

SCGOV HEALTHnews

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Health officials encourage residents to get protection from seasonal flu viruses

Health officials say now is the time to get your seasonal flu shot. The seasonal flu vaccine protects against three different viruses which change every year. People who get vaccinated against seasonal flu can expect to have immunity within two weeks of vaccination. Health officials say that the protection you get from the vaccine will continue throughout the flu season.

Seasonal flu shots are readily available throughout Sarasota County. Sarasota Flu and Pneumonia Coalition partner organizations, including Maxim Healthcare Services, Optima Health Care, Sarasota Health Care, Visiting Nurses Association (VNA), Nokomis Walk-In, Sarasota Immediate Care Walk-In and Sarasota Family Medical Walk-In clinics. **The cost of a flu shot at these locations will be between \$20 and \$30. Pneumonia vaccine will be \$45 to \$50, depending on the provider.** Cash and checks are accepted. If you have Medicare B, bring a copy of your card with you.

[Drive-through seasonal flu shot clinics](#) are still available (listed below), providing ease for people using oxygen or who have difficulty walking, parents with small children, and anyone who prefers the drive-through convenience.

Saturday, Sept. 26: 10 a.m.-noon – Drive-through

The Tabernacle Church
4141 Desoto Road, Sarasota, 34235
(Please enter from DeSoto Road.)
Provider: Sarasota Health Care Services

Wednesday, Sept. 30; 10 a.m.-noon – Drive-through

The Sahib Temple
600 N. Beneva Road, Sarasota, 34232
(Please enter from 17th St. to Circus Boulevard.)
Provider: Sarasota Health Care Services

Saturday, Oct. 10: 10 a.m.-noon – Drive-through

Suncoast Worship Center
881 S. River Road, Englewood, 34223
Provider: Visiting Nurses Association (VNA)

Tuesday, Oct. 13: 10 a.m.-noon – Drive-through

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish
425 Tamiami Trail, Osprey, 34229
(Please enter from Bay Road – Walmart.)
Provider: Visiting Nurses Association (VNA)\

Get protection from seasonal flu

Those who plan to use the drive-through flu shot clinics can obtain an Authorization Form and complete it in advance. These forms are available at Sarasota County libraries or online at www.sarasotahealth.org. Blank forms also will be available on-site the day of the drive-through.

Sarasota County Flu and Pneumonia Coalition walk-in clinic partners will continue offering seasonal flu vaccinations at the following locations:

Sarasota Immediate Care Walk-In

7005 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, 34231
Monday- Friday: 7 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Optima Health Services

707 60th St. Ct. E., Suite A
Bradenton, 34208
Monday- Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

***Adults and children four years and older**

For a daily schedule of seasonal flu shot clinics, call the Sarasota County Health Department's flu information line at 941-861-2800, or visit their Web site at www.sarasotahealth.org. Those who are hearing-impaired can call the Sarasota County Call Center TDD line at 941-861-1833.