



LaSalle County Health Department News Releases 2010



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**LASALLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
717 ETNA ROAD
OTTAWA, IL 61350**

(815) 433-3366

December 20, 2010

N E W S R E L E A S E

"STREATOR WIC SITE CLOSING"

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 would like to announce that effective December 31, 2010 the Streator WIC site will be closed. The decision to close this site was a process that was made over many months in an effort to consolidate services for cost savings. Clients from the Streator area will be able to receive services at the Ottawa WIC site which is located at 1806 Seneca Drive. If you currently have a WIC appointment scheduled for the Streator office in the upcoming months, everything about the appointment will remain the same except the location, which will now be in Ottawa. If you need to schedule an appointment, call the LaSalle County Health Department at #1-815-433-3366 or 1-800-247-5243.

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**LASALLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
717 ETNA ROAD
OTTAWA, IL 61350
433-3366**

November 1, 2010

"Additional Flu Clinic"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FOR INFORMATION OR INTERVIEWS; contact Leslie Dougherty x 225 or Jenny Barrie x226 at 433-3366.

OTTAWA, IL— In order to better serve our clients the LaSalle County Health Department has made the following changes to the flu clinic schedule:

In November the clinic hours will be extended to 5 pm to better accommodate school aged children. There will also be an additional clinic scheduled on December 17th for those who are still in need of a flu shot and those children who may need a second dose of flu vaccine.

November 19, 2010 - 9:00 am-5:00 pm
LaSalle County Health Department
717 E. Etna Road, Ottawa

An additional clinic will be held on

December 17, 2010 - 9:00 am-5:00 pm
LaSalle County Health Department
717 E. Etna Road, Ottawa

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LASALLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
717 ETNA ROAD
OTTAWA, IL 61350
433-3366

October 1, 2010

“October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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

OTTAWA, IL – October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. LaSalle County Health Department, through our Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program grant, can pay for mammograms for women who qualify. If you are a LaSalle or Grundy County resident between the ages of 40 -64, and are uninsured, regardless of your income, call 433-3366 or 1-800-247-5243 for further information on how to receive a free mammogram.

The LaSalle County Health Department would like to increase breast cancer awareness. Through regular breast self-examinations, annual physician exams and mammograms, you can greatly reduce your risk of late stage breast cancer. We do not know what causes breast cancer or how to prevent it, the best protection is to detect it as early as possible and treat it promptly. Don't hesitate, call 433-3366 or 1-800-247-5243 now to see if you qualify or if you would like more information visit the **personal health** page on our website at www.lasallecounty.org/hd.

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[Flu Clinic Schedule](#)

**LASALLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
717 ETNA ROAD
OTTAWA, IL 61350
433-3366**

September 15, 2010

NEWS RELEASE

“LaSalle County Health Department’s Flu Clinics to Begin in October”

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 be vaccinated against seasonal influenza (flu). The LaSalle County Health Department has received its shipment of flu vaccine and will sponsor several vaccination clinics throughout the county. The fee for a flu vaccination this year will be \$25. Billing will be provided for Medicare part B and Medicaid eligible clients who receive the vaccination.

NO Doctor’s order is required for children under 18, but all children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

The flu vaccine is 70 to 90 percent effective in preventing influenza among healthy children and adults. For those who still get the flu, the symptoms are milder than in those who have not been immunized. To lessen your chances of developing the flu, adults and children need to practice the 3C’s:

1. containing your germs by staying home when you are sick
2. covering your cough and sneeze
3. cleansing your hands frequently

This is also a good time for certain individuals to get a pneumonia vaccination. They must check with their physicians to see if one is recommended. Pneumococcal disease caused by bacteria (Streptococcus pneumonia) which can cause serious infections. These infections include pneumonia and meningitis and can be prevented by getting a “Pneumonia shot”. People who should get a pneumonia shot include:

- All persons aged 65 and older

- Adults and children with chronic illnesses of heart, lung, kidney, or liver
- Diabetics
- All persons with a weak immune system caused by HIV, cancer, organ transplant, immunosuppressive medicine such as corticosteroids, or splenectomy

A pneumonia shot is usually necessary only once for those over the age of 65.

For those under 65 with a chronic illness it is recommended that it be repeated once after five years. People should get the shot even if they have had a pneumonia illness in the past.

