



Greene County Public Health

Melissa Howell, MS, MBA, MPH, RN, REHS, Health Commissioner

Kevin L. Sharrett, MD, Medical Director

Press Release

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Contact: Laurie Fox, Public Information Officer

937-374-5669 office / 937-283-5178 cell

lfox@greenecophoh.gov

Local Public Health Recommends Vaccines for Fall/Winter Virus Season

XENIA, OHIO – Greene County Public Health (GCPH) wants to remind everyone to protect their health this fall and winter by staying up to date on important vaccines. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), and GCPH all recommend getting the updated **COVID-19**, **flu**, and **RSV** vaccines to help prevent serious illness.

Updated 2025–2026 COVID-19 Vaccine

- It's safe to get your COVID-19, flu, and RSV vaccines during the same visit.
- Talk with your doctor about getting the new 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine.
- Available brands include: **Pfizer** for ages 5 and up, **Moderna** for ages 6 months and up, and **Novavax** for ages 12 and older.

The COVID-19 vaccine helps protect you from getting very sick, going to the hospital, or even dying from the virus. It's especially important if you:

- Are age 65 or older
- Have health conditions that put you at higher risk
- Have never had a COVID-19 vaccine
- Live in a long-term care facility
- Are pregnant, breastfeeding, or planning to become pregnant

Because protection fades over time, it's important to get the updated vaccine each year.

Updated 2025–2026 Flu Vaccine

- The CDC recommends everyone **6 months and older** (with few exceptions) get the flu vaccine each year.
- The flu vaccine helps lower your risk of getting the flu and its serious side effects.
- Most people only need one dose per season.

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The best time to get your flu shot is **before the end of October**, but it's still helpful to get it later as long as flu viruses are spreading.

RSV Vaccine

RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) is a common virus that affects the lungs, nose, and throat. It spreads mostly in the fall and winter, peaking in **December and January**.

- Most people with RSV will have mild cold-like symptoms.
- RSV can be dangerous for babies, young children, and adults age 60 and older.
- It can cause serious illnesses, such as **bronchiolitis** (swelling of the small airways of the lungs) and **pneumonia** (a lung infection).

Vaccines and treatments are now available to help protect against RSV:

- **Adults 60 and older** should get an RSV vaccine to help prevent severe illness.
- To protect babies, there are two options:
 - A **maternal RSV vaccine** (Pfizer's ABRYSVO) given during pregnancy.
 - An **RSV antibody treatment** given to infants after birth.

For more information, visit these *CDC pages:

- COVID-19 Vaccine: cdc.gov/covid/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html
- Flu Vaccine: cdc.gov/flu/season/2025-2026.html
- RSV Vaccine: cdc.gov/rsv/hcp/vaccine-clinical-guidance/adults.html

Greene County Public Health does **not** provide these vaccines. Please check with your primary care doctor or local pharmacy to find out where you can get them.

To learn more about Greene County Public Health, visit www.greenecophoh.gov.

**Note: Due to the government shutdown, some CDC web pages may not be updated.*

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