



NEWS RELEASE

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

The Woodlands Township COVID-19 Update, Thursday, November 19, 2020



Chairman Bunch encourages residents to get tested for COVID-19 at Town Hall

The Woodlands Township is a host location for no-cost COVID-19 testing performed by COVID-19 testing company, Curative, Inc. The walk-up testing takes place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week at The Woodlands Township Town Hall, located at 2801 Technology Forest Blvd. The Woodlands, TX 77381 until future notice. [Watch the video.](#)

COVID-19 Testing in The Woodlands —Insurance Now Accepted

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 the following holiday hours:

- Thanksgiving Eve: Wednesday, November 25, 2020 – 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Thanksgiving Day: Thursday, November 26, 2020 – Closed
- Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24, 2020 – 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Christmas Day: Friday, December 25, 2020 – Closed
- New Year's Eve: Thursday, December 31, 2020 – 8 a.m. to 2 pm.
- New Year's Day: Friday, January 1, 2021 – Closed

Make Thanksgiving Safer: Tips from the CDC

Traditional Thanksgiving gatherings with family and friends are fun but can increase the chances of getting or spreading COVID-19 or the flu. The safest way to celebrate Thanksgiving this year is to celebrate with people in your household.

Alternatively, consider hosting a virtual Thanksgiving celebration! Schedule a time to share a meal together virtually, and have guests share recipes and show their turkey, dressing or other dishes they prepared. [Read more tips for celebrating the holidays safely.](#)

The Woodlands Township Board of Directors Meeting

The Woodlands Township Board of Directors held its regular meeting on Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at The Woodlands Township Town Hall, 2801 Technology Forest Boulevard in The Woodlands, Texas. [Read the full press release.](#)

County News

Montgomery County COVID-19 Case Count November 19, 2020

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

- A man in his 50s, from Willis, died in the hospital. There were no co-morbidities noted in his medical records.
- A man in his 80s, from Pinehurst, died in the hospital. He had co-morbidities in addition to testing positive for COVID-19.

They can also confirm:

- TOTAL cases of COVID-19 increased by 330 to 15,758 since yesterday's (11/18) report. All 330 new cases were tested in the month of November.
- ACTIVE cases of COVID-19 increased by 277 to 2,306 since yesterday's (11/18) report.
- 29 residents are known, as a result of contact investigations, to be in the hospital. Contact investigations have not been initiated on all reported cases.
- 10,099 people have clinically recovered.

The Testing Positivity Rate for Montgomery County has risen to 10%. You can find more information here: <https://sph.uth.edu/dept/bads/covid19-dashboard>.

- 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://mcphtd-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 here: <https://mcphtd-tx.org/coronavirus-covid-19/confirmed-cases/>. You can refer to the dashboard here: <https://coronavirus-response-moco.hub.arcgis.com/>.

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 1,559 confirmed positive cases with 170 active cases, and 77389 has 824 confirmed positive cases with 108 active cases.



COVID-19 Case Count Brief from The Woodlands Fire Department

As of Thursday, November 19, 2020, + or – signifies change since previous report.

All numbers since November 17, 2020

Montgomery County

15,758 – Confirmed +531

2,306 – Active +442
167 – Deaths +2
10,099 – Recovered +87
29 – Hospitalized -7

Harris County

86,543 - Confirmed +1,085
6,889 - Active Cases +485
974 - Deaths +8
78,668 - Recovered +591

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



White House Coronavirus Task Force Holds Briefing

The White House Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence, held a briefing today about Operation Warp Speed and the management of the coronavirus pandemic. Vice President Pence spoke about the latest developments with vaccines along with noting that positivity rates have doubled from 5 to 10 percent in recent months nationally. The task force reinforced that small family and friend gatherings, where people feel more comfortable removing their masks, are contributing to the current increases in positivity rates.

Dr. Deborah Birx addressed members of the press and stressed the need for vigilance across the nation with regards to coronavirus. She asked the public to wear a mask, physically distance, limit interactions indoors to immediate households and continue practicing hand hygiene. "People are spreading the virus because they are asymptomatic and do not know they are infectious," Dr. Birx said. "It is because of this asymptomatic spread that we are asking you to wear a mask, especially when socializing indoors." [Watch the complete briefing.](#)



Governor Abbott Provides Update On Bamlanivimab Distribution To Hospitals Across Texas

Governor Greg Abbott today traveled to Lubbock to hold a briefing with local officials and provide an update on the [the distribution of bamlanivimab](#), the Eli Lilly & Company monoclonal antibody therapy for COVID-19. The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has allocated this initial shipment of bamlanivimab to acute care hospitals across Texas, including hospitals in Lubbock, with additional doses expected to be shipped each week. DSHS prioritized communities with high COVID-19 disease burden for this initial allotment through a formula that included total new case counts in the area, new COVID-19 hospital admissions and total COVID-19 hospital patients. [Read the 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.



Thankful in The Woodlands: A Message from Visit The Woodlands

Visit The Woodlands provides offers from local hotels, attractions and restaurants. Special offers are added regularly and will give you plenty of reasons to enjoy The Woodlands. Consider supporting our local restaurants, several with curbside Thanksgiving dinner pickup available. Thanksgiving dining options and specials can be found [here](#).



COVID-19 Virtual Holiday Activities

View the list below for COVID-19 friendly activities in The Woodlands and surrounding area.

- The Alley Theatre production of *A Christmas Carol* will launch online December 4, 2020 and run through December 27, 2020. Watch the Christmas Carol online for FREE! [Please register for the viewing link.](#)

The Woodlands Township COVID-19 eNewsletter

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

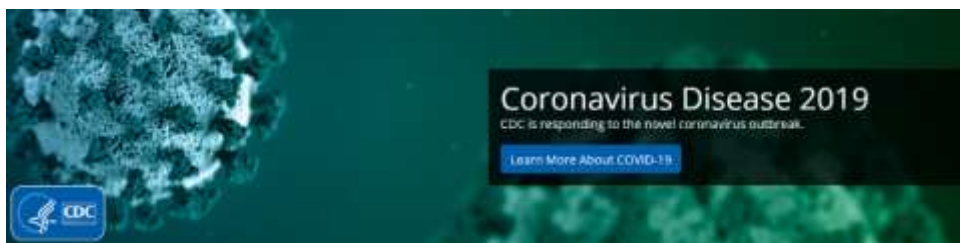


Township's Coronavirus Page

The Woodlands Township's COVID-19 page can be found at www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/covid19. 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. Sign up directly for news and alerts from the Township at www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/notifyme. Additional information can be found at www.thewoodlandstownship-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.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/notifyme. This newsletter is published every Tuesday and Thursday, or as needed.