

**NEWS RELEASE** 

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

# The Woodlands Township COVID-19 Update, Tuesday, May 18, 2021



#### **Governor Issues Executive Prohibiting Mask Mandates**

Governor Greg Abbott today issued an Executive Order prohibiting governmental entities in Texas — including counties, cities, school districts, public health authorities, or government officials — from requiring or mandating mask wearing. Public schools may continue to follow current mask-wearing guidelines through June 4, 2021. After June 4, no student, teacher, parent, or other staff member or visitor can be required to wear a mask while on campus.

Read complete Executive Order.



# **New Mask Guidelines for Fully Vaccinated**

The CDC has announced that fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance. Read the complete update.



# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the U.S.

US states, territories, and District of Columbia have reported 32,771,733 cases of COVID-19 in the United States. CDC provides updated U.S. case information online daily. In addition to cases, deaths, and laboratory testing, CDC's COVID Data Tracker now has a <u>Vaccinations</u> tab to track distribution of COVID-19 vaccines in your state.

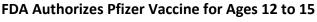
# **VACCINE NEWS**

#### **Avoid Vaccine-Related Scams**

Scammers are doubling down on their efforts to scam people out of their money and personal information. The FTC and the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) are teaming up to remind you: No matter what anyone tells you, you can't buy COVID-19 vaccines online and there's no out-of-pocket cost to get the shots. Here are some ways to avoid a vaccine-related scam:

- Ignore online ads, social media posts, or phone calls from people offering to sell you the COVID-19 vaccine.
- Don't pay to sign up for the vaccine.
- Don't pay out of pocket for a vaccine.
- Never share your personal, financial or health information with people you don't know.
- Contact a trusted source for information.
- Don't post your vaccination card to your social media account.

#### Read the full article.



The U.S. Food and Drug Administration expanded the emergency use authorization for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to include adolescents 12 through 15 years of age.

Get complete information.

#### **Get Your Vaccine**

Individual hospitals, physicians' offices and pharmacies have vaccines available. Please check their websites for additional information. You can find a list of providers and additional information on the <a href="Department of State Health Services">Department of State Health Services</a> (DSHS) website. Another helpful resource for locating vaccines is <a href="www.vaccinefinder.org">www.vaccinefinder.org</a>.

#### **Questions?**

The Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management offers call center hours Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Montgomery County residents, 65 years and older. Call 936-523-3916 during these hours to be assisted.

Harris County has established a hotline for their senior constituents through the HCP4 Encore Department. The HCP4 Encore staff is available as a resource to offer more information on the vaccination registration process from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 713-274-4050.



# **Vaccination Dashboard**

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

#### **COVID-19 Texas Vaccination Data Dashboard**

A dashboard is available through the Texas Department of State Health Services showing COVID-19 vaccination data in Texas. Currently about 47 percent of the Texas population has been vaccinated. View the dashboard.

# COVID-19 TESTING



Curative Testing Still Available in The Woodlands
All three Township testing locations will continue through June 30, 2021. Testing is free, and each

location is open daily from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information about COVID-19 testing by Curative, please visit the Township website, or www.curative.com. All sites will be closed on Memorial Day. The three locations are as follows.

- The Woodlands Township Town Hall, 2801 Technology Forest Blvd., The Woodlands, TX 77381.
- Recreation Center at Rob Fleming Park, 6464 Creekside Forest Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77389. Appointments are recommended for this location and can be made at www.curative.com.
- Sterling Ridge Park and Ride, 8001 McBeth Way, The Woodlands, TX 77382.

#### **COUNTY NEWS**

## Vaccine Site on Hold for May 19 Due to Inclement Weather

St. Luke's Health—The Woodlands Hospital and The Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management are pausing operations at the COVID-19 mass vaccine clinic on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, due to inclement weather. The site located at Woodforest Bank Stadium is scheduled to reopen on Thursday, May 20, 2021, weather permitting.

Previously scheduled appointments for second doses on Wednesday, May 19, will be honored on both Thursday, May 20, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Friday May 21, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Patients who are impacted by the Wednesday, May 19 cancellation are not required to make an appointment or reschedule with a representative. Upon arrival for their second dose, patients are asked to bring their CDC vaccination card along with a valid government photo identification. Patients that have questions or concerns regarding their vaccine appointment are asked to call 936-266-3225.

