



Chippewa County Department of Public Health

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Free COVID-19 Testing in Chippewa County with National Guard Assistance

Chippewa Falls, WI—July 15, 2020 11:40 AM— Chippewa County Department of Public Health, with assistance from the Wisconsin National Guard, will provide free COVID-19 nasal swab testing on **Monday, July 20, 2020 from 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM**. The event, which is open to the public, will have drive-through and walk-up style testing at the **Northern Wisconsin State Fairgrounds (225 Edward Street, Chippewa Falls, WI, 54729)**.

“Testing is of crucial importance during the pandemic. It allows local health departments to track individuals with symptoms, identify who had close contact with them, and have them avoid contact with others until they are no longer infectious. We cannot fight the virus or stop the spread of it, if we do not know where it is,” said Angela Weideman, Chippewa County Health Officer/Director.

Community members do not need to be experiencing symptoms to be tested. However, it is strongly encouraged that anyone who is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 seek testing at this time. Symptoms included fever, cough, congestion, loss of taste/smell, shortness of breath, sore throat, fatigue, body aches, diarrhea, vomiting or nausea, chills, and/or muscle aches.

The event is open to any Wisconsin residents who are 5 years or older—you do not need to live in Chippewa County to be tested. Individuals attending do not need a referral from a doctor or the Health Department.

Any individuals who are experiencing symptoms, even mild symptoms, should not have contact with others until they receive their test results. The National Guard or the Public Health Department will provide test results and further instructions via phone in a timely manner.

For more information, contact the Health Department at covid@co.chippewa.wi.us or 715-726-7900.

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