



Northeast District Department of Health

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PRESS RELEASE

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Northeast District Department of Health Plans Drive-Thru Flu Clinic

Free Flu Shots to be offered at Emergency Preparedness Exercise at Killingly Intermediate School

(BROOKLYN) – On Sunday, November 15, from 11:00 to 1:30, the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH) will host a drive-thru flu clinic at Killingly Intermediate School, 1599 Upper Maple Street in Killingly. According to clinic organizers, this “drive-thru to avoid the flu” outdoor setting will provide an opportunity for people age 18 and older to get a free, fast, and easy flu shot while they remain seated in their car. This will be the fourth such clinic held in northeast Connecticut by NDDH.

“Each year, there are more lessons learned that help us to improve our response plans,” explained NDDH Emergency Coordinator Derek May. “The primary reason for this exercise is to test local and regional emergency plans to dispense a lot of medication in a short amount of time. This is particularly important as we prepare for the eventual distribution of COVID-19 vaccine. The 'drive-thru' model is one way to help reach a lot of people quickly.”

Three hundred free flu shots are available to those participating in the exercise on a first come, first served basis. There is no registration necessary, but attendees are asked to download and complete a short immunization consent form and review the vaccine information statement available at <http://www.nddh.org/newsevents>.

“Getting vaccinated against the flu is one of the best things you can do to prevent the spread of illness,” said NDDH Public Health Nurse Janine Vose, who will manage the vaccination teams. “It’s always important to get your flu shot, even more so this year as we try to manage the COVID-19 response at the same time.”

The clinic will follow COVID-19 safety protocols. All personnel and attendees are required to wear face masks at all times. Those receiving vaccines will remain in their vehicles.

The clinic will be staffed by members of the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), public health volunteers affiliated with NDDH who provide medical and non-medical support roles such as vaccinators, traffic direction, setup, communication, and other support services. Anyone who would like to assist at the clinic, learn more about MRC or future volunteer opportunities should contact Janine Vose at phnurse@nddh.org.

The drive thru clinic is made possible by public health preparedness funds.

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