



NEWS



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McLean County Health Department Says, Don't Wait – Get your Flu Shot Today!

Health Department offers flu vaccine and teams up with the Bloomington Fire Dept for a Family Flu Vaccine Clinic

BLOOMINGTON – Stand united with the McLean County Health Department in efforts to keep seasonal flu from disrupting lives in McLean County by getting a seasonal flu vaccination. Even healthy people can get severely ill from the flu. An annual flu vaccination before illness begins to circulate in the community is the single most effective way to avoid getting and spreading the influenza virus.

The Health Department offers flu vaccine to everyone 6 months of age and older. Adults can receive flu vaccine on a walk-in basis Monday through Friday during regular business hours. Children's flu vaccine is administered by appointment and can be scheduled at 309-888-5455.

For the third straight year, the Health Department is also partnering with the Bloomington Fire Department for a family flu vaccination clinic. Saturday, October 27th from 8 a.m. until 12 noon all-ages are invited to come to the Bloomington Fire Department Headquarters at its downtown location on 310 N. Lee St. for a mix of firehouse fun and seasonal flu protection.

This is the Health Department's only off-site opportunity in the Bloomington-Normal area for children to be vaccinated this year. Young people under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or authorized proxy and provide their insurance or medical card to receive flu vaccine. As a Vaccine for Children (VFC) program participant, VFC eligible families may receive reduced cost vaccine for children who might not otherwise be vaccinated because of inability to pay. VFC eligible families are uninsured, underinsured, or have Medicaid coverage and are residents of McLean County.

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Adults seeking a flu vaccination at the Health Department or the Bloomington Fire Department clinic are asked to bring their private or public insurance card. Most insurances fully cover the flu vaccine. For those who prefer to pay for their seasonal flu vaccination, the cost is \$30.

Influenza is a contagious respiratory illness that can affect individuals of any age and spreads very easily from person to person. Flu symptoms usually last from a few days to less than two weeks and include fever, severe chills and bodyache, fatigue, mild sniffles, dry cough, and severe chest discomfort. Sometimes, a more serious illness can develop that requires hospitalization and can even lead to death.

The McLean County Health Department is dedicated to the prevention and control of disease through health promotion, early intervention and health protection within our county. For more information about our services visit our website at: <https://health.mcleancountyil.gov/>. You are also invited to follow us on Twitter (@McLeanHealth) and “Like” us on Facebook (Facebook.com/McLeanHealth), for information about public health affecting you.

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