



**NEWS RELEASE**

For media inquiries, contact: Nick Wolda  
[nwolda@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov](mailto:nwolda@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov)

**Township issues reminders during COVID surge**

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS (August 24, 2021) – During the current nationwide surge in COVID-19 cases, particularly the Delta variant, the Township reminds residents to stay safe and well and to help mitigate the spread of the virus.

**FDA Grants Full Approval for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced the approval of the first COVID-19 vaccine on August 23, 2021. The vaccine has been known as the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine and will now be marketed as Comirnaty (koe-mir'-na-tee), for the prevention of COVID-19 disease in individuals 16 years of age and older. The vaccine also continues to be available under emergency use authorization (EUA), including for individuals 12 through 15 years of age and for the administration of a third dose in certain immunocompromised individuals. [Read more.](#)

**Memorial Hermann Announces Closures of Three 24-Hour Emergency Rooms**

Due to the continued COVID-19 surge and its ongoing impact on our System's operations, Memorial Hermann is closing the 24-Hour Emergency Rooms inside the following Convenient Care Centers effective August 23, 2021, at 5 p.m., until further notice:

- Memorial Hermann Convenient Care Center in Kingwood, 4533 Kingwood Drive
- Memorial Hermann Convenient Care Center in Spring, 7474 N Grand Parkway W
- Memorial Hermann Convenient Care Center at Sienna, 8780 Hwy 6 Ste B

Members of the community who require emergent care should proceed to another nearby Emergency Center for assistance. [Read more.](#)

**COUNTY NEWS**

The [testing positivity rate in Montgomery County](#) is 22% as of Monday, August 23, 2021. The [Harris County COVID-19 Threat Level](#) remains at Level 1 (Severe Threat).

**COVID-19 Regional Infusion Center for Monoclonal Antibodies Open in Montgomery County**

A Regional Infusion Center for monoclonal antibody treatment has opened in Montgomery County. The goal of the monoclonal antibody infusion treatments is to prevent ER visits and hospitalizations for qualifying patients with COVID-19. [Read more.](#)



### **COVID-19 Call Center Now Open in Montgomery County**

Due to the increase of COVID-19 cases in Montgomery County, the COVID-19 Call Center has been reopened to assist the public. If you have any COVID-19 related questions, please call the Montgomery County COVID-19 Call Center at 936-523-3916. The call center is available Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Fridays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. [Read more.](#)

The reports of Montgomery County are posted on the Township website under [County News Releases/Partner Agency Notifications](#). Harris County items are also posted there as received. In addition, social media feeds from both agencies can be viewed by scrolling down at [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/covid19](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/covid19).

### **VACCINATION AVAILABILITY**

In addition to upcoming drive-thru vaccination sites, the COVID-19 vaccine is widely available locally at hospitals, healthcare provider offices, pharmacies and retailers. To find a vaccine near you, please visit [www.vaccines.gov/search/](http://www.vaccines.gov/search/). Here you can search based on zip code and vaccine preference (Pfizer, Moderna or Johnson & Johnson). Texans can also register online at [GetTheVaccine.dshs.texas.gov](http://GetTheVaccine.dshs.texas.gov). You will be notified by email or text when and where to get the vaccine.

### **COVID TESTING**

The Woodlands Township is a host location for COVID-19 testing provided by Curative, Inc. Testing takes place seven days a week, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Township offers free testing through Curative at three locations. **Please note, testing is no longer offered at 2801 Technology Forest Blvd.**

- The Recreation Center at Bear Branch, 5310 Research Forest Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77381
- Sterling Ridge Park and Ride, 8001 McBeth Way, The Woodlands, TX 77382 (Through August 2021)
- The Recreation Center at Rob Fleming Park, 6464 Creekside Forest Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77389 (Through August 2021)

### **LATEST UPDATES FROM CDC**

#### **COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shot**

The United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has announced a plan to begin offering COVID-19 booster shots in the fall. The goal is for people to start receiving a COVID-19 booster shot beginning in the fall, with individuals being eligible starting 8 months after they received their second dose of an mRNA vaccine (either Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna). This is subject to authorization by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and recommendation by CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). [Read more.](#)



### **Help Reduce the Spread of COVID-19**

Current advice from the CDC includes wearing a mask indoors in public and crowded spaces in areas of high transmission for both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. Vaccines remain the most effective way to reduce spread of COVID-19 and prevent serious illness. [Read more.](#)

### **Additional Information**

Please visit the Township's COVID-19 information page, [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/covid19](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/covid19) for resources, information and updates.

