

October 2, 2020



INFLUENZA VACCINE OUTREACH

DOH-Lee announces mobile flu vaccine schedule for October

Contact:

Tammy Yzaguirre

Lee-PIO@FLHealth.gov

239-308-5196

Fort Myers, Fla., Oct. 2, 2020 — The Florida Department of Health in Lee County (DOH-Lee), will be providing free influenza (flu) and Hepatitis A (HepA) vaccines throughout Lee County during the month of October. Staff will utilize the mobile units funded by LeeCARES. A total of 80 flu vaccines and 30 HepA vaccines will be available at each site.

The flu vaccine is available for anyone 6 months or older. All unvaccinated residents are strongly encouraged to get their flu shot as soon as possible. Flu vaccination is the best way to prevent the flu and its potentially serious complications.

Vaccination is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. and will continue, weather permitting, until 12:30 p.m. There is no fee for the vaccine, and no appointment or doctor's order is necessary. Parking is limited at some sites. These are not drive-thru sites; attendees are asked to walk up to the vaccination area.

For individuals 65 and over that would like the high-dose flu vaccine, please call 239-461-6100 to schedule an appointment at our Michigan Avenue location.

WEEK 1	Wednesday, October 7th 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Lakes Regional Library 15290 Bass Road Fort Myers, FL 33919	Thursday, October 8th 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Pine Manor 5547 10th Avenue Fort Myers, FL 33907
WEEK 2	Thursday, October 15th 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Northwest Regional Library 519 Chiquita Blvd. N. Cape Coral, FL 33993	
WEEK 3	Thursday, October 22nd 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Dunbar-Jupiter Hammon Public Library 3095 Blount St. Fort Myers, FL 33916	
WEEK 4	Thursday, October 29th 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Bonita Springs Public Library 10560 Reynolds St. Bonita Springs, FL 34135	

Influenza Vaccine

The best time to receive a flu vaccine is before flu viruses begin spreading in the community. It takes about two weeks after vaccination for antibodies to develop in the body and provide protection against flu so plan to get vaccinated early in fall, before flu season begins. CDC recommends that people get a flu vaccine by the end of October.

According to CDC, getting a flu vaccine will not protect against COVID-19, however flu vaccination has many other important benefits. Last year's vaccine may not protect against the current year's strain.

Even if the vaccine does not fully protect against the flu, the vaccines have been shown to reduce the risk of flu illness, hospitalization and death. Getting a flu vaccine this fall will be more important than ever, not only to reduce your risk from flu but also to help conserve potentially scarce health care resources.

Hepatitis A Vaccine

Hepatitis A is a contagious liver disease that results from infection with the hepatitis A virus (HAV). It can range in severity from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a severe illness lasting several months. Hepatitis A is usually spread when a person ingests fecal matter—even in microscopic amounts—from contact with objects, food or drinks contaminated by feces (stool) of an infected person.

Vaccination is the best way to prevent hepatitis A.

More Information on COVID-19

To find the most up-to-date information and guidance on COVID-19, please visit the Department of Health's dedicated [COVID-19 webpage](#). For information and advisories from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), please visit the [CDC COVID-19 website](#), this website is also available in Spanish and Creole.

For more information about current travel advisories issued by the U.S. Department of State, please visit the [travel advisory website](#). For any other questions related to COVID-19 in Florida, please contact the Department's dedicated COVID-19 Call Center by calling 1-866-779-6121. The Call Center is available 24 hours per day. Inquiries may also be emailed to COVID-19@flhealth.gov.

About the Florida Department of Health

The Florida Department of Health, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#), works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and Twitter at [@HealthyFla](#). For more information, please visit www.FloridaHealth.gov.