

SWINE FLU ADVISORY

The Middletown Health Department, Middletown Emergency Management, and public school representative under the direction of Mayor Sebastian N. Giuliano are monitoring all developments relating to the swine flu outbreak. The City of Middletown will follow Centers for Disease and Prevention (CDC) and Connecticut Department of Public Health recommendations for regarding suspected and confirmed swine flu cases. Presently, there are no reported cases of swine flu in Connecticut.

Swine flu is a respiratory disease caused by type A influenza virus that regularly causes outbreaks of influenza among pigs. Swine flu viruses do not normally infect humans; however human infections with swine flu do occur. Public health officials have determined that this strain of swine flu virus spreads from human to human and can cause illness. Swine flu is not transmitted by food and you cannot get swine flu from eating pork products.

Health officials are asking residents to take precautions to prevent getting the flu or spreading it by staying home from work or school if they are sick, washing hands constantly, and coughing into their sleeve or tissue.

The Middletown Health Department will be providing every municipal office with an initial supply of sanitary wipes for use on non-porous surfaces and equipment (Material Safety Data Sheet available upon request).

Symptoms of swine flu in people are similar to the symptoms of seasonal flu in humans and may include:

- Fever (greater than 100 F or 37.8 C)
- Sore Throat
- Cough
- Stuffy nose
- Chills
- Headache and body aches
- Fatigue

People experiencing who suspect that they may have the flu or are experiencing any of the symptoms mentioned above, should contact their health-care provider.

For more information on flu:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov
- Connecticut Department of Public Health: www.ct.gov/dph
- Call Connecticut INFO Line: 2-1-1
- Call the Middletown Health Department: (860) 344-3482