



COUNTY OF NEVADA

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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DATE: May 1, 2009
TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: Rick Haffey, County Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Friday Memo

H1N1 Influenza (Swine Flu): As of this writing, no confirmed cases of the H1N1 Virus have been found in Nevada County. There are no confirmed cases in any County contiguous with Nevada County (see attached update from Health & Human Services Agency). In an abundance of caution, the following actions have been taken:

1. All County Departments have been directed to review their COOP's (see below).
2. We have been prepared for sometime regarding an event like the current swine flu alert. Over the last few years, we have put plans in place and have held exercises in preparation for such an event. One part of that preparation was the development of Continuity of Operations Plans.

Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government and Pandemic Influenza Planning:

As you recall, the purpose of a COOP (Continuity of Operations Plan) is to ensure the following: Capability to continue essential program functions and to preserve essential facilities, equipment and records across a broad range of potential emergencies. The purpose of the COG (Continuity of Government) Plan is: the capability to ensure survivability of government and the continuity of essential government functions.

The objective of a COOP/COG Plan is to: a) Minimize disruptions to operations b) Protect facilities, equipment, and records and mitigate loss and damage to assets c) achieve a timely and orderly recovery from an emergency situation and resume full service.

In light of the recent Swine Flu events, departments and offices have been asked to review their Continuity of Operations Plans with their staff. These Plans include Pandemic Policies and Infection Control Procedures to: a) reduce transmission of disease among employees, clients, and partners; b) maintain essential services and critical operations; 3) minimize social disruptions (see attached Infection Control Protocols and Management of Ill Employees excerpts). As you may recall, your Board reviewed the Board Office COOP at your annual workshop in January.

Lake of the Pines New Discharge Permit Approved: The State Water Board approved the Sanitation District's Lake of the Pines wastewater treatment plant discharge permit last week. One protest did occur during the hearing, requesting additional testing requirements, but the Water Board staff was complimentary of the District's efforts and supported our requests for less testing, which translates into less costs for our rate payers.

That's 3 for 3 successful permits in a row for our stream discharge plants at Cascade Shores, Lake Wildwood and now LOP. Kudos to Gordon Plantenga, who began working on the 3 permits in this approval cycle back in December 2005.

Nevada County Libraries Awarded Two Grants: Our Children's Librarian, Kristina Wetherbee, spearheaded an effort on behalf of all of the Nevada County Libraries to win two recent grants that will be beneficial to our young library users, teachers and parents. Both grants are sponsored by the American Library Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

"The Picturing America" grant is comprised of a set of 40 historical art pieces laminated on 20 large sheets. Each piece is beautiful and educational in its depiction of America History. Libraries will share these prints as a display for a time and then they will be available for check out for classroom use along with the teacher's resource book provided as part of the grant.

"We the People Bookshelf" is a second grant consisting of a set of 22 classic books for children as a companion to the "Picturing America" art pieces. These books will be shared among the branch libraries to be checked out. They aim to encourage and strengthen the teaching, study and understanding of American history and culture and the set includes several titles in Spanish.

Library staff will use both the art and books in programming efforts directed toward our young library users. For more information, call County Librarian Mary Ann Trygg at 530-265-7078.