

County of Moore
Department of Health
705 Pinehurst Avenue • P.O. Box 279
Carthage, North Carolina 28327

Robert R. Wittmann, M.P.H.
Director

Telephone: 910-947-3300
Medical Records Fax: 910-947-1663
Administration Fax: 910-947-5837

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 2/29/2016

Contact: Tammie Fox
Public Health Dental Hygienist
Moore County Health Department
910-947-4510

**Dental Sealants Available for Students at Highfalls Elementary School March
11th-18th**

North Carolina Public Health Dental Hygienists will be visiting Highfalls Elementary School located at 1220 NC 22 Highway in Bennett, NC starting on March 11th and then the entire following week of March 14th-18th to provide dental sealants to eligible students. Dental sealants help to prevent tooth decay on the chewing surfaces of the back teeth. The clinic will be held from 9:00AM to 2:00PM each day.

More than 80 percent of all tooth decay occurs on the chewing surfaces of back teeth. When food and bacteria are trapped in the pits and grooves of the back teeth, it is difficult for a toothbrush to clean them and cavities can form. When a sealant is placed on the chewing surfaces of these back teeth, there is an estimated 80 percent reduction in dental decay.

The North Carolina Oral Health Section runs school-based sealant demonstration projects throughout North Carolina. These projects include an educational campaign and set up of a temporary "School Dental Office" where sealants are placed on eligible high-risk children at no cost to the participants. Last year, more than 4,100 children received more than 15,000 sealant treatments.

A dental sealant is a thin plastic coating placed on the chewing surfaces of back teeth. The sealant flows into the pits and grooves of the tooth, creating a protective barrier that will not allow food to stick in these pits and grooves. It is recommended that dental

"To Protect and Promote Health through Prevention and Control of Disease and Injury."
<http://www.moorecountync.gov/health/>

Environmental Health
Telephone: 910-947-6283
Fax: 910-947-5127

WIC
Telephone: 910-947-2797
Appointments: 910-947-3271
Fax: 910-947-2460

County of Moore
Department of Health
705 Pinehurst Avenue • P.O. Box 279
Carthage, North Carolina 28327

Robert R. Wittmann, M.P.H.
Director

Telephone: 910-947-3300
Medical Records Fax: 910-947-1663
Administration Fax: 910-947-5837

sealants be placed on the chewing surfaces of back teeth shortly after they erupt from the gum, when children are 5 to 13 years old.

Dental sealants are safe, effective, and economical. They have been used for more than 40 years and with the help of new technology and science, they have continued to improve. Clinical studies have shown sealants to be very effective in reducing tooth decay in children. The NC Oral Health Section recommends that parents ask their dentist about sealants for their children. Dental sealants are a proven method of preventing cavities and the pain of tooth decay.

For more information about sealants or dental health, contact Moore County Public Health Dental Hygienist Tammie Fox at 910-947-4510. To find out more about other programs and services offered by the Moore County Health Department visit our website at www.moorecountync.gov/health, “like” us on Facebook (Moco Health), or “follow” us on Twitter (@mocohealth).

###

“To Protect and Promote Health through Prevention and Control of Disease and Injury.”
<http://www.moorecountync.gov/health/>

Environmental Health
Telephone: 910-947-6283
Fax: 910-947-5127

WIC
Telephone: 910-947-2797
Appointments: 910-947-3271
Fax: 910-947-2460