

ALLEN BEALS, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner of Health



MARYELLEN ODELL
County Executive

ROBERT MORRIS, P.E.
Director of Environmental Health

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
1 Geneva Road, Brewster, New York 10509

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**INFLUENZA CONTINUES TO SPREAD;
HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S "LAST CHANCE" FLU
VACCINATION CLINIC SET FOR JANUARY 9**

Brewster, NY— Flu activity is now widespread—reaching all 56 counties in New York State, plus all five boroughs of New York City. Total reported cases, as well as hospital cases, continue to rise. Individuals age 3 and older, who live or work in New York State, and who have not received their flu shot can take advantage of the last public vaccination clinic held by the Health Department, set for Wednesday, January 9, from 3 to 7 pm at its main office at One Geneva Road in Brewster.

“The flu season can run another four months,” says Allen Beals, MD, Putnam County’s Commissioner of Health, “so if you have not yet received your shot, it is still important to do so.” Dr. Beals and County Executive MaryEllen Odell received their flu shots back on September 11 when the Health Department kicked off its immunization schedule. Since then more than 3,500 residents have been immunized by the Health Department at public and school-based clinics.

The fee for flu vaccine is \$10 which covers the cost of the vaccine. Those 60 years and older, or with a Medicare card, can receive the vaccine free of charge.

Appointments are not necessary, but online pre-registration is strongly encouraged. To register, participants can go online @ www.putnamflu.com, or visit the county website at

www.putnamcountyny.com. Registrants can choose from four time slots: 3 to 4 pm, 4 to 5 pm, 5 to 6 pm, or 6 to 7pm.

The paperless registration process was previously used for the flu clinic held at Brewster High School on November 30, when more than 600 residents received flu shots in three hours. The Putnam County Department of Health organized that event as a “POD” drill, referring to a “Point-Of-Dispensing” exercise to test systems used in the event of an actual public health emergency, and the New York State Department of Health provided the free vaccine.

A snow date has been set for Wednesday, January 16, also from 3 to 7pm at the Health Department’s main office at One Geneva Road.. Call the flu hot line at 845-808-1390, or visit the PCDOH’s Facebook page @ www.facebook.com/putnamhealth for notification of a postponement.

The Health Department’s mission is to improve and protect the health of Putnam County residents through prevention of illness and injury. For more information, please visit our website at www.putnamcountyny.com; or visit our social media sites on Facebook at www.facebook.com/putnamhealth and Twitter @PutnamHealthNY.

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