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As most are aware, the H1N1 virus (more commonly known as the Swine Flu) is slowly escalating in the United States. The Tinton Falls Office of Emergency Management has been in touch with the municipality's health department, Monmouth County Regional Health Commission #1. Our Office also attended a meeting Thursday morning with the Monmouth County Health Department and the Monmouth County Office of Emergency Management.

Each organization expresses the same sentiments as far as information sharing is concerned; the message must be uniformed. The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services is distributing information from the Center of Disease Control. Our Regional and County Health Departments are distributing this same information to Emergency Management Agencies. Information related to the H1N1 virus that does not stem from the NJDHSS or CDC, cannot be considered reliable.

All concerned citizens should be directed to an information website or telephone hotline. The Center for Disease Control has a very informative website: <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/>. The Department of Health and Senior Services has opened up a 24-hour toll-free information line for both the general public and healthcare providers. That number is **1-866-321-9571**. Any inquiries from the media should be referred to the Monmouth County Department of Public Information at 732-743-7310. As more cases of H1N1 are confirmed, the media will most likely try to contact any local municipality authority for comment. All municipal employees should refer any media inquires to the Monmouth County Public Information Office.

The Tinton Falls Office of Emergency Management and the Monmouth County Office of Emergency Management, along with the Monmouth County Health Department have plans in place if any further action is needed. However, at this time there is no need for elevated concern. Both the Monmouth County and the Tinton Falls websites have been updated to include CDC information and the hotline number. Further updates will be made as needed.

Thank You,

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