

## Southeast Health District

"Keeping Communities Safe and Healthy"

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[www.SEHDph.org](http://www.SEHDph.org)



## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# First H1N1 flu confirmed in Bulloch County

A Georgia Southern University student has tested positive for the H1N1 influenza virus, State Public Health Lab officials confirmed Wednesday. This is the first confirmed H1N1 case in Bulloch County and the Southeast Health District, which consists of 16 Southeast Georgia counties including Bulloch. The individual, who lives off campus, is taking medication and recovering. A second person also has tested positive for H1N1. That individual attended a recent Georgia Boy's State camp at Georgia Southern University. The camper does not live in Bulloch County and is recovering at home from the illness. The two cases appear unrelated.

This is not unexpected as the H1N1 influenza virus has been spreading in the United States and many other countries since April. H1N1 influenza is a respiratory disease of swine origin that does not normally infect humans; however, human infections do occur. The current strain spreads from human to human, causing symptoms often similar and/or milder to regular seasonal flu including: fever, lethargy, lack of appetite and coughing. Some people with H1N1 influenza also have reported runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. If you have any of these symptoms, please contact your local health care provider.

Bulloch County Health Department and Southeast Health District officials are working closely with Georgia Southern University. An investigation and response effort surrounding these confirmed cases are ongoing.

In the meantime, the Bulloch County Health Department and the Southeast Health District encourage residents to take the following precautions to help prevent the spread of any infectious disease:

-more-

Appling  
Bacon  
Bacon  
Brantley

Bulloch  
Candler  
Charlton  
Clinch

Coffee  
Evans  
Jeff Davis  
Pierce

Tattnall  
Toombs  
Ware  
Wayne

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- Wash your hands.
- 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 hands cleaners are also effective.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you get sick, stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.

The Southeast Health District will provide new information as it becomes available. For the most current information about H1N1 influenza visit the Southeast Health District website at [www.sehdph.org](http://www.sehdph.org) or the CDC website at [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu).

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