



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**The Woodlands Township COVID-19 Update, Tuesday, December 22, 2020**

*Stay Safe  
This Holiday*

Vaccines are on the way but not yet available to the general public

Keep your guard up

Do what you can to reduce the spread of COVID-19

Wear a mask, wash your hands, social distance

 [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

**TEXAS**  
Health and Human  
Services

## Vaccination Dashboard

Stay informed about the distribution and administration of the COVID-19 vaccine in Texas.

**COVID-19 Texas Vaccination Data Dashboard**

A new dashboard is available through the Texas Department of State Health Services showing COVID-19 vaccination data in Texas. The dashboard has many aspects of important information in sum and by county for variables including vaccine distribution, type of organizations receiving the distributions, doses administered and people vaccinated. [View the dashboard.](#)

**CDC COVID Data Tracker**

In addition, the CDC provides updated national information online daily. As of December 21, 2020, in the United States, there have been 17,790,376 confirmed cases of COVID-19 detected

through U.S. public health surveillance systems in 50 states and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Northern Marianas Islands, and U.S. Virgin Islands. CDC's COVID Data Tracker now has a [County View](#) to help make decisions about everyday activities.



### **COVID-19 Testing in The Woodlands**

Testing is taking place at The Woodlands Township Town Hall, 2801 Technology Forest Blvd., The Woodlands, Texas 77381, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Customers are asked to submit their insurance information. Testing is offered at **no cost to the customer**. 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**.

Curative has added a **second testing site** in The Woodlands, hosted by the Township, at Sterling Ridge Park and Ride, 8001 McBeth Way. **The site opened December 15, 2020**, and will remain open through January 31, 2021. It is a “self-serve” drive-thru operation with hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Please note the following holiday hours for both sites below. These may be different from hours that were published previously:

- Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24, 2020 – Closed
- Christmas Day: Friday, December 25, 2020 – Closed
- New Year's Eve: Thursday, December 31, 2020 – Closed
- New Year's Day: Friday, January 1, 2021 – Closed

For more information about COVID-19 testing by Curative, please visit the [Township website](#), or [www.curative.com](http://www.curative.com).

## **County News**

### **Montgomery County COVID-19 Case Count December 22, 2020**

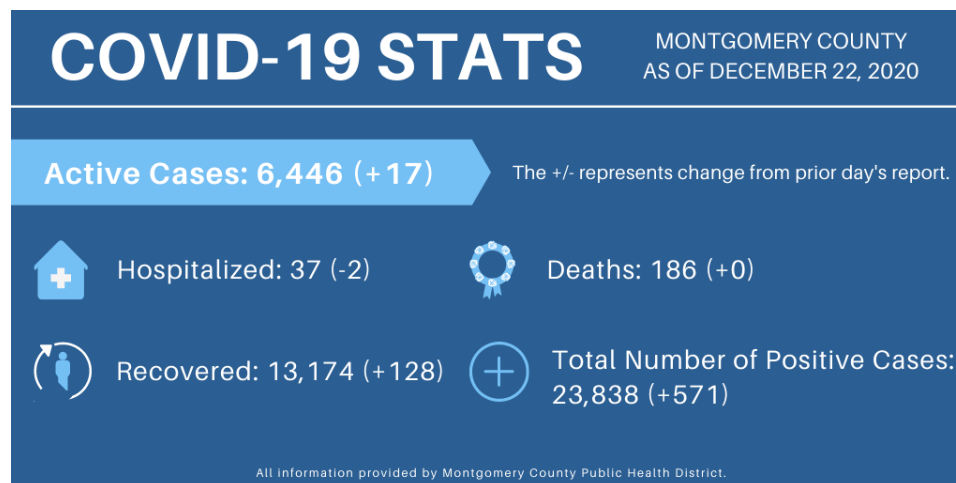
Montgomery County Public Health District (MCPHD), in conjunction with the Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, is asking residents to closely adhere to CDC guidelines as Montgomery County, and the rest of the nation, experiences record high COVID-19 active cases. It's not too late to follow these guidelines to help reduce the spread of this deadly illness:

- Avoid groups of people.
- Practice social distancing.
- Wear a mask in public (over your nose and mouth) or with others who live outside your household. Never share a mask with others.
- Teach children proper hygiene and the correct way to wear a mask.
- Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer frequently.
- Disinfect surfaces in your car and around your home.

