



NEWS RELEASE

For media inquiries, contact: Nick Wolda
nwolda@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov

The Woodlands Township COVID-19 Update, Tuesday, December 1, 2020



COVID-19 Testing in The Woodlands — Insurance Updates, Second Testing Site Added

Testing is taking place at The Woodlands Township Town Hall, 2801 Technology Forest Blvd., The Woodlands, Texas 77381. As part of the COVID-19 testing, customers will now be asked to submit their insurance information when scheduling a test. Testing is still offered at **no cost to the patient**. Customers without insurance will still be tested at **no personal cost** using coverage from the CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act. Please note, **WALK-UPS WELCOME**.

Additionally, Curative will be adding a **second testing site** in The Woodlands hosted by the Township, at Sterling Ridge Park and Ride, 8001 McBeth Way. The site will be open beginning on December 14, 2020, through January 31, 2021. It will be a “self-serve” drive-thru operation with hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Please note the following holiday hours:

- Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24, 2020 – 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Christmas Day: Friday, December 25, 2020 – Closed
- New Years’ Eve: Thursday, December 31, 2020 – Open normal hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- New Year’s Day: Friday, January 1, 2021 – Open normal hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information about COVID-19 testing at Town Hall, please visit the [Township website](#).



County News

Montgomery County COVID-19 Case Count December 1, 2020

Montgomery County Public Health District, in conjunction with the Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, can sadly confirm three additional deaths related to COVID-19.

- A man in his 20s, from Pinehurst, died in the hospital. He had co-morbidities in addition to testing positive for COVID-19.
- A man in his 30s, from Conroe, died in the hospital. He had co-morbidities in addition to testing positive for COVID-19.
- A man in his 50s, from Porter, died in hospice care. He had co-morbidities in addition to testing positive for COVID-19.

They can also confirm:

- TOTAL cases of COVID-19 increased by 268 to 18,183 since yesterday's (11/30) report. All 268 new cases were tested on or after 11/20/2020.
- ACTIVE cases of COVID-19 increased by 137 to 3,502 since yesterday's (11/30) report. On Tuesdays, they factor in additional "inactive" cases who they have been unable to contact for more than 30 days. They added 68 additional inactive cases today.
- 27 residents are known, as a result of contact investigations, to be in the hospital. Contact investigations have not been initiated on all reported cases.
- 11,079 people have clinically recovered.

The Testing Positivity Rate for Montgomery County is 12%. This number will be updated 12/2/2020. [You can find more information here.](#)

Follow CDC guidelines to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

- If your children have started in-person school, teach them proper hygiene and the correct way to wear a mask. Encourage them to never share masks with others.
- Avoid groups of people.
- Practice social distancing.
- Wear a mask in public or with others outside your household.

- Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer frequently.
- Disinfect surfaces in your car and around your home.

*These numbers include PCR and rapid antigen testing. We do not include antibody testing. Have questions? Please go to <https://mcphd-tx.org/> and scroll down to the FAQs.



You can find more information on the SETRAC website, setrac.org.

View the case-by-case updates from last week on the [MCPHD website](#). You can refer to the [dashboard](#).

Harris County COVID-19 Case Count

Harris County Public Health (HCPH) publishes their daily case count, combined with the City of Houston's daily case count, [here](#). Cases by zip code in Harris County can be found by clicking on areas of the [map](#).

The Village of Creekside Park is located in two zip codes: 77375 and 77389, and these also include Magnolia, Augusta Pines/Auburn Lakes/West Rayford Road in northwest Harris County. Today, Harris County is reporting zip code 77375 has 1,737 confirmed positive cases with 252 active cases, and 77389 has 960 confirmed positive cases with 181 active cases.



COVID-19 Case Count Brief from The Woodlands Fire Department

As of Tuesday, December 1, 2020, + or – signifies change since previous report.

The plus/minus numbers are for a one week time span. All numbers since November 24, 2020.

Montgomery County

18,183 – Confirmed +1,394
3,502 – Active +745
172 – Deaths +3
11,079 – Recovered +578
27 – Hospitalized +3

Harris County

94,210- Confirmed +3,427
11,014 - Active Cases +1,306
1,001 - Deaths +14
82,180 - Recovered +2,105

Montgomery County Testing

Do you have questions regarding COVID-19 or COVID-19 testing? The Montgomery County COVID-19 Call Center's number is 936-523-3916. It is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Harris County Testing

Residents may also sign up for free COVID-19 testing online at hcphtx.org. Call 832-927-7575 for more information.

