Rebecca Nanyonjo-Kemp, DrPH
Director

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Health Officer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 7, 2020

Mobile Testing Sites to Provide Additional Testing in Merced County

MERCED COUNTY, CA—The Merced County Department of Public Health (Department) will expand its capacity to provide additional coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) testing to all Merced County residents. Through a collaborative effort with the State of California, the Department secured additional tests to be administered at mobile testing sites throughout the City of Atwater. The Department wants to emphasize the importance of testing to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The recent increase in case counts and test positivity rate in the County makes the need to test even more imperative.

The additional mobile testing locations will be available to Merced County residents free of charge, regardless of insurance status, starting December 8 through December 30. Pre-registration and same-day registration is available online at http://www.lhi.care/covidtesting or by calling 1-888-634-1123.Testing is fast and painless, and results are typically sent via email within three to five days.

To view the full list of testing locations, please visit www.countyofmerced.com/testing.

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
Tuesday, Dec. 8	**Shaffer** 1434 California St., Atwater	8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 9	**Mitchell Senior** 1753 Fifth St., Atwater	7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 9	**Bellevue** 1020 E. Bellevue Rd., Atwater	12:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 10	**Aileen Colburn** 2201 Heller Ave., Atwater	7:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 11	**Mitchell Senior** 1753 Fifth St., Atwater	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

"We understand that everyone is tired of COVID-19. However, the Department strongly encourages Merced County residents to take advantage of testing resources in order to help the community and their loved ones," said Merced County Health Officer, Dr. Sandoval. "It is in the hands of all Merced County residents to do their part to stop the spread of COVID-19. Testing can help identify infected individuals in the early course of illness while they are pre-symptomatic, or even asymptomatic, which is paramount in controlling the spread of the virus. Please, get tested and continue to follow the preventative measures that can help reduce the chance of getting infected ourselves, or spreading the disease to our co-workers, friends, and loved ones."

As a reminder, it is still a **local and statewide mandate** to wear a cloth face covering inside of, or in line to enter any indoor public space, or when unable to maintain six feet of social distance outside. Merced County health officials strongly urge all residents to exercise the following safety measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19:

Vicki Jones, MPA, REHS
Environmental Health Division Director

Jessica Montoya-Juarez, MS
Assistant Public Health Director

Yadira Vazquez, MBA
Assistant Public Health Director

James Clark, MICP, MHOAC
EMS Administrator

260 E. 15th Street, Merced, CA 95341 | Main: (209) 381-1200 | Environmental Health: (209) 381-1100 | www.countyofmerced.com/health

- ✓ Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces
- ✓ Practice social distancing
- ✓ Wash hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds
- ✓ Use hand sanitizer with 60 percent alcohol base when handwashing is not possible,
- ✓ Stay home and isolate if you are feeling sick

For information on COVID-19 and additional testing locations, visit the Department's website at www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirus. Follow us on social media for more updates:
- Facebook: Merced County Department of Public Health
- Instagram: @mercedcountypublichealth

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