



**MACON COUNTY  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

**JOINT INFORMATION CENTER**

**282 E. MACON STREET  
DECATUR, IL 62523**

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Matthew Reynolds  
Macon County EMA

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 27, 2009**

Thomas Schneider  
Macon County Sheriff's  
Office

**COUNTY TAKES MEASURES TO ADDRESS SWINE FLU CONCERNS**

Brandi Binkley  
Macon County Health Dept.

Decatur, IL- In response to concerns from the federal government regarding the outbreak of swine flu, Macon County officials are encouraging residents to take measures to prevent the spread of the disease. At this time, there are **NO** confirmed cases in Illinois.

Dennis Crowley  
Macon County Mental  
Health Board

Swine flu is a respiratory disease caused by the influenza A Virus and is transmitted person to person. Swine flu is not transmitted by eating pork or pork products. Symptoms are similar to seasonal flu and include:

Billy Tyus  
City of Decatur

DC Ed Smith  
Decatur Police Department

- Fever
- Headache
- Extreme tiredness
- Dry cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle aches
- Stomach symptoms, such as nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, also can occur

Jody Cox  
Mid-Illinois Chapter of the  
American Red Cross

Denise Smith  
United Way of Decatur &  
Mid-Illinois

Julie Moore  
Decatur Memorial Hospital

Kelly Hazenfield  
St. Mary's Hospital

If you are experiencing flu-like symptoms **and** have had contact with someone who has been diagnosed with swine flu or have been to Mexico or one of the states with confirmed cases within seven days of onset of symptoms, please contact your doctor or health care provider immediately.

Tony Wilkins  
AmerenIP

The following are every day actions that persons can do to stay

healthy and help prevent the spread of swine flu:

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- Influenza is thought to spread mainly person-to-person through coughing or sneezing of infected people.
- If you get sick, you should stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

For the latest information on human cases of swine influenza A (H1N1) in the United States, click on the following link from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/index.htm> or from the Illinois Department of Public Health at [www.idph.state.il.us/flu/swine\\_flu.htm](http://www.idph.state.il.us/flu/swine_flu.htm).

Both hospital and the Macon County Health Department have made preparations to address swine flu if a case should arise in the community. City and County officials will continue to monitor the situation and keep the public updated with the latest information. If you have any questions, you may also call the Macon County Health Department at (217) 423-6988.

**For more information, please**

**contact:**

Debra Durbin RN BSN MS  
Director of Nursing  
Macon County Health  
Department  
(217) 423-6988 ext: 1320

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