
press Release

NEWS

Burlington County
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT PROMOTES INFLUENZA VACCINATION WEEK

With The Flu Season Set To Peak, Residents Urged To Get Shots

With the flu season expected to peak in February, the Burlington County Health Department is declaring next week – the week of January 16th to the 21st – as ***Burlington County Influenza Vaccination Week***, and partnering with several community organizations to ensure that all County residents six months or older get a flu shot.

“Our health professionals call this bringing ‘Immunity to the Community,’” said Freeholder Mary Ann O’Brien. “And there is no getting around it – getting vaccinated is the single best way for people to protect not only themselves against the flu, but also their loved ones and everyone in the community-at-large.”

Those organizations teaming up with the Health Department to promote and provide flu shots include Burlington County College, Moorestown VNA, Burlington County Chamber of Commerce, the Burlington County Library System, the YMCA of Burlington County and numerous other partners in the healthcare community.

“Burlington County Influenza Vaccination Week is aimed at making sure everyone knows the importance of getting an annual flu shot, and getting our residents to act on that information,” said O’Brien.

According to Burlington County Epidemiologist Jennifer Horner, the flu usually peaks in February in Burlington County and it can take up to two weeks for immunity to build up in an individual. Therefore, it is not too late to get vaccinated.

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PRESS RELEASE: Flu – 1/12/11 – Add One

On **January 16th**, the week begins by asking key partners such as pharmacy and grocery stores to promote the availability of vaccinations on a Sunday. Many drug stores in the county are still offering flu vaccine. For example, individuals can visit the Walgreens at the corner of route 541 and Woodlane Road to receive a flu shot anytime the pharmacy is open. The Health Department hopes that families working during the week might consider receiving a flu shot if they are aware of availability on the weekend.

Monday, **January 17th**, healthcare providers will remind patients about vaccination and stress the importance to their patients. County residents are encouraged to visit their family doctor for a flu shot.

Tuesday, **January 18th**, is the day when older adults and those with chronic conditions are urged to get vaccinated. Certain illnesses, diseases and medical conditions place some people more at risk of deadly complications if they get the flu. These conditions include the immuno-compromised; diabetics; people with chronic heart conditions; asthmatics and those with liver and kidney disease. The elderly suffer the highest rates of hospitalization and death from complications of influenza than any other age group. Flu shots will be available at the Burlington County Library Headquarters in Westampton from 11am-3pm. This clinic will be for county residents 18 and older.

Wednesday, **January 19th** will be employee health day. Businesses will be working with Moorestown Visiting Nurses to provide vaccination to their employees. The CDC believes that by focusing on loss of productivity, more employers will step forward to support and promote flu vaccinations for their employees. As always, employees are reminded to stay home when they are sick.

Family vaccinations become the focus of attention on Thursday, **January 20th**. The Health Department will be offering free vaccinations to all county residents over the age of 6months at the Burlington Center Mall (route 541, Burlington Township) from 5pm to 7pm.

Finally, on Friday, **January 21st** the focus will be on young adults. Flu shots will be available at the Burlington County Human Services Building from 9am to 2pm and at the YMCA of Burlington County-Riverfront Branch (Burlington) from 4pm-7pm.

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PRESS RELEASE: Flu – 1/12/11 – Add Two

In addition to all of the clinics listed above, Moorestown Visiting Nurses Association will be offering flu shots for free for Medicare patients or for a reduced fee of \$15.00 for those without Medicare at their offices in Moorestown. Please call 856-552-1300 ext 2196 for an appointment or directions. Flu shots will be available:

- Monday, January 17th from 4pm-7pm
- Tuesday, January 18th from 1pm-4pm
- Wednesday, January 19th from 4pm-7pm
- Thursday, January 20th from 1pm-4pm

Getting a flu vaccine is easy. It is widely available through family doctors, local health departments, and even at many retail pharmacies. Many employers, schools, colleges and universities also offer flu vaccinations.

“Residents are encouraged to act on all the ‘reminders’ around them,” Freeholder O’Brien said. “When they are out and about in the community and see signs offering flu shots, or when they see their doctor for a routine check-up, they need to remember: the flu ends with ‘U’.”

A complete listing of clinics for the week is listed below. For more information please contact the Health Department at 609-265-5548.

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Bringing Immunity to The Community Influenza Vaccination Clinic Schedule

January 16—21, 2011

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
16	Visit Your Family Doctor or Local Pharmacy or Supermarket for a Flu Vaccination	17	18	19	20	21
	4:00pm—7:00pm Moorestown VNA 300 Harper Drive, Moorestown NJ 856-552-1300 ext 2196 for Appointments or Directions (\$15 Fee or Medicare Accepted)	11:00am—3:00pm Free Flu Shot Clinic (18 and older) Burlington County Library Headquarters (Westampton) Room 2 1:00pm—4:00pm Moorestown VNA 300 Harper Drive, Moorestown NJ 856-552-1300 ext 2196 for Appointments or Directions (\$15 Fee or Medicare Accepted)	4:00pm—7:00pm Moorestown VNA 300 Harper Drive, Moorestown NJ 856-552-1300 ext 2196 for Appointments or Directions (\$15 Fee or Medicare Accepted)	1:00pm—4:00pm Moorestown VNA 300 Harper Drive, Moorestown NJ 856-552-1300 ext 2196 for Appointments or Directions (\$15 Fee or Medicare Accepted)	9:00am—2:00pm Free Flu Shot Clinic Burlington County Human Services Building (Westampton) 4:00pm—7:00pm Free Flu Shots Burlington County YMCA-Riverfront Branch 302 Commerce Square Blvd. Burlington, NJ 08016 Call 609-543-6200 for directions	

For more information please contact the Burlington County Health Department
at 609-265-5548.