



COUNTY OF MARATHON

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

LAKEVIEW PROFESSIONAL PLAZA
1200 LAKE VIEW DRIVE, RM 200
WAUSAU, WI 54403-6797

TEL/TDD: (715) 261-1900
FAX: (715) 261-1901
www.co.marathon.wi.us

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Contact: Judy Burrows, 261-1900

Weekly H1N1 Update from Marathon County Health Department

*RE: H1N1 vaccine available for young children
and school aged children with chronic conditions*

The Marathon County Health Department (MCHD) will be making vaccine available through public vaccination clinics. An increase in vaccine supply allows for more target populations to be served at our clinics. We will continue to serve:

- Pregnant women who have not yet received H1N1 vaccine from their health care provider.
- People who provide care for or live with children under the age of 6 months (parents, siblings, daycare providers)

New groups to be served include:

- **All children ages 6 months to 4 years old**
- **Children with chronic conditions ages 5 to 18 years old**

The current clinic schedule is:

H1N1 Clinic Schedule			
November 19	Spencer	Spencer High School	3-6 PM
November 21	Wausau Metro Area	North Central Health Care Center	9 AM -2 PM
November 23	Athens	Athens High School	3:30-6 PM

More clinics are being planned for the week of Nov 30 – Dec 5 and will be posted at <http://www.co.marathon.wi.us/> and at <http://www.unitedwaymc.org/211.htm>

Vaccination Still Very Important

“Vaccination should still be considered a very important step toward protecting yourself and your family,” said, Joan Theurer, Health Officer.

Although influenza disease levels appear to have passed their highest peak, they are still very high and are expected to remain so.

“Also, many people seem to think that because they were ill this fall, they must have had H1N1, but that is not necessarily true,” Theurer said.

The symptoms of influenza are similar to those caused by many other viruses. Even when a lot of people in the community have influenza, many other viruses are also causing illness. Most people who had flu-like illness cannot be completely sure that they had H1N1 flu. It may have



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been another illness with similar symptoms. It is not harmful to receive the vaccine if you had the disease.

“We still encourage everyone who is eligible to seek the vaccine as a way to stay healthy this winter,” Theurer said.

H1N1 Status in Nation, Wisconsin, and Marathon County

Wisconsin has seen a modest decrease in H1N1 flu activity across the state, but flu activity is still much higher than normal for this time of year. The H1N1 virus is not going away. In other states that had a peak in disease much earlier than Wisconsin, they are continuing to see very high levels of disease. In addition, we will likely see additional waves of H1N1 disease. Since August 30, 2009, in Wisconsin there have been 405 known hospitalizations due to H1N1 and 22 deaths, including 11 deaths reported in the last week.

	United States	Wisconsin	Marathon County
Confirmed H1N1 cases	*	5,502	*
Hospitalizations	22,364	405	16
Deaths	877	22	1
WI data from August 30, 2009 through November 18, 2009. US data from August 30, 2009 through November 7, 2009. Source: http://pandemic.wisconsin.gov/category.asp?linkcatid=3191&linkid=1567&locid=106 * Numbers of confirmed cases are not available			