



Columbia County Department of Health

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For Immediate Release

Columbia County Health Department schedules Flu Shot clinics

The Centers for Disease Control reminds us that Influenza ("flu") is a serious disease. It is caused by a virus that spreads from infected persons to the nose or throat of others. Anyone can get influenza. Influenza vaccine can prevent the "Flu". The 2007-2008 trivalent vaccine strains are A/Solomon Islands/3/06 (H1N1)-like (new for this season), A/Wisconsin/67/2005 (H3N2)-like, and B/Malaysia/2506/2004-like viruses.

The Columbia County Health Department has received the vaccine. Flu shots are available to all Columbia County residents aged 6 months and older who want to reduce their chance of catching the Flu. The shot is recommended for but not limited to people aged 65 and older, individuals with long-term health problems with asthma; heart, lung or kidney disease; diabetes; anemia or other blood disorders; and children aged 6 months to 18 years with long-term aspirin use; any pregnant women, anyone with a weakened immune system and anyone else coming in close contact with people at risk of serious influenza. An inactivated (killed) influenza vaccine given intramuscularly is used.

Clinics will begin in October this year for the Columbia County residents 19 years and older as follows:

Tuesday October 9, 2007

9:00 -11:00 am Moose Club on Town Hall Drive in Greenport
1:00 - 3:00 pm Germantown Town Hall 50 Palatine Park Road

Wednesday October 10, 2007

9:00 - 11:00 am Philmont Nutrition Site 93 Main Street
1:00 - 3:00 pm Ghent Town Hall Route 66 Ghent

Thursday October 11, 2007

9:00 - 11:00 Livingston Town Hall 119 County Route 19
11:00 - 12:00 Noon Taghkanic Town Hall 82 West Taghkanic

Tuesday October 16, 2007

9:00 - 11:00 am Stuyvesant St Mary's Church Route 9

1:00 - 3:00 pm Kinderhook Town Hall Niverville

Wednesday October 17, 2007

9:00 - 11:00 am Ancram Town Hall 1416 County Route 7

Thursday October 18, 2007

9:00 - 11:00 am Hudson Nutrition Site

Wednesday October 24, 2007

10:00 - 11:30 am Canaan Town Hall 1647 County Route 5 South

1:00 - 2:00 pm New Lebanon Immaculate Conception Church Route 20

Thursday October 25, 2007

9:00 - 11:00 am Copake Town Hall 230 Mountainview Road

1:00 - 3:00 pm Hillsdale Town Hall Route 23

Flu vaccine will only be available for children ages 6 months to 18 years at the regular Monday and Tuesday scheduled immunization clinics from 1:00 - 4:00 pm at the Health Department. Flu shots for persons 19 or older will be offered at the Health Department after all the community clinics are finished.

- **The Health Department will accept Medicare Part B and Senior Blue only for the shots.**
- **Individuals with Medicare must bring their cards to the clinics for verification of Part B.**

All others are expected to pay a \$25.00 administration fee for the flu shot.

Talk to your doctor before getting the flu shot if you: ever had a serious allergic reaction to eggs or to a previous flu shot, or have a history of Guillain-Barre Syndrome.

Pneumonia Vaccine will also be available at these clinics to individuals 65 or older. Medicare Part B or Senior Blue insurance will be accepted. All others are expected to pay a 35.00 fee for the shot.

Additional Clinics are being scheduled and will be published as soon as they are confirmed. Information will also be available on the Columbia County Health Department web site at www.columbiacountyny.com click on department links and click on health department for the home page.

For More information you can contact the Health Department at (518) 828-3358.