Urgent News Release #163

Richland County Emergency Management
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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 March 1st 12 individuals were tested and another 28 individuals were tested on March 4th.   The results of these 40 tests will be included in the appropriate county's totals once they are received and verified. Gudgeon extended a sincere "THANK YOU to the Wisconsin National Guard for their sacrifice and attentiveness when offering local testing weekly to our Richland County citizens since July of 2020. Their expertise and professionalism was very much appreciated throughout this pandemic response."

FREE COVID-19 drive-thru community testing events will continue in Richland County on **MONDAYS ONLY from 9am-11am at the Richland County Fairgrounds** at least through the end of March. Appointments are not required, but we are asking 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

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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 to register prior to testing, if you did not pre-register, if you need assistance registering on-site staff will be available to help you. The test will consist of a nasal swab and is sent to a State approved lab for analysis and results follow-up should occur approximately 3-7 business days post event.

Tests will be available on a FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE basis. 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.   The FREE COVID-19 Testing schedule for events offered in Richland County are:

Monday, March 8th	9am-11am	Richland County Fairgrounds	Richland County Event
Monday, March 15th	9am-11am	Richland County Fairgrounds	Richland County Event
Monday, March 22nd	9am-11am	Richland County Fairgrounds	Richland County Event
Monday, March 29th	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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