



1020 Washington St. N, Twin Falls, Idaho
208-737-5900 www.phd5.idaho.gov

August 28, 2009

PRESS RELEASE-For Immediate Release

Contacts: Lisa Klamm, RN, Immunization Coordinator, 436-7185 (Rupert)
Cheryle Becker, Public Health Division Administrator, 737-5936 (Twin Falls)

South Central Public Health District Ready for Early Seasonal Influenza Clinics

TWIN FALLS –Flu season this year will bring two influenza vaccines. The first vaccine available is for the common seasonal flu. South Central Public Health District (SCPHD) vaccination clinics for seasonal flu will begin September 2 at the Burley and Rupert offices. More clinics at other SCPHD locations will be held throughout the month of September and into early October.

Seasonal flu kills 36,000 people in the United States every year and hospitalizes more than 200,000 people each year with complications. Seasonal flu can be dangerous for young children, people over the age of 64, and anyone with a weakened immune system. Seasonal flu vaccination is important in these groups and is available earlier this year at health district offices. Visit www.phd5.idaho.gov for season flu vaccination schedules or call a SCPHD office near you.

The H1N1 vaccine now in production won't protect against the common seasonal flu, and vaccine for seasonal flu won't protect against H1N1. Although vaccines are not mandatory, they are the strongest weapon we have against disease. Protect yourself and others this flu season by doing your homework. Find out what risk group you fit in and how to care for yourself at www.flu.gov.

Injectable vaccines will cost \$22, and the FluMist nasal spray will cost \$29 for adults. SCPHD will bill Medicaid and Medicare Part B.

###