

News Release

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For Immediate Release

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Give a Gift of Health this Holiday Season!

**Wayne County Department of Public Health Urges Residents to Get Flu Shots;
Offers 'Friends and Family Holiday Flu Vaccination Plan,' Dec. 6-23**

There's no gift like the gift of health, no matter the season...

In the spirit of the holidays and promoting good health, the **Wayne County Department of Public Health** encourages individuals to get their seasonal flu shots, and is offering a **Friends and Family Holiday Flu Vaccination Plan** at its three health clinics through December.

Between Dec. 6-23, two people can receive flu shots for just \$20!

Here's how: Simply make a flu shot clinic appointment for two individuals at any Wayne County Public Health clinic location for any available time, or bring a friend or family member to a December walk-in day at the Wayne or Taylor Health Clinics. (Individual shots are priced at \$15.)

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[The holiday flu vaccination plan is part of the Wayne County Public Health Department's observance of National Influenza Immunization Week, Dec. 5-11.](#) The week is designed to bring awareness to the importance of continued vaccination against the flu virus into the holiday season and New Year.

In the United States, between 5 and 20 percent of the population gets the flu annually.

“Each and every year, the best way to prevent the flu and flu-related complications is by getting a flu shot,” said Robert Ficano, Wayne County Executive. “We urge and remind Wayne County residents to protect their families now by making plans to get the flu shot before flu cases increase.”

During the 2010-2011 flu season, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that everyone six months of age and older, receive the flu vaccine. One shot now protects against both the H1N1 and seasonal flu strains.

Loretta Davis, Wayne County Public Health Director/Health Officer, said: “Many people are misinformed and think that it's too late to receive flu shot protection after Thanksgiving, which is nothing further from the truth. Usually, the flu season peaks in February, so getting the vaccine during late fall into winter provides ample time for vaccine protection. However, by **not** getting vaccinated, you put yourself and those around you at risk.”

The flu is a mild to severe contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can lead to serious complications in some individuals such as seniors and those with chronic diseases, and even result in death.

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“Our role in public health is to help prevent illnesses like the flu that can easily spread in the community,” said Davis. “Getting a flu shot for the holidays is a simple way to protect yourself, your friends, family and coworkers, and it makes a great gift of health for all ages.”

The Friends and Family Holiday Flu Vaccination Plan is open to the public.

Appointments and walk-in days for children and adults are conveniently available through December 23 at the following Wayne County Public Health clinic locations:

Wayne Health Center

33030 Van Born Road
Wayne, MI 48184
734.727.7100

By appointment only:

8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Tuesday & Friday

11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m., Wednesday

Walk-in days:

8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Monday & Thursday

Taylor Health Center

26650 Eureka Road
Taylor, MI 48180
734.955.3900

By appointment only:

8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Tuesday & Friday

11 a.m.-6:30 p.m., Wednesday

Walk-in days:

8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Monday & Thursday **(Flu shots only.)**

Redford Area Health Office

17421 Telegraph Road
Detroit, MI 48219
313.537.1708

9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Wednesday

By appointment only.

Following Dec. 23, Wayne County Public Health clinics will be closed for the holidays and will reopen Jan. 4, 2011. Flu shots will then be available for \$15 each, except for Flu Vaccination Plan 2 for \$20 appointments booked during December.

For more information concerning flu prevention or flu vaccinations at Wayne County's Public Health clinic locations, call the **Wayne County Department of Public Health** at **(734) 727-7000**, or visit **www.waynecounty.com**.

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