



CITY OF NEWBURYPORT
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IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT INFLUENZA (FLU) VACCINE FOR FY 11-12 SEASON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 11, 2011

The City of Newburyport Health Department would like to inform Newburyport residents of a recent announcement from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) concerning state-supplied influenza (flu) vaccine for the FY11-12 Influenza season.

The MDPH announced today that prior restrictions have been lifted as to who may be vaccinated using the free, state supplied influenza vaccine. Previously, the state supplied vaccine was only to be used to vaccinate individuals without health insurance or individuals who have insurance that does not cover vaccinations. With the restrictions lifted, the Newburyport Health Department may now use the state supplied vaccine to immunize any residents that wish to be vaccinated. MDPH also announced that additional flu vaccine is expected to be made available to cities and towns upon approval of a supplemental budget to cover the cost of the vaccine.

Influenza vaccines are available at the Newburyport Health Department on Thursdays (by appointment) from 9 am – 2 pm and at a Flu Clinic at City Hall on October 13 from 4 – 7 pm and at the Mayor's 2nd Annual Health Fair at City Hall from 10 am – 1 pm.

If you need assistance finding a healthcare provider or need additional information or have any questions about the important changes to the influenza vaccine distribution, please contact the Newburyport Health Department at (978) 465-4410 or visit the Health Department website at <http://www.cityofnewburyport.com/Health.htm> or visit the Commonwealth of Massachusetts State Public Health Department website at www.mass.gov/dph/flu