The pneumonia vaccine will be available at all of the flu clinic sites. The fee for the pneumonia shot will be \$50. Medicare part B and Medicaid will be billed for eligible clients. A receipt can be given upon request for those who would like to submit it to their insurance company. For more information on influenza you can call 1-815-433-3366 and press the flu option or you may visit our website at www.lasallecounty.org/hd.

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**LaSalle County Health Department
717 Etna Rd.
Ottawa, IL 61350
(815) 433-3366**

September 7, 2010

NEWS RELEASE

“Eighteenth Annual Food Service Seminar”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FOR INFORMATION OR INTERVIEWS: contact Jenny Barrie 815-433-3366

Ottawa, IL – The LaSalle County Health Department will be sponsoring their Eighteenth Annual Food Service Seminar on September 13, 2010. The seminar will be held at Pitstick Pavilion, Rt. 23, Ottawa. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Registration is from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. The seminar will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will conclude at approximately 12:00 p.m. Speakers include Tim Baietto from Quick-Kill Pest Eliminators, who will present information on pest elimination and Lori-Saathoff-Huber from the Illinois Department of Public Health, who will discuss foodborne investigations. A panel discussion focusing on utilizing local foods is also scheduled and will include Pam Horwitz from the American Corn Growers Association, Gerard Beach of Foothills Organics, and Bob Durham from the Illinois Department of Public Health.

September is **National Food Safety Education Month®**, and is an annual campaign to heighten awareness about the importance of food safety education. Foodborne agents cause an estimated 76 million illnesses annually in the United States. National public health surveillance data provides some insight into the causes of food borne illness, types of implicated foods, and where food borne outbreaks occur. This information is routinely evaluated by local health departments in an effort to implement food safety strategies to prevent and control food borne illness within our community.

The food safety data reveals that certain individuals, including those with a compromised immunity, are particularly susceptible to food borne agents. These people are considered high-risk for food borne illness, because they tend to get sick from unsafe foods more often than the rest of the population. Young children, pregnant women, older adults, and individuals with a chronic illness or receiving medical treatment are considered high-risk consumers with respect to food borne illness.

During routine food safety inspections, Health Department staff work with restaurant employees to assure a safe meal is served to consumers. Food safety measures utilized by food service workers can include purchasing food from safe sources, cooking food adequately, holding food at proper temperatures, using clean equipment, and

following appropriate personal hygiene practice.

For more information on food safety, visit www.befoodsafe.org or www.lasallecounty.org/hd. To pre-register for the food service seminar, please call the LaSalle County Health Department at (815) 433-3366 ext 228.

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LASALLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
717 ETNA ROAD
OTTAWA, IL 61350
433-3366

June 8, 2010

NEWS RELEASE

“Tetanus Clinics”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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

OTTAWA, IL -- The LaSalle County Health Department will be administering tetanus vaccinations to residents involved in tornado clean-up throughout the Streator area. The vaccinations will be free of charge. The clinic will be held today thru Friday from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Advance Medical Transport of Central Illinois building located at 808 E. Lundy St., Streator (directly across from St. Stephen's gymnasium). At today's clinic we will be administering Tdap, which is recommended for those people under the age of 65. Tdap also contains the Pertussis vaccine which is a recommended vaccination for those under 65. We anticipate having Tetanus vaccine for those over 65 at Thursday's clinic. For more information, please contact the LaSalle County Health Department at 815-433-3366 or 1- 800-247-5243. Information can also be accessed at our website at www.lasallecounty.org.

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**LaSalle County Health Department
717 Etna Road
Ottawa, IL 61350
815-433-3366**

April 29, 2010

News Release

“LaSalle County Health Department Begins Dead Bird Surveillance”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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

Ottawa, IL – The LaSalle County Health Department will begin collecting dead birds on May 3, 2010 and will continue this process through October 15, 2010. Dead birds are important sentinels for early detection of West Nile virus activity. During the past eight years, West Nile virus activity has been documented throughout LaSalle County. LaSalle County citizens should report any deceased crow, blue jay, robin, pigeon, cardinal, cowbird, finch, grackle, mourning dove, sparrow, or starling to the Environmental Division at 815-433-3366.

