# Bathroom Briefs

Your line to good health!

Developed by: Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Section, Forsyth County Department of Public Health

## NATIONAL HIV/AIDS AWARNESS MONTH

### **December 1st is** WORLD AIDS DAY!

This is a time to remember those lost and the strides that have been made.

It is a time to get tested and **KNOW YOUR STATUS!** 

AIDS is not a death sentence but you must first know your status. Take charge of your health and get tested!

## WHO IS MOST AFFECTED?

- Anyone who is sexually active
- Women
- Racial/ethnic minorities
- Men who have sex with men



For testing or more information: 703-3212 or 703-3213 www.POSSEhealth.org

#### WHAT IS HIV?

- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is the virus which causes AIDS
- HIV is a virus that attacks and weakens the immune system
  - Only 4 body fluids transmit
    - 1. blood HIV:
      - 2. semen
      - 3. vaginal fluid
      - 4. breast milk
  - HIV is not curable but it is treatable! People can live a long, healthy life with HIV
    - Unprotected sex and sharing needles are the two primary methods of HIV transmission in the US

#### WHY GET TESTED?

- It's free and confidential at the local health department or through POSSE
- The CDC recommends everyone should at least once in their life be tested
- It's a simple, smart way to take control of your health
- It can affect your entire life and your family's lives
- Living a safe, healthy life is better than living one with HIV
- It's good to know if you are HIV+ so you can know how to stay healthy