



# Columbia County Department of Health

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H1N1 update:

Columbia County Board of Supervisors Chairman Art Baer took a moment to observe the Columbia County Health Department H1N1 vaccine clinic process at the Taconic Hills Central School District and to say hello to Middle School Principal Neil Howard and Elementary Principal John Gulisane. H1N1 vaccination clinics for children in the Columbia County schools have all been completed.

The Columbia County Health Department is now scheduling an H1N1 flu vaccine clinic for **Columbia County residents only ages 6 months or older**, on Saturday December 5, 2009 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Columbia Greene Community College, 4400 Route 23 Hudson. No appointment is necessary.

Since the beginning of October the Health Department has received the results of 8 confirmed lab tests for the H1N1 virus. Health department staff has been tracking school absenteeism, while each school saw an increase in absenteeism lasting 3-4 days; no schools had to make changes in scheduling or programs. Approximately 5000 doses of the H1N1 vaccine have been given so far.

Public Health Director Nancy Winch states, that the department continues to use the emergency preparedness plan already in place, that includes increased surveillance, protocols, education and awareness about (H1N1) influenza A, (swine flu) in conjunction with the New York State Health Department, Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the World Health Organization (WHO) to get the most up-to-date information and protocols.

Updated influenza information and links to additional sites can be found on the county health department website @ [www.columbiacountyny.com](http://www.columbiacountyny.com) .