



County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

POST OFFICE BOX 962, 1080 EMELINE AVENUE SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0962
(831) 454-4000 FAX: (831) 454-4488 TDD: (831) 454-4123

PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION

Press Release

For Immediate Release:

DATE: May 8, 2009

Contact: Dinah Phillips, Public Information Officer**Phone:** 831-454-3408 (media only)**Email:** Dinah.Phillips@co.santa-cruz.ca.us

Santa Cruz County to Close H1N1 2009 (Swine Flu) Departmental Operations Center

Local Information

As of today, May 8th, 2009, NO cases of H1N1 2009 have been identified in Santa Cruz County. At this time, most cases in the United States continue to be mild to moderate.

- 166 specimens have been sent to the Santa Clara Public Health laboratory as of 5 PM yesterday. Confirmation of test results may take up to 7 days or longer due to the large number of samples that have been submitted for testing to the Santa Clara County regional testing site.
- Santa Cruz County Public Health will transition to non-emergency operations, deactivating its Departmental Operations Center as of 5p.m. today. Public Health officials will continue to monitor and respond to cases of H1N1 2009. Should the severity or impact of the virus increase, emergency response will resume.

Recommendations for Preventing the Flu (Fever and cough or sore throat)

- First and foremost--Stay home when you are sick. This will prevent others from catching your illness. Only seek medical care if you have severe symptoms of: fever greater than 102° F, difficulty breathing....
- Avoid close contact with others as much as possible (two arm lengths away.)
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing and always wash your hands afterwards.
- Wash your hands frequently.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

Additional Resources

For more information, please visit our frequently updated website at www.santacruzhealth.org/swineflu or www.cdc.gov. Residents may also call our information line at (831) 454-4343.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has activated a toll-free swine flu hotline in English and Spanish. Assistance in other languages is also available. The phone number is 1-888-865-0564. CDPH's swine flu hotline is available Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on weekends from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

###