Click here for the latest CDC guidelines: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Montgomery County Public Health confirms the following update related to COVID-19:

- TOTAL cases of COVID-19 increased by 571 to 23,838 since yesterday's (12/21) report. Of the 571 new cases, 508 were tested since 12/10/2020.
- ACTIVE cases of COVID-19 increased by 17 to 6,446 since yesterday's (12/21) report. On Tuesdays, the report includes additional "inactive" cases who have been unable to be contacted for more than 30 days. Today, there were 426 additional inactive cases.
- 37 residents are known, as a result of contact investigations, to be in the hospital. Contact investigations have not been initiated on all reported cases.
- 13,174 people have clinically recovered.



**The Testing Positivity Rate for Montgomery County is 13%.** This number is updated weekly on Wednesdays. *Source: UT Health, School of Public Health*

\*These numbers include PCR and rapid antigen testing. MCPHD does 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](http://setrac.org).

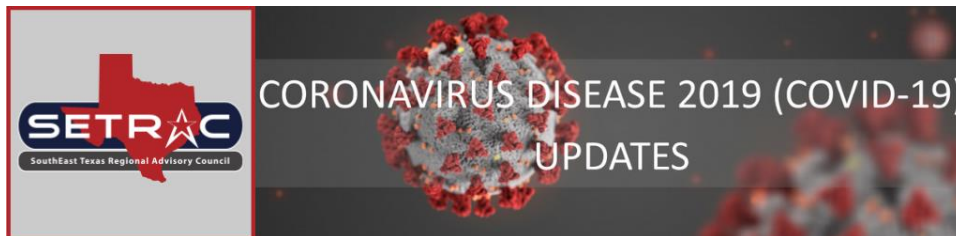
You can view the case-by-case updates on the MCPHD website here: <https://mcphd-tx.org/coronavirus-covid-19/confirmed-cases/>. You can refer to the dashboard here: <https://coronavirus-response-moco.hub.arcgis.com/>.

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 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 2,159 confirmed positive cases with 386 active cases, and 77389 has 1,201 confirmed positive cases with 234 active cases.



### **SouthEast Texas Regional Advisory Council (SETRAC)**

SETRAC is a powerful coalition of providers, responders and other healthcare related partners united together to save lives and improve health outcomes through research, education and collaboration. You can find more information on their website, [setrac.org](http://setrac.org).



### **COVID-19 Case Count Brief from The Woodlands Fire Department**

*All numbers since December 17, 2020.*

### **Montgomery County**

23,838 – Confirmed +1597

6,446 – Active +613

186 – Deaths +1

13,174 – Recovered +557

37 – Hospitalized +1

### **Harris County**

11,395- Confirmed +5104

15,068 - Active Cases +1561

1,066 - Deaths +11

95,246 - Recovered +3532

### **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 through 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](http://hcphtx.org). Call 832-927-7575 for more information.

## ***National News***



### **Coronavirus Q and As for Consumers**

The FDA is working to address the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak to keep you and your family informed on the latest developments. Visit the [FDA's website](#) for answers to some frequently asked questions from consumers about vaccines.

### **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](#).



### **CDC Recommendations for Winter Celebrations, Travel and Other Activities**

Enjoy the holidays and take steps to protect yourself from getting or spreading COVID-19. The safest way to celebrate winter holidays is to celebrate at home with the people you live with. Gatherings with family and friends who do not live with you can increase the chances of getting or spreading COVID-19 or the flu. Staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others. [Read the full article](#) for more information on holiday travel, tips to stay safe, safer celebrations and other winter holiday activities.



