

GEORGE LATIMER, Westchester County Executive

Date: October 9, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Catherine Cioffi
Communications Director**

Office - (914) 995-2932

Cell- (914) 954 -5579

CCioffi@westchestergov.com

Caren Halbfinger

Office – (914) 813-5013

Cell – (914) 224-7651

LATIMER ANNOUNCES FREE WESTCHESTER FLU VACCINE CLINICS

Health Commissioner Urges All Residents to Schedule A Flu Shot

(White Plains, NY) – County Executive George Latimer announced that the County Health Department will offer free flu vaccines for students at any college on Tuesday, October 23 at Westchester Community College and for residents age 3 and up at the County Clinic in White Plains on Tuesday, Oct. 30th.

Latimer said: “Don’t put off your flu shot any longer -- make an appointment for one today. Flu can be miserable, and this vaccine will help keep you and your family healthy well into 2019.”

While the clinics are open to all, they are intended for people without insurance or whose insurance doesn’t cover vaccines. Register online for these flu vaccine clinics at www.health.ny.gov/gotoclinic/60. Appointments are available as follows:

- College students, October 23, Westchester Community College Student Center, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Residents age 3 and up, October 30, County Clinic, 134 Court St., White Plains, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Flu shots are also available for a fee from many area pharmacists and medical offices.

The County Health Department plans to provide up to 1,700 flu vaccines this fall. It has focused its public vaccination efforts on people who lack the means to get vaccinated elsewhere by bringing flu shots to homeless shelters, soup kitchens and food pantries throughout Westchester. The County also will give free flu shots to any college student on Tuesday, October 23 at Westchester Community College.

“Everyone six months and older should get an annual flu shot,” said Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD. “Flu can make otherwise healthy adults and children very ill and it can be deadly. When healthier people get an annual flu shot, they help protect the people around them, including infants too young to be vaccinated, seniors and people with chronic health conditions, who are more vulnerable to flu complications.”

Flu activity is usually highest between December and February, but can last into May. One flu vaccine now provides protection all season long and can prevent illness or reduce the severity of flu symptoms. The vaccine becomes fully effective after about two weeks.

Dr. Amler said that anyone who does get a respiratory infection should cough or sneeze into their elbow, wash their hands frequently with soap and water, stay home until 24 hours after their fever subsides to avoid spreading germs, clean surfaces they touch frequently, such as doorknobs, water faucets, refrigerator handles and telephones, and get plenty of rest.

About Westchester County

Westchester County, located in the heart of the historic Hudson Valley, covers 500 square miles and has a population of just under a million. Originally home to Native Americans, who were members of the Lenape tribe, it is today a rich mix of many cultures and landscapes. The County is a blend of bustling cities, quaint villages and picturesque towns as well as open spaces and a network of beautiful parks. Westchester is made up of 6 cities, 19 towns and 20 villages. Westchester County is known for top-notch public schools, and a high quality of life. The County is also an intellectual capital, boasting a highly educated workforce, competitive colleges and universities, Fortune 500 companies, world changing non-profits, and cutting-edge research centers. Westchester is led by County Executive George Latimer, who took office in January 2018 as the ninth County Executive. Using inclusion and openness as a foreground, Latimer is fighting to make Westchester a destination for all people to live, work and enjoy. Learn more about Westchester County by visiting www.westchestergov.com

Follow Westchester County



[Facebook](#) - [Twitter](#) - [YouTube](#) - [Instagram](#)

###