

"EXPERIENCE"

February 21, 2021

Schoharie County Office for the Aging 518-295-2001

Schoharie County is working to conduct Vaccine Clinics based on guidance and receipt of vaccine from NYS. In order to provide information to as many county residents as possible, we have setup a Registration System for those individuals wishing to be notified when clinics will be available, and how they can then schedule an appointment for vaccination. You can do so at <https://www2.schohariecounty-ny.gov/PublicWebSiteApp/faces/CovidSignup/entry.xhtml> and provide as much information as you can so that we can ensure you are notified properly of clinics. For those who might have trouble with accessing or filling out our on-line form or who have other questions about our vaccination clinics please call **(518) 295-8390**. This is a line specifically for COVID Vaccination clinics and information. Be aware that call volume may be high at times. This Public Signup for COVID Contacting form is NOT for scheduling an appointment! Due to the limited amount of vaccine, we CANNOT schedule appointments for you, as that would indicate preference for specific people – and all Schoharie County Residents MUST have an equal opportunity to schedule an appointment.

Resources for getting the vaccine that we are aware of at this very moment (as you know, information can change minute to minute); Walgreens.com, CVS.com, Hannaford.com. Unfortunately, these three pharmacies are only taking appointments online – perhaps you have a neighbor, family member or friend that can assist with scheduling appointments? Just as a reminder, we aren't privy as to WHEN and HOW MANY vaccines the pharmacies are getting – so just keep trying! We realize this option doesn't work for everyone in the community and Office for the Aging is working with local pharmacies to remedy this. We're urging the community to take concerns to the Governor and local lawmakers, they need to be aware of what's happening at the ground level. Patience right now is critical as we're all muddling through this together.

Tax Update: We am happy to say that we will be preparing taxes this year! Due to the pandemic, the process will be very different ... Our site will be a "Virtual Drop Off/Pick Up" site. 2 appointments will be needed; one to drop off the intake and documents and the other to review, approve and pick up your return. Drop off appointments will be taken starting January 25th.

Get help with your Medicare Costs.

Do you know about the Medicare Savings Program and Extra Help for prescription drugs? Both programs can save you money with co-pays and premiums. In some cases, the Medicare Savings Program can even help with medical co-pays. If you have Medicare, and you have limited income, you may qualify for one of these programs. For the Medicare Savings Program, the monthly income limit for a single person is \$1,456 and \$1,960 for a couple. Premiums for other health insurances can be deducted from income limits. For the Extra Help Program for prescription drugs the monthly income limit for a single person is \$1,615 and \$2,175 for a couple. The asset limits are \$14,790 for a single person and \$29,520 for a couple. You can call the Office for the Aging/NY Connects for more information. 518-295-2001 ask for Christine

NY Connects alert on Medicaid guideline changes

happening 4/1/2021: If you have thought about long term care for yourself or a loved one but haven't talked to our NY Connects staff, haven't been screened for Medicaid, or are waiting to apply for Medicaid now is the time to give us a call! As of April 1, there will be new guidelines that may make it more difficult to qualify for Medicaid and long-term care. Call and speak to our New York Connects Staff, at 518-295-2001 to get more information and get your application in before these changes go into effect.