State and National News



Giving Wisely in the Time of COVID

Thanks to COVID-19, many charitable organizations are faced with greater demand for their services, but less in donations as people have less to give. Now, more than ever, it's important to make sure that your donation will be used wisely and well. Today is Giving Tuesday, and as you consider new places to send your donations, now and throughout the holiday season, don't forget these four tips for giving wisely:

- Search online for the cause you care about
- Check out the charity's website
- Use a reliable organizations to help you research charities
- See what your state's charity regulator has to say about the charity

[Read the full article](#) from the Federal Trade Commission.



Governor Abbott, DSHS Announce COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plan

On November, 23, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) announced the guiding principles for Texas' COVID-19 vaccine allocation process, which will serve as a foundation for the state's initial distribution for COVID-19 vaccines expected as early as next month. These principles have been established by the Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel (EVAP), created by DSHS to make recommendations on vaccine allocation decisions, including identifying groups that should be vaccinated first to provide the most protection to vulnerable populations and critical state resources.

"These guiding principles established by the Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel will ensure that the State of Texas swiftly distributes the COVID-19 vaccine to Texans who voluntarily choose to be immunized," said Governor Abbott. "This foundation for the allocation process will help us mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in our communities, protect the most vulnerable Texans, and safeguard crucial state resources." [Read the complete press release.](#)



Community Use of Cloth Masks

SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, is transmitted predominately by respiratory droplets generated when people cough, sneeze, sing, talk or breathe. CDC recommends community use of masks, specifically non-valved multi-layer cloth masks, to prevent transmission. [Read the full article](#) from the Center for Disease Control (CDC).



It's a Good Time to Get Your Flu Vaccine

While the United States remains focused on the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important to be aware of flu season as winter approaches, with activity peaking between December and February. Getting vaccinated now can lower your chances of getting the flu. Flu vaccines

approved by the FDA provide important benefits and are your best defense from flu and its potential complications. [Learn more from the FDA.](#)

Community Resources

Numerous resources are available in the community for support. These vary from food banks to financial assistance and much more. Please visit the [Community Resources webpage](#) to find more information about resources in the community related to COVID-19.



Share Your Holidays

Call the *Share Your Holidays* phone bank to request a holiday food box. Volunteers will match you with the nearest location to pick up at designated times. You must pre-register to receive food. The deadline to register is Saturday, December 5, 2020. Community Assistance Center (CAC) will host a distribution site on Monday, December 14, 2020 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. [Visit the Houston Food Bank website](#) for more information and to register for your box via phone or online.



Travel Confidently in The Woodlands

Making travel plans this holiday season? Whether you're looking to stay in The Woodlands or just here for the day, don't forget to #WearAMask. Wearing a mask and social distancing are some of the ways you can #TravelConfidently in The Woodlands. Local hotels are offering special offers for the holidays, [check out the Visit The Woodlands website](#) to book directly. All of The Woodlands hotel properties are open and ready to welcome you to their location. Each property has implemented enhanced health and safety procedures, as recommended by the CDC. To learn more about what each property is doing to protect guests against COVID-19, click on the "COVID-19 Updates" button within each hotel listing.

The Woodlands Township COVID-19 eNewsletter

The Woodlands Township COVID-19 (Coronavirus) informational newsletter is published every Tuesday and Thursday and as needed. [Manage your notifications and subscriptions.](#)



Township's Coronavirus Page

The Woodlands Township's COVID-19 page can be found at www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/covid19. This page features Montgomery and Harris county hubs, community resources and news from the Federal Government and the CDC. It also includes the latest news from the Township, partner agencies, important links, FAQs, live Twitter feeds and more.

Stay Connected with The Woodlands Township

Please stay connected to The Woodlands Township through our many communications channels. Learn more and sign up at www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/stayinformed. Sign up directly for news and alerts from the Township at www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/notifyme. Additional information can be found at www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/emergency.



Keep Up with Best Practices During the Pandemic at CDC.GOV

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

The Woodlands Township publishes this update to inform residents and businesses regarding COVID-19 and its impact on The Woodlands Township. Please sign up for Township news and notifications at www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/notifyme. This newsletter is published every Tuesday and Thursday, or as needed.