Birds submitted for testing should be “eligible birds” that have no obvious cause of death such as being found crushed in a roadway and most likely killed by a motor vehicle, or birds killed by a gunshot. Birds submitted should be believed to be dead for less than 48 hours. Birds should only be submitted if they have not been damaged by scavenging animals and are not decomposed. Decomposed animals can be recognized as having a strong odor present, eyes deflated or dried, maggots present or bloated from decomposition gases.

The following information may be useful in helping to distinguishing crows from other birds with black feathers:

Crows can be confused with other birds with black feathers such as starlings, grackles, blackbirds and cowbirds. Adult crows are larger, about 17-21 inches in length, while juvenile crows are about 10 inches in length. Adult crows are all black including feathers, beak, legs, and feet. Juvenile crows have brownish-black feathers. The crow’s nostrils are covered with bristles.

Grackles are 11 inches to 13 inches long, also black, smaller than crows but larger than robins. The head of a grackle has a purple or green iridescent sheen. The rest of the body is black or brown-black. The eyes are yellow. They can also be distinguished from crows because their tails are V-shaped and tail feathers are nearly as long as the body.

Health Department staff is also getting ready to begin testing mosquitoes, the vector for West Nile

virus and St. Louis encephalitis, again this year. The mosquito collection and testing equipment was purchased with grant money. The Health Department was also able to use the grant money to purchase a large quantity of mosquito larvicide. Larvicide is used to treat potential mosquito breeding sites, and will be distributed to licensed mosquito control applicators from local municipalities and villages throughout the county.

Also, during the spring and summer months, Health Department staff extend outreach efforts to all city, municipal, village, and township officials in the county. Information packets will be distributed to local hospitals, medical centers, nursing homes, pharmacies, veterinary clinics, pet shelters, campgrounds, daycares, libraries, and pool supply companies.

For additional information on West Nile virus, please contact the LaSalle County Health Department at 815-433-3366 or visit our website at www.lasallecounty.org/hd.

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**LaSalle County Health Department
717 Etna Road
Ottawa, IL 61350
815-433-3366**

April 1, 2010

NEWS RELEASE

"LaSalle County Health Department Celebrates National Public Health Week"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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

OTTAWA, IL - The American Public Health Association has announced National Public Health Week will be observed April 5-11th, 2010. The theme of this year's National Public Health Week is "A Healthier America: One Community At A Time". For more information regarding Public Health Week, please visit www.nphw.org. The LaSalle County Health Department would like to remind the public that blood pressure screenings and HIV testing are available Monday-Friday at the Health Department on a walk-in basis from 8:30am-4:00pm. Health Department staff is also encouraging anyone who has not received a H1N1 vaccination to come in during the week for a shot. Educational materials focusing on a variety of health topics, will be available in the Health Department lobby.

The LaSalle County Health Department was created in November of 1986 with the passage of a referendum by the voters of LaSalle County. In 1987, the Health Department began offering programs in three areas: environmental health, personal health, and health education. Programs available at the Health Department focus on the prevention of the spread of disease and food borne illness, elimination of potentially harmful environmental situations, protection of groundwater from contamination, prevention of injuries, promotion of healthy behaviors, preparedness to respond to bioterrorism issues, and assurance of access to quality health services. For further questions and additional information, please contact the LaSalle County Health Department at 815-433-3366 or 1-800-247-5243. The department's website can be accessed at www.lasallecounty.org/hd, and contains beneficial health information.

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**LaSalle County Health Department
717 Etna Road
Ottawa, IL 61350
815-433-3366**

February 22, 2010

“LaSalle County Health Department To Hold Final H1N1 Clinic”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR INFORMATION OR INTERVIEWS: contact Leslie Dougherty (ext. 225) or Jenny Barrie (ext. 226)

Ottawa, IL-The LaSalle County Health Department will hold their final walk-in H1N1 clinic this Friday, February 26th. The clinic will be held at the LaSalle County Health Department, 717 Etna Rd, Ottawa, from 9:00am-12:00pm. The vaccine is free of charge.

For H1N1 clinic information, please visit the LaSalle County Health Department’s website at www.lasallecounty.org/hd, or call 815-433-3366, ext. 235 or option 8.

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**LaSalle County Health Department
717 Etna Road
Ottawa, IL 61350
815-433-3366**

February 17, 2010

NEWS RELEASE

"Larvicide 1-Hour Training"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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

OTTAWA, IL – The Bureau and Putnam County Health Department in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Public Health, and the LaSalle County Health Department is offering a 1-hour larvicide training Wednesday, March 10, 2010, from 10am to 12pm in the conference room at the Bureau County Health Department.

