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FRANKLIN-WILLIAMSON
BI-COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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For Immediate Release

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March 24, 2008

Bi-County Health to Conduct Tetanus Clinic

(Marion, IL) – Franklin-Williamson Bi-County Health Department will be conducting a tetanus vaccine clinic Wednesday, March 26, 2008. The clinic will be held at the West Frankfort Fire Department, located at 201 E. Nolen Street, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Persons needing a tetanus shot should enter the fire department through the bay area, located in the rear of the building. This clinic will be open to any person who has been in contact with recent flood waters in Franklin or Williamson Counties.

Tetanus is a serious, painful disease caused by a germ that enters the body through a cut or wound. It can cause muscle spasms and can lead to the “locking” of the jaw so a patient cannot open his or her mouth or swallow. Tetanus bacteria is found in the soil and in the intestines and feces of many household and farm animals and humans. Tetanus is not spread from person to person.

Everyone needs protection from tetanus. If someone has a cut, sore or wound that has been in flood water and has not had a tetanus booster in the past 5 years, it is recommended that they receive a tetanus shot. Also, if someone has been in flood water, even if they do not have a cut, sore or wound, and has not had a tetanus booster in 10 years or more, it is recommended that they receive a tetanus shot. If someone has never had the initial childhood tetanus vaccines, they should receive a series of three tetanus shots. For those individuals who have not had contact with flood waters and have not had a tetanus shot in the past 10 years and would like to receive a tetanus booster, they should call the health department to make an appointment for the shot.

For more information on tetanus or the shot clinics, please contact Franklin-Williamson Bi-County Health Department at 618-439-0951 or 618-993-8111.

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