

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 22, 2009

Contact: Amy Marlow 319-332-0860
amarlow@bchealth.info

Buchanan County Public Health Ready for Flu Season

Preparations include vaccination plans

Buchanan County public health officials say they are ready for the coming flu season. “We are working closely with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH),” said Amy Marlow, Buchanan County Health Center Public Health Department Manager “On the local level, we are coordinating with schools and businesses to keep residents healthy and minimize the potential impact of the flu.”

There are many things Buchanan County residents can do to protect themselves, their families, and their communities from the seasonal and H1N1 influenza virus. Marlow says residents should receive the seasonal influenza vaccine as soon as it is available and, if appropriate, get the H1N1 vaccine when it is expected to become available by mid-October. Additionally, it’s important to remember the three Cs:

- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your elbow.
- Clean your hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer.
- Contain germs by staying home when ill.

A statewide toll-free hotline has been established for public questions about seasonal and H1N1 influenza at 1-800-447-1985. More information can also be found at www.idph.state.ia.us.

###