



**American  
Red Cross**  
Central Illinois Chapter



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Local IGA Stores Join “Stock 2 for Flu” Campaign American Red Cross Volunteers to Post “Stock 2 for Flu” Tags on Store Shelves in Champaign and Rantoul IGA Stores**

Champaign County IGA stores have joined the “Stock 2 for Flu” campaign,” which urges citizens to prepare for an emergency by stockpiling two weeks of food, water and other necessities. American Red Cross volunteers will help IGA staff post “Stock 2 for Flu” shelf tags on store shelves, to encourage shoppers to pick up two extra items for their emergency stockpiles each time they go to the store. The shelf tags will go up at the IGA stores on Round Barn Road and Kirby Avenue in Champaign, and at the IGA store on Route 136 in the Modern Mart Shopping Center in Rantoul.

“Stock 2 for Flu” is a joint effort of the Champaign County Emergency Management Agency, the American Red Cross Central Illinois Chapter, the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District and the Champaign County Public Health Department. The campaign was launched on September 11, 2006, as part of a public education effort to encourage local citizens prepare for an emergency – such as a pandemic bird flu outbreak – that could require them to stay home for extended periods of time.

“Should bird flu become more infectious among humans and spread to Central Illinois, the safest course of action for most people would be to stay home until the outbreak could be contained,” said Julie Pryde, Public Health’s Director of Infectious Disease Prevention & Management. “This would be true also for other disease outbreaks. That is why we’re asking the public to participate in emergency preparedness by building their own two-week stockpiles.”

On Monday, October 30 at 1 p.m., staff and American Red Cross volunteers will put up shelf tags and posters promoting the “Stock 2 for Flu” campaign at the Champaign County IGA store on Round Barn Road. Other grocery stores, department stores and hardware stores are invited to join this initiative. Those who are interested in participating may visit the website ([www.stock2forflu.com](http://www.stock2forflu.com)) or contact Deb Fruitt, American Red Cross Emergency Services Coordinator, at (217) 351-5861.

Local IGA president and co-owner Jerry Reynolds said he was happy to support the “Stock 2 for Flu” campaign. “Being local, we try to do everything we can for community service,” Reynolds said. He noted that while IGA is a worldwide company, the local store managers are independent, which allows them to support worthy local campaigns, such as this one, without having to first get permission from a corporate office in another state.

The emergency preparedness website, ([www.stock2forflu.com](http://www.stock2forflu.com)) offers much more than information about what to add to your stockpile. It also provides vital information on family, school and business emergency planning, with special sections for kids, social service providers and faith-based organizations.

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