

Southeast Health District

"Keeping Communities Safe and Healthy"

1101 Church Street • Waycross, Georgia 31501
Phone: 912-285-6002 • Fax: 912-284-2980
www.SEHDph.org



NEWS RELEASE

Rosemarie D. Parks, M.D., M.P.H.
Health Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 30, 2009

For information, contact:
Roger Naylor; (912) 338-5232
rwnaylor@gdph.state.ga.us

First H1N1 flu confirmed in Charlton County

A Charlton County resident has tested positive for the H1N1 influenza virus, State Public Health Lab officials confirmed Tuesday. This is the first confirmed H1N1 case in Charlton County and the fifth case in the Southeast Health District, which consists of 16 Southeast Georgia counties including Charlton. The individual, who became infected with the virus while at a camp in North Carolina, was hospitalized and is now recovering at home.

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.

Charlton County Health Department and Southeast Health District officials are currently investigating this and other possible cases.

In the meantime, the Charlton 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

An Equal Opportunity Employer

- 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 and an updated case count for the Southeast Health District visit www.sehdph.org. For other H1N1 influenza information, visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu.

Appling
Bacon
Bacon
Brantley

Bulloch
Candler
Charlton
Clinch

Coffee
Evans
Jeff Davis
Pierce

Tattnall
Toombs
Ware
Wayne