



Ford County Public Health Department

235 North Taft Street

Paxton, IL 60957

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Contact: Danielle Walls, Community Health Educator

(217)379-9281

dwalls@fordcountyphd.org

Ford County, IL Daily COVID-19 Update

Ford County Public Health Department (FCPHD) is announcing no new cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) today. Ford County has a total of six confirmed cases, including one death. One of the confirmed cases is associated with a congregate living facility. These numbers are accurate as of the release time. Public health officials continue to investigate and contact all individuals who may have had exposure to individuals that tested positive for COVID-19. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any further information.

FCPHD continues to encourage all residents to conduct preventive measures, practice social distancing, and follow Governor Pritzker's Stay at Home Executive Order through April 30, 2020. COVID-19 appears to spread from person-to-person mainly with close contact (less than 6 feet), but may also be spread by a surface that has the virus and then touching one's mouth, nose, or possibly one's eyes. Illinois Department of Public Health states that the spread is through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

COVID-19 Testing Sites

The Illinois Department of Public Health announced yesterday that COVID-19 testing sites are open to help residents of Illinois detect coronavirus. The nearest testing site to Ford County is the drive-thru site in McLean County at the Interstate Center in Bloomington, IL (1106 Interstate Drive). Testing is not limited to McLean County residents and there is no fee to those being test. The site is open daily from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and has the capacity to test 250 patients per day. This drive-thru site is using a self-swab test. Each person self-swabbing is instructed and monitored by an on-site staff member. Individuals who are concerned they may have COVID-19 and meet the criteria below may drive to the site to get tested.

- Persons being tested must be in a vehicle and keep all vehicle windows up until instructed otherwise.
- Persons must be symptomatic and able to complete the self-swab test themselves. First responders and medical personnel do not need to be symptomatic to be eligible for testing.
- Minors must have a parent/guardian consent and be able to complete the self-swab test without help.

Items to bring:

- Photo ID
- Health insurance card (those who meet the above criteria can receive a test, regardless if they have insurance)
- Healthcare facility employee or first responder ID/badge (if applicable)

To see a full list of test sites, visit: <http://dph.illinois.gov/testing>. Please note the requirements for testing and hours of operation of each premises before visiting a testing site.

We ask that you continue to visit our website (www.fordcountyphd.org) and follow our Facebook page for additional COVID-19 resources and updates. For general questions about COVID-19, call the Illinois Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Hotline at 1(800) 889-3931 or send an email to: DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV anytime, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.