### **CDC Vaccine Update**

Because the supply of COVID-19 vaccine in the United States will be limited at first, CDC recommends that initial supplies of COVID-19 vaccine be allocated to healthcare personnel and long-term care facility residents. The recommendations were made with the following goals in mind: Decrease death and serious disease as much as possible; Preserve functioning of society; and Reduce the extra burden COVID-19 is having on people already facing disparities.

Read the following CDC articles for more information. [8 Things to Know About the U.S. COVID-19 Vaccination Program](#), [When Vaccine is Limited, Who Gets Vaccinated First?](#), [Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination](#).

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

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

## 12 Days of Consumer Protection

Grandma got a scam call from a reindeer

[consumer.ftc.gov](https://consumer.ftc.gov)

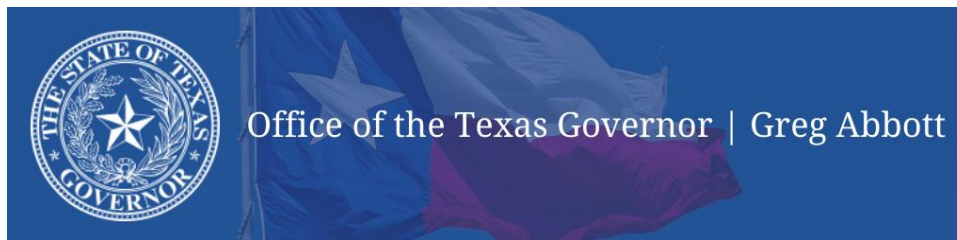


### FTC Offers Tips to Avoid Scam Calls

When it comes to unwanted calls, there are a few universal truths. First, you can't trust caller ID. Second, nobody likes a robocall. And third, it's all about call blocking. On the seventh day of Consumer Protection, [watch this video](#) to find out how to block scam calls on your mobile phone.

In addition, [read the full article for what you need to know to avoid a vaccine-related scam](#). The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has launched a new website, [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://ReportFraud.ftc.gov), where consumers can easily report fraud and all other consumer issues directly to the FTC.

### State News



### Governor, FDA Commissioner, CDC Director Discuss COVID-19 Therapeutics

On Friday, December 18, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott held a call with hospital CEOs and representatives across Texas to discuss the importance of COVID-19 therapeutic antibody treatments in the state's fight against COVID-19. [Read the press release for the full readout of the call.](#)

### Governor Provides Update On COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

On Thursday, December 17, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott held a press conference where he provided an update on the statewide COVID-19 vaccine distribution at the UPS Distribution Center in Austin. About 95,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been delivered to 23 different

sites throughout the state of Texas. By the end of the month, over a million vaccines will have been distributed. [Read the full press release.](#)

### **COVID-19 Vaccination Program Activated for Long-Term Care Staff, Residents**

On Friday, December 11, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott announced that the State of Texas will participate in the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program, a federal program to vaccinate residents and staff of long-term care facilities against COVID-19. The program is free of charge and sends staff and Pfizer vaccines from Walgreens and CVS locations to these facilities. The first vaccines included in this program will be provided to pharmacies the week of December 21, 2020, and the program will begin December 28, 2020. [Read the full press release.](#)

## ***Around the Township***

### **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 have implemented enhanced health and safety procedures, as recommended by the CDC. To learn more, click on the "COVID-19 Updates" button within each hotel listing. Read [additional information from the CDC](#) regarding holiday travel.

## ***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.

### **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.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/covid19](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-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.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/stayinformed](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/stayinformed). Sign up directly for news and alerts from the Township at [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/notifyme](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/notifyme). Additional information can be found at [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/emergency](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/emergency).

### Holiday Activities

- Schedule a time to meet virtually to open gifts together.
- Build gingerbread houses, decorate cookies, or make holiday crafts and decorations.
- Schedule a time to eat a meal together virtually
- Host a virtual "ugly" holiday sweater contest.
- For holidays that traditionally include music and dance, set aside time with loved ones to meet online and throw a virtual dance party.





*The Township's next COVID-Updates newsletter  
will post on December 29, 2020.  
Have a safe and happy holiday!*

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*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.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/notifyme](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/notifyme). This newsletter is published every Tuesday and Thursday, or as needed.*