

CEPAC NewsBreak

Chemical Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council Quarterly Newsletter

September 2009

Provided by Columbus Public Health. The council is appointed by Franklin County Commissioners

Hot Topic: H1N1 Pandemic Worksite Recommendations

Preserve your Continuity of Operations

- Review or establish a flexible flu plan and involve your employees in developing and reviewing your plan.
- Conduct a focused discussion or exercise using your plan to find out ahead of time whether the plan has gaps or problems that need to be corrected.
- Have an understanding of your organization's normal seasonal absenteeism rates and watch for any unusual increases in absenteeism through this fall and winter.
- Allow sick workers to stay home without fear of losing their jobs.
- Reduce transmission of flu among staff (see steps below).
- Develop other flexible leave policies to allow workers to stay home to care for sick family members or for children if schools dismiss students or child care programs close.
- Share your flu plan with employees and explain what human resources policies, workplace and leave flexibilities, and pay and benefits will be available to them.
- Add links, "widget" or "button" to your company Web page with links to credible sites so employees can access the latest information on the flu:
 - www.ColumbusPandemicFlu.org
 - www.vaccine4me.com
 - www.flu.gov/
 - www.cdc.gov/widgets



What are the H1N1 Flu symptoms?

Anyone who is sick, especially, those who may be experiencing a fever of more than 100° F, coughing, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, chills (sweats), muscle aches, severe headache, and in some cases, vomiting and diarrhea, please stay home from school or work and contact a health-care provider. This is critical to stopping the spread of the disease. People are contagious 1 day prior to symptoms and for a min. of 7 days after symptoms begin. Incubation is about 1 – 4 days.



Practice Infection Control

Everyday actions that can be taken to stay healthy during a flu pandemic are not different from those actions taken during a normal flu season:

- Cover your cough and sneezes with a tissue or your upper sleeve – not into your hands.
- Sometimes people may become infected by touching something with flu viruses on it; therefore, avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Don't shake hands during this flu season.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water or use alcohol-based cleaners (at least 60% alcohol).
- Avoid close contact with sick people. The flu is thought to spread mainly person-to-person through coughing or sneezing of infected people.
- Get vaccinated by getting a seasonal flu shot now, and the H1N1 vaccine when it's available.



Company Recognition

Anheuser-Busch Columbus Brewery 700 Schrock Rd., Columbus, OH

Anheuser-Busch Columbus Brewery was awarded the 2008 Governor's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Environmental Stewardship for our environment management system and resource conservation and recycling program. The Columbus brewery with 850 full time employees and part time employees produces over 10 million barrels of beer annually. Anheuser-Busch has utilized an environmental management system to develop and track recycling success. Its commitment to environmental stewardship is reflected in its company policy and practices, employee and community involvement. Specifically, a new project to recycle plastic backing from bottle label carrier stock diverted more than 226 tons of a plastic material from the landfill; the material initially had no viable recycling market. Anheuser-Busch realized a positive cash flow in excess of \$50,000 from this activity. Therefore, CEPAC challenges you to look around at your company to see how much money is going out your doors in recycling materials.



Meetings & Workshops

CEPAC COUNCIL MEETING

Date: October 30, 2009

Time: 9 a.m.

Location: Columbus Police Academy, 1000 N. Hague Ave, Columbus, OH

COMMITTEES

Hazard Analysis:

Date: November 12, 2009

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Location: Columbus Public Health, 240 Parsons Ave, Columbus, OH

Public Information:

Date: November 17, 2009

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Franklin County EMA & Homeland Security

Planning, Training, Exercise:

Date: November 24, 2009

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: Franklin County EMA & Homeland Security

A FIRE SAFETY SEMINAR BY CEPAC & E4SAFETY PROFESSIONALS, LLC

The seminar will cover Fire Safety for your facility and at the end you will receive a Fire Extinguisher training certificate.

Date: Wednesday, November 18

Time: Registration - 8 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., Seminar - 8:30 a.m. to 11:35 a.m.

Location: City of Columbus' Engineering and Construction Training Center, 1881 E. 25th Ave, Columbus, OH

Cost: \$3 at the door for refreshments

Register: Contact Jerry Pettit at (614)645-6275 or send email to jerry.pettit@columbus.gov



Franklin County