The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDA) Rule allows application of a pre-packaged solid mosquito larvicide by persons who attend a 1-hour training seminar.

Please register by Friday, March 5, 2010.

THIS SEMINAR IS FREE.

If you would like to attend, please contact the Bureau County Health Department at 815-

872-5091, **extension 210**, and a registration form can be mailed or faxed.

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**LASALLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
717 ETNA ROAD
OTTAWA, IL 61350
433-3366**

February 9, 2010

No flu clinic on Friday

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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

OTTAWA, IL—

There will be no H1N1 flu clinic at the LaSalle County Health Department on Friday, February 12th. The office is closed for Holiday due to Lincoln's Birthday.

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**LaSalle County Health Department
717 Etna Road
Ottawa, IL 61350
815-433-3366**

January 26, 2010

NEWS RELEASE

"Larvicide 1-Hour Training"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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

OTTAWA, IL – The Bureau and Putnam County Health Department in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Public Health, and the LaSalle County Health Department is offering a 1-hour larvicide training Wednesday, March 10, 2010, from 10am to 12pm in the conference room at the Bureau County Health Department.

The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDA) Rule allows application of a pre-packaged solid mosquito larvicide by persons who attend a 1-hour training seminar.

Please register by Friday, March 5, 2010.

THIS SEMINAR IS FREE.

If you would like to attend, please contact the Bureau County Health Department at 815-

872-5091, **extension 210**, and a registration form can be mailed or faxed.

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**LaSalle County Health Department
717 Etna Road
Ottawa, IL 61350
815-433-3366**

January 20, 2010

“LaSalle County Health Department Schedules Additional Clinic”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR INFORMATION OR INTERVIEWS: contact Leslie Dougherty (ext. 225) or Jenny Barrie (ext. 226)

Ottawa, IL-The LaSalle County Health Department, in conjunction with Illinois Valley Community Hospital has scheduled an additional H1N1 clinic. The clinic will be held on Saturday, January 23rd from 10am-2pm, at the Peru Mall. These clinics are **walk-in** and **NO appointment** is necessary.

These clinics are now open to the **General Public**, meaning everyone is eligible to receive the vaccine. **The vaccine is free of charge.**

For H1N1 clinic information or to download consent forms, please visit the LaSalle County Health Department’s website at www.lasallecounty.org/hd, or call 815-433-3366, ext. 235 or option 8.

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LASALLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
717 ETNA ROAD
OTTAWA, IL 61350

433-3366

January 12, 2010

National Influenza Vaccination Week

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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

OTTAWA, IL— In honor of National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW), January 10th-16th, the LaSalle County Health Department will be offering H1N1 flu shots to the public on Fridays. These clinics are **walk-in** and **NO appointment** is necessary. Anyone interested in receiving a H1N1 flu shot should come to the LaSalle County Health Department, 717 Etna Road in Ottawa, on Fridays from 9:00 am-12:00 pm. There is no cost for the vaccine. These H1N1 clinics will run every Friday until further notice. We have ample supply of H1N1 vaccine for residents who are still in need of vaccination. For more information regarding H1N1, please visit the LaSalle County Health Department's website at www.lasallecounty.org/hd, or call 815-433-3366, ext.235 or option 8.

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LaSalle County Health Department
717 Etna Road
Ottawa, IL 61350
815-433-3366

January 6, 2010

“LaSalle County Health Department Schedules Two Walk-In H1N1 Clinics”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR INFORMATION OR INTERVIEWS: contact Leslie Dougherty (ext. 225) pr Jenny Barrie (ext. 226)

Ottawa, IL-The LaSalle County Health Department has scheduled two additional H1N1 clinics. These clinics will be held at the LaSalle County Health Department, 717 Etna Rd, Ottawa. These clinics are **walk-in** and **NO appointment** is necessary. The clinic schedule is as follows:

*Thursday, January 7th, from 9am-Noon

*Friday, January 8th, from 9am - Noon

These clinics are now open to the **General Public**, meaning everyone is eligible to receive the vaccine. The vaccine is free of charge.

For H1N1 clinic information, please visit the LaSalle County Health Department’s website at www.lasallecounty.org/hd, or call 815-433-3366, ext. 235 or option 8.

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