

Urgent News Release #160

Richland County Emergency Management

Darin Gudgeon, Director

(608) 647-8187

darin.gudgeon@co.richland.wi.us

Rose Kohout, Health Officer

(608) 649-5965

rose.kohout@co.richland.wi.us

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FREE COVID-19 COMMUNITY TESTING EVENTS IN RICHLAND COUNTY

Richland Center, WI: Richland County Emergency Management Director, Darin Gudgeon announced the number of individuals tested at the FREE COVID-19 community testing events held this week. On February 22nd 20 individuals were tested and another 22 individuals were tested on February 25th. The results of these 42 tests will be included in the appropriate county's totals once they are received and verified.

FREE COVID-19 drive-thru community testing events will continue in Richland County through the end of March, but the events will not be held if the outside temperature at 9am is in the single digits or if the ambient temperature of the testing area cannot be maintained at a minimum of 50 degrees. Testing events will be offered to our citizens weekly on **MONDAYS from 9am-11am March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th at the Richland County Fairgrounds. The FINAL THURSDAY testing event will be held from 10am-2pm on March 4th at the Richland County Fairgrounds.** Appointments are not required, but it is requested that those who wish to be tested pre-register at <https://register.covidconnect.wi.gov>. The website allows individuals to register for testing in advance with their personal information and gives them a QR code to scan at

the testing site. Individuals who utilize this option will receive an email with their test results rather than a phone call. The Richland County Fairgrounds is a drive-thru testing site, so everyone will remain in their vehicles at all times. Vehicles with more than one person in them are welcome to be tested. You will be asked screening questions as you enter, if you did not pre-register, and the test will consist of a nasal swab. The test will then be sent to a State approved lab and results follow-up should occur approximately 3-7 business days post event.

The Richland County Events on **MONDAYS** are only for Richland County residents who meet specific testing criteria. The WI National Guard Events on **THURSDAYS** are open to Richland County residents and those in our surrounding communities (age 5 and older) who are experiencing one or more symptoms of COVID-19 and for asymptomatic individuals per Public Health recommendations. Individuals who are symptomatic and need a test at other times, are encouraged to contact the Richland Hospital Clinic at 608-647-6321 or their primary healthcare provider.

Tests will be available on a FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE basis. The FREE COVID-19

Testing schedule for events offered in Richland County are as follows:

Monday, March 1 st	9am-11am	Richland County Fairgrounds	Richland County Event
Thursday, March 4 th	10am-2pm	Richland County Fairgrounds	WI National Guard Event
Monday, March 8 th	9am-11am	Richland County Fairgrounds	Richland County Event
Monday, March 15 th	9am-11am	Richland County Fairgrounds	Richland County Event
Monday, March 22 nd	9am-11am	Richland County Fairgrounds	Richland County Event
Monday, March 29 th	9am-11am	Richland County Fairgrounds	Richland County Event

This schedule is subject to change.

Richland County residents are encouraged to sign-up for NIXLE alerts by texting 53581 to 888777 or go to www.nixle.com to sign-up to receive emails. You will then receive up-to-date alerts regarding local COVID testing sites and vaccination clinics, severe weather, public safety, criminal activities, missing persons, traffic issues, and local events.

For the most up-to-date COVID-19 information, follow Richland County Health & Human Services on Facebook or consult the following websites:

- ❖ Richland County:
<https://covid.co.richland.wi.us>
- ❖ Wisconsin Department of Health Services:
www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19
- ❖ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/

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