As always, the safety of our patients, team, and community remain our top priority. We thank the community for their continued patience and understanding. For more information about the COVID-19 vaccine, visit <a href="StLukesHealth.org/MontgomeryCountyvaccine">StLukesHealth.org/MontgomeryCountyvaccine</a>.

#### **Montgomery County COVID Update**

Montgomery County Public Health District, in conjunction with the Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, would like to encourage residents to be vaccinated against COVID-19. According to CDC guidelines, it is safe for fully vaccinated residents to forego wearing a mask in most instances.

Multiple providers are offering second doses only at Woodforest Stadium. **This site will close Tuesday, June 1, 2021.** If you have questions, please call the Montgomery County COVID-19 Call Center at 936-523-3916. The call center is available Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Other hospitals, physicians' offices, and pharmacies also have vaccines available for all adults. Please check their websites and Facebook pages for additional information. You can find a list of providers and additional information on the DSHS website here: https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine-hubs.aspx.

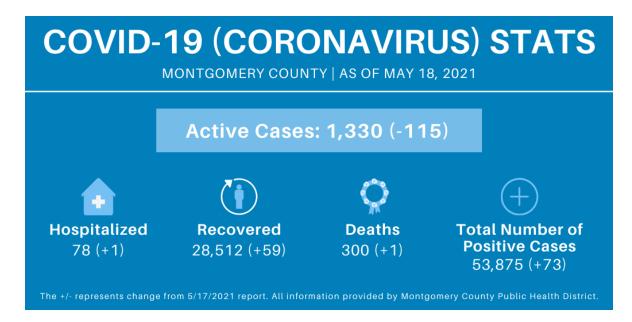
#### Today:

- TOTAL cases of COVID-19 increased by 73 to 53,875 since Monday's (5/17) report.
- ACTIVE cases of COVID-19 decreased by 115 to 1,330 since Monday's (5/17) report. On Tuesdays and Fridays, they account for additional inactive cases who they have been unable to contact for 30 days or more. Today, they added 128 inactive cases.
- 78 county residents are known, as a result of contact investigations, to be in the hospital. Contact investigations have not been initiated on all reported cases.
- 28,512 people have clinically recovered.

The Testing Positivity Rate for Montgomery County is 7%, down from 8%. This number is updated weekly on Wednesdays.

Source: UT Health, School of Public Health

\*These numbers include PCR and rapid antigen testing. We do not include antibody testing.



SETRAC data for regional hospitalizations can be found here: <a href="https://bit.ly/3jwhdiv">https://bit.ly/3jwhdiv</a>.

The COVID-19 dashboard for Montgomery County can be found here: <a href="https://coronavirus-response-moco.hub.arcgis.com/">https://coronavirus-response-moco.hub.arcgis.com/</a>.

Do your part to slow the spread of COVID-19.

- Get vaccinated.
- 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 if you are NOT fully vaccinated. 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.

#### **Harris County COVID-19 Case Count**

Harris County and the City of Houston launched a new data hub website, replacing their previous dashboard. The <u>new website</u> features information and data related to COVID-19 in Harris County, trends, metrics for success, zip code data and much more. Be sure to use an updated browser to <u>view the site</u>.

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 4,506 confirmed positive cases with 118 active cases, and 77389 has 2,552 confirmed positive cases with 57 active cases.

#### Harris County Lowers COVID-19 Threat Level

Harris County lowered its threat level today from 1 to 2, going from severe to significant. Read more information on Harris County's threat level.



**COVID-19 Case Count Brief from The Woodlands Fire Department All numbers since 5/11/2021** 

# **Montgomery County**

53,875 – Confirmed +1,051 1,330 – Active -152 300 – Deaths +10 28,512 – Recovered +647 78 – Hospitalized -19

#### **Harris County**

205,225 - Confirmed +1,175 4,100 - Active Cases -643 1,699 - Deaths +26 199,406 - Recovered +1,791

#### **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 <a href="https://hcphtx.org">hcphtx.org</a>. Call 832-927-7575 for more information.

# RESOURCES

# **Township's Coronavirus Page**

The Woodlands Township's COVID-19 page can be found at <a href="https://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/covid19">https://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/covid19</a>. 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, <u>partner agencies</u>, 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 <a href="https://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/stayinformed">https://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/stayinformed</a>.



# Safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines are available for free.

Here's where to get yours now.

https://tdem.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=3700a84845c5470cb0dc3dd ace5c376b

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 <a href="https://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/notifyme">www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/notifyme</a>. This newsletter is published weekly on Tuesdays, or as needed.