

GENERAL UPDATES-WHAT ARE WE DOING FOR YOU?

The Ogle County Health Department (OCHD) has been actively preparing for the seasonal and H1N1 flu season. It is important to us to prevent as much disease as possible and to protect County citizens from the aftermath of infectious outbreaks, such as, loss of work or school and potential disability. Following is a list of preparation activities:

→An Emergency Response (ER) committee of key Health Department staff is meeting weekly to prepare for seasonal and H1N1 vaccination clinics, to coordinate distribution of information, and to discuss response to potential outbreaks. The ER committee also participates in weekly conference calls presented by the Illinois Department of Public Health. This call includes Local Health Departments, hospitals, clinics, and other health care providers in Illinois. We share information and work together to ensure a consistent care plan across the State.

→Seasonal Flu clinics have been scheduled to begin in September, and are located in various sites throughout Ogle County. This schedule is available on the website and by calling 815-732-7330 extension 392.

→The OCHD Communicable Disease Coordinator and our Public Health Nurse are in the process of setting clinic schedules for the H1N1 vaccine. We will be providing clinics in many of our Ogle County Schools and Day Care sites. We will also be providing walk-in clinics at our main office in Oregon, Illinois. Once the schedule is completed, it will be posted on our website. We are in the process of putting together clinic teams to accomplish this task.

→The OCHD Emergency Response Coordinator, Director of Health Education and Health Education Secretary, are compiling information, designing pamphlets, and developing information packets for distribution to Ogle County citizens. This information will be given specifically to parents, health care providers, and to any interested citizen. We are striving to keep all citizens informed and up to date in protecting themselves against both seasonal and H1N1 flu.

→OCHD Staff continue to track and report cases of H1N1 flu, investigating contacts, educating caregivers and ensuring that treatment and prevention measures are followed.

→The Ogle County Health Department Staff follow the **3 C's**. They:

1. **Cover their coughing and sneezing with a tissue, sleeve, or mask.**
2. **Clean their hands frequently (before eating, after eating, after coughing and sneezing, after using the toilet, etc)**
3. **Contain disease by staying home when they are sick.**

WE ENCOURAGE ALL OF YOU TO DO THE SAME!