



Florence County Health Department

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MEMO: Feel Free to Share to encourage testing as needed

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Person Positive for COVID-19 Visited Florence County Establishment

Florence/WI- The Florence County Health Department has received notification of a positive case of novel coronavirus infection (COVID-19) that prior to experiencing symptoms and while contagious, visited businesses in Florence County and was in close contact with others whose names are unknown. Establishments visited by the individual include The Tavern on Central between 5-7pm on Thursday, June 18th. County health officials are contacting others with whom the person with the positive result had close contact. The individual's primary residence is not Florence County.

Once a person tests positive for COVID-19 contact tracing begins. When it is not possible to specifically identify contacts from an exposure during which adequate physical distancing was not maintained, a press release will be issued to allow the public to better know their potential exposure risk. If you think you were exposed at one of these establishments during this time, stay home and isolate and call your healthcare provider for further direction. For those who may be concerned about exposure and are interested in being tested, free testing is available today, June 23rd, from 11a-3p at the parking lot of the Florence Natural Resource Center, 5638 Forestry Dr., Florence, Wisconsin.

No appointments are necessary. Anyone 5 years and older with any current symptom are eligible for testing. Symptoms include fever, cough, loss of taste/smell, shortness of breath, sore throat, fatigue, body aches, diarrhea, vomiting, nausea, chills or muscle aches. Testing is also available to all first responders, health care workers, high risk individuals (65 years of age or older, under 65 with underlying medical conditions, any immunocompromised individual (without symptoms) and anyone with potential exposure to a positive case. This event is only available to people who live or work in Wisconsin.

Individuals getting tested should be prepared to provide a current address, county of residence and phone number when they arrive. Please be aware that the testing will be provided first come, first serve and that attendees may have to wait to be tested. Vehicles will form a line while waiting for testing, and all attendees will need to stay in or on their vehicle at all times. No restroom facilities will be available onsite; please plan accordingly.

The National Guard will be performing a nasal swab while in uniform and in full PPE (personal protective equipment including gowns, mask, gloves, etc.) during this event. The National Guard will be making phone calls to negative cases and the local health departments will follow up on positive cases. Generally, test results are known approximately 48 hours of sample submission.

The public should continue to follow these preventive steps to protect our families, neighbors, and communities from the spread of this virus, including:

- If experiencing mild flu like symptoms, contact your healthcare provider for testing
- Avoiding large social gatherings
- Practicing physical distancing when out in the community by staying 6 feet away from others;
- If you feel comfortable doing so, wearing cloth face coverings;
- Taking special precautions to protect high-risk individuals;
- Frequent and thorough hand washing with soap and water;
- Covering coughs and sneezes (into the sleeve, elbow, or tissue, and not hands);
- Regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces;
- Not shaking hands;
- Avoiding touching your face;
- Staying at home as much as possible.

There are alternative testing sites in the state of Wisconsin throughout June. Any WI resident is welcome to attend any one of the testing events. For further information, visit the [CDC's website](#), the [DHS website](#), or the Florence County Health Department Facebook or website at <http://www.florencecountywi.com/>.

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