



## Public Health Joint Information Center of McLean County *COVID-19 Operations Update*

### **Contacts:**

McLean County Health Department (309) 888-5489

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Bloomington, IL** -The Department of Health and Human Services released information Tuesday that the Community-Based Testing Site will be relocated to Peoria and Champaign, both drive-through sites. For anyone unable to access these sites people can contact their healthcare provider to see if they can test through their office.

Access to the testing site can be found here: <https://dph.illinois.gov/testing>

### **General COVID-19 Information**

**Restore Illinois** – On Tuesday, May 5, 2020, Governor Pritzker released Restore Illinois, a five-phased plan that will reopen the state, guided by health metrics and with distinct business, education, and recreation activities characterizing each phase. The plan is based upon regional healthcare availability, and it recognizes the distinct impact COVID-19 has had on different regions of the state as well as regional variations in hospital capacity. For more information, see the section labeled “North-Central Region ([EMS Region 2](#))” of the Restore Illinois for McLean County.

<https://www.dph.illinois.gov/restore>

**Reopening Your Business in the Age of COVID-19** – On Tuesday, May 5, 2020, The McLean County Chamber of Commerce released a resource guide “Reopening Your Business in the Age of COVID-19.”

<https://mcleancochamber.org/file/1145/Reopening%20Your%20Business%20Guide%205.7.2020.pdf>

### **Mask Guidance**

Effective May 1, 2020, any individual who is over age 2 and able to medically tolerate a face-covering (a mask or cloth face-covering) is required to cover their nose and mouth with a face-covering when in a public place and unable to maintain a six-foot social distance at all times. Businesses can require patrons to wear face coverings to enter their facility to protect their employees. Medical grade masks should be reserved for healthcare or first responders.

### **McLean County Health Department face covering resources**

<https://health.mcleancountyil.gov/739/COVID-19-DIY-Face-Mask>.  
<https://www2.illinois.gov/ready/Press/Pages/051320.aspx>

### **CDC Guidance**

CDC has published guidance documents to assist [Institutes of Higher Education](#), [Restaurants and Bars](#), [Schools](#), [Youth and Summer Camps](#), and [Youth Sports](#) operate as safely during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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## Local Health Partners Response to COVID-19

### OSF

OSF Emergency Departments continue to see a steady decrease in patients with respiratory complaints, and following [guidelines outlined by the Illinois Department of Public Health \(IDPH\)](#), OSF HealthCare will begin restoring services previously deemed non-essential. Starting Monday, May 11, a phased approach began, bringing back services that were temporarily suspended at all OSF facilities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

OSF HealthCare St. Joseph Medical Center will take increased measures to keep those seeking care safe from infection. We have always been committed to supply a safe and sanitary environment for all patients, and now will also incorporate new guidance from the IDPH as well as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) into its day-to-day processes.

OSF Medical Group has been offering provider video visits. A video visit allows patients to have a face-to-face appointment with their physician, without having to leave home. While some medical care requires in-person appointments, many visits can be effective and convenient via video. Patients can use a smartphone, a laptop with a camera or a tablet with a camera to interact with their physician and advance practice providers for follow-ups, medication management, behavioral health visits, or even non-acute illnesses and minor injuries.

Additional safety measures are in place:

- An even greater commitment to frequent cleaning and disinfecting
- Reduced wait times, shields and barriers to create physical distancing at check-in
- We are removing toys, magazines and covering water fountains in waiting rooms to prevent spread of germs. Some chairs will be removed to allow for a six feet separation
- Promotion of OSF MyChart use with an option for patients to self-schedule video visits
- In our medical practices, we are using block scheduling, taking steps to have fewer patients at once to keep those who are sick isolated from those who are well.
- We are expanding the time between our in-person appointments to have time for deeper more stringent cleaning and disinfecting between patients.
- OSF St. Joseph is screening everyone coming into its hospitals, including Mission Partner (employees), clinicians, vendors, and patients for fever and other symptoms. Anyone with symptoms is not allowed to proceed into the building.

OSF St. Joseph has begun to reopen its doors to patients seeking elective surgeries and procedures and the schedule will be determined by a formula that includes the severity of the patient's condition, their medical history and anticipated length of surgery plus post-operative in-patient stay that might be required. Additionally, how long patients have been waiting will be considered.

OSF HealthCare requires anyone entering an OSF facility to wear a mask. Exceptions are made for those younger than two or those with medical conditions that prohibit wearing a mask. We welcome donations of home-made masks which can be dropped off at the entrance to Building C on our campus. We appreciate the amazing support of the community in helping us keep up with the need for masks and face shields to keep our caregivers and patients safe.



## Advocate BroMenn

The health and safety of our patients and team members is our highest priority. Starting the week of May 4, we slowly increased imaging services across our health system and have since resumed other elective procedures. The timing for lifting restrictions on our services will vary across Advocate Aurora sites as we continue to assess the prevalence of COVID-19, hospitalization rates, supplies and equipment levels to ensure we are meeting the needs of our patients and communities.

As part of our commitment, we have launched the Advocate Aurora Safe Care Promise. Whether in person or online, we are here to ensure safe, comfortable and convenient care, and have taken additional measures to protect patients and their families including:

- **Masking** – Ensuring anyone who enters our locations is wearing a mask. If they don't have one, we'll gladly provide it.
- **Screening** – Taking the temperature and asking questions about symptoms and exposure to everyone who enters our locations.
- **Social distancing** – Rearranging our waiting areas and staggering appointment times to reduce traffic and create safe spaces.
- **Virtual check-in** – Facilitating check-ins with digital devices for seamless, low-contact arrivals.
- **Enhanced cleaning** – Adding additional cleaning precautions in all areas and added handwashing / sanitizer stations.

Our universal masking policy is still in place and anyone coming into our facilities must don a mask.

Advocate BroMenn Medical Center is currently completing COVID-19 testing on individuals in need of urgent or emergent procedures, inpatient care or a scheduled outpatient surgical procedure.

Advocate Aurora Health continues to offer comprehensive Virtual Care for many types of outpatient visits. This includes Quick Care Video Visits for those seeking care for low acuity symptoms and E-visits for consumers seeking care for low acuity, non-urgent symptoms. Both of these services can be accessed using the LiveWell app or via [www.aah.org](http://www.aah.org). Consumers seeking Virtual Care for COVID-19 symptoms should first visit our symptom checker at [aah.org/COVID-19](http://aah.org/COVID-19) or call 1-866-4HEALTH.

## McLean County Health Department

The Corona virus is circulating in our community, which means we are all at risk for exposure. We continue to advise staying home as much as possible and self-monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19, which include fever, chills, cough, muscle pain, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, a sore throat, and new loss of taste smell.

MCHD's COVID-19 resources are available seven days a week between the hours of 8am-7pm. If you do not reach a person, leave a voicemail that includes your name and phone number with a brief message. Email [health@mcleancountyil.gov](mailto:health@mcleancountyil.gov) if you have any questions. Updated information available at [health.mcleancountyil.gov](http://health.mcleancountyil.gