community Y reserves the right to check the head of any person in the building when there is reason to believe that the child has head lice and/or nits.

The Muscatine Community Y maintains a “No-Nit” policy, which means that if a child is found to have lice or nits (lice eggs), that child will be sent home until after treatment.

If a child is found to have head lice, the parent will be contacted and expected to take the child home for immediate treatment. When a child returns to any Y program or to use the Y as a member, a Program Director or a designated staff person, along with the parent, will check the child’s head to confirm that he/she is free of live lice and/or nits before the child is allowed to enter a program area. The child may return to the Y **ONLY** after being checked and determined to have no lice or nits. The child will be checked for the next 10 days. If lice or nits are found, the child will be sent home again for treatment, and the 10-day check period will start again.

Please contact \_\_\_\_\_  
when your child(ren) are ready to return to the Y.

We hope that the following tips will be useful in the event of head lice in your family.

**Following treatment, nits must be removed from the hair shaft with a fine-toothed comb and by using one’s fingernails to pull the nits out of the hair. After treating the hair and removing all nits:**

- Every surface in your home and car(s) that has touched a head, or has touched an object that has touched a head, must be cleaned! All washable clothes need to be washed in HOT water and dried in a HOT dryer. Even clean clothes that have been hanging in a closet should be washed.
- Wash all bed clothing, including bedspreads, pillows, mattress covers, and anything else that is made of fabric. Stuffed animals, clothing and bed coverings that cannot be safely washed in hot water can be double-bagged in black plastic bags, sealed tightly, and put away for three or more days. At the end of that time, wash the items according to the washing instructions on the item.
- Combs and brushes should be soaked, followed by washing in hot, soapy water.
- Thoroughly vacuum all carpets, including areas under the beds. Thoroughly vacuum all upholstered furniture, and the interior of your car.

Screen your child regularly and notify us immediately if head lice or their nits are detected. Working together helps protect all of the children, including your own.

*Thank you for your cooperation!*