

News Release

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For Immediate Release
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Flu shot clinics get underway; CDC urges early vaccination

The Knox County Health Department will kick-off its schedule of community flu shot clinics on Friday in Centerburg and Saturday at the health department. Both clinics are on a walk-in basis, no appointment is needed.

Friday's clinic will take place from 9-11 a.m. at the Centerburg Senior Center, 119 S. Preston St. Saturday's clinic will take place from 8 a.m. to noon at the health department, 11660 Upper Gilchrist Rd., across from the radio station.

With the approach of flu season, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) is recommending all Ohioans 6 months and older get a flu shot as soon as possible. The Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC) is urging vaccination by the end of October.

Flu activity traditionally begins to increase in October and can last as late as May, with cases typically peaking between December and February. CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine as the best protection against seasonal flu viruses. Flu vaccines have been updated this year to better match circulating flu viruses.

At all health department clinics, flu shots will be available for adults and children, ages, 6 mos. of age and older. Medicaid, Medicare and most forms of insurance will be accepted for payment. Otherwise, the cost for the flu shot is \$30 and can be paid in cash or by check. Clinic attendees need to bring their ID and medical/insurance card.

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If someone is unable to walk into a community clinic to get a shot, a nurse will be available to go outside to administer the shot while the person is in their vehicle. Someone will need to come in to the clinic to advise the nursing staff and complete paperwork. There are no restrictions for age or health conditions. Health department officials said they have plenty of vaccine.

In addition to the community clinics, the health department is currently offering flu shots at the Community Health Center, Monday – Friday, from 8 a.m.- noon and 1-4 p.m. Appointments are recommended, but walk-ins are welcome. The health center is located inside the health department, 11660 Upper Gilchrist Rd.

The health department will also provide flu shots to anyone in Knox County who is homebound and unable to attend a flu shot clinic. To schedule a flu shot for a homebound person, call Lorraine Bratton, RN, at 740-399-8003.

Additional community clinics will take next week in Mount Vernon, Danville, Apple Valley and Fredericktown.

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