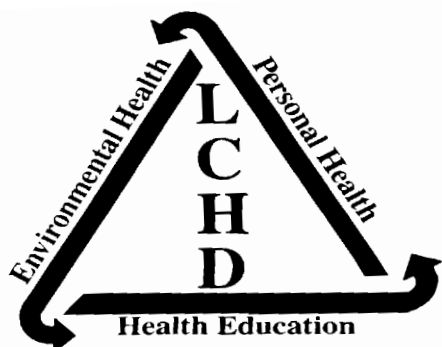


MEDIA RELEASE



Date: September 16, 2019
To: All Media
From: LaSalle County Health Department
717 Etna Road
Ottawa, IL 61350
Contact: Leslie Dougherty (ext74314) or Jenny Barrie (ext74315)
Phone: (815) 433-3366
For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE

“LaSalle County Health Department’s Flu Clinics to Begin Thursday, September 26th”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FOR INFORMATION OR INTERVIEWS; contact Leslie Dougherty at 433-3366 x225 or Jenny Barrie x226.

OTTAWA, IL – The LaSalle County Health Department is urging everyone 6 months and older to get vaccinated against seasonal influenza (flu). The LaSalle County Health Department has received its shipment of flu vaccine and will begin hosting flu clinics at the Health Department beginning on Thursday, September 26th. Seasonal Influenza Vaccine and Influenza HD (High Dose) Vaccine for persons 65 and older will be available. All LaSalle County Health Department influenza vaccines are preservative free. The fee for the seasonal flu shot will be \$25. The fee for influenza HD will be \$50. Insurance billing will be provided for Medicare part B and Medicaid eligible clients and also for most health insurance companies. **You must have your insurance card with you.** No Doctors order is required. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

The clinic schedule will be as follows:

Thursday, September 26th from 1:00 – 4:00 pm LaSalle County Health Department

Tuesday, October 8th from 1:00 – 4:00 pm LaSalle County Health Department

Thursday, November 7th from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm LaSalle County Health Department

The flu vaccine’s effectiveness varies from year to year. But for those who still get the flu, the symptoms are milder than in those who have not been immunized. Influenza HD will be given to persons 65 and

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older. Human immune defenses become weaker with age. Aging decreases the body's ability to have a good immune response. A higher dose of protection in the vaccine is added to give older persons a better immune response. This additional protection is intended to create a stronger immune response which will make the vaccine more effective in the elderly.

To lessen your chances of developing the flu, adults and children need to practice good hygiene measures. Teach the importance of covering your mouth when coughing or sneezing, and educate children about hand to mucous membrane transmission. One of the best ways to protect yourself and your children is through frequent and thorough hand washing. People who are exhibiting "flu-like" symptoms should stay home from work, out of childcare and school to minimize transmission.

For more information on influenza you can call 1-815-433-3366 or you may visit our website at www.lasallecounty.org . Or like us on Facebook/Twitter.

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