



## Huron County Health Department

1142 South Van Dyke Road, Bad Axe, Michigan 48413

Phone: 989-269-9721

[www.huron.localhealth.net](http://www.huron.localhealth.net)

Gretchen Tenbusch, R.N., M.S.A., Health Officer  
Russell L. Bush, M.D., M.P.H., Medical Director

October, 2009

Dear Business Leader;

This letter is meant to provide you with some valuable resources in regards to preparing your business and employees for the H1N1 and seasonal flu. There are two types of influenza (flu) to be concerned about this year. The first type is the seasonal flu that happens every fall and winter. The second type is the novel 2009 influenza A (H1N1) virus that began causing illness in people last spring and has continued to occur in Michigan and throughout the world this summer. The novel 2009 influenza A (H1N1) influenza virus has caused mild to severe illness and hospitalizations in both adults and children.

Attached you will find a guidance that applies to any flu virus circulating during the 2009-2010 flu season, not only 2009 H1N1 flu. It will be very hard to tell if someone who is sick has 2009 H1N1 flu or seasonal flu. It offers specific steps for business owners and managers to take to protect workers and to maintain continuity of operations. It provides guidance for the current flu conditions as well as for more severe flu conditions. This guidance also recommends that, based on current flu conditions, employees with flu-like illness stay home until at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit or 38 degrees Celsius) or signs of a fever (have chills, feel very warm, have a flushed appearance, or are sweating). This should be determined without the use of fever-reducing medications (any medicine that contains ibuprofen or acetaminophen). This is a shorter time period than the previous guidance, which recommended that sick people stay home for 7 days after symptoms began. The 7-day period would still be recommended in business settings under more severe flu conditions.

The Health Department is currently offering the seasonal flu vaccine. We anticipate receiving the H1N1 vaccine by mid-October. We will be following the CDC guidelines and vaccinating the highest risk and vulnerable populations first. You can keep up to date on the H1N1 vaccination program by visiting [www.cdc.gov/swineflu](http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu), our website at [www.huron.localhealth.net](http://www.huron.localhealth.net) or call 989-269-9721 x2. For the seasonal flu vaccination information call 989-269-9721 x171. If there are any other resources that you need please do not hesitate to call us at 989-269-9721.