

Monroe County Health Department

Health Department

Futures Family Planning Clinic

Public Health Clinic

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Health Official Recommends Covid Testing after Spring Break Travel, Celebrations

BLOOMINGTON – As warmer weather arrives and vaccination becomes more available, public health officials worry about people relaxing their covid prevention measures.

Penny Caudill, administrator at the Monroe County Health Department, says, "I know it feels like a long year, but all of the protective actions, like wearing a face covering, social distancing and getting tested for Covid-19 are still very important. Our recent increase in cases is causing concern."

"If you let your guard down recently while celebrating the nicer weather or the "wearing of the green", you should consider getting a Covid test, even if you don't have symptoms," says Caudill. "Those who traveled over Spring Break should consider it as well".

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is still recommending against travel, even for those who have been fully vaccinated for Covid-19. For people who do travel, the CDC recommends getting a viral covid test 3-5 days after their trip https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html.

Covid testing is available at 6 sites within the county, including at 2 free public coronavirus testing sites:

• The Monroe Community Covid Testing Site, at 640 S. Morton St., has both rapid antigen testing (results back in 30 minutes) for those who qualify and PCR molecular tests. It is open 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays and 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Saturdays. Schedule an appointment and register at https://scheduling.coronavirus.in.us. Walk-ins are accepted.

The Morton Community Testing Site is a partnership between the Monroe County Government, Monroe County Health Department, IU Health Bloomington Hospital, Indiana University and the City of Bloomington. It is supported by the Coronavirus Relief Fund Grants.

• The OptumServe Test Site, by the Indiana Department of Health, is at 3380 S. Walnut Street. It is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Schedule an appointment at https://www.lhi.care/covidtesting.

Testing is also available at the following sites with some restrictions; CVS at 4444 W. State Road 46, HealthNet Bloomington Health Center, Monroe Hospital and IU Health Bloomington. For more information on Covid testing, visit https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2524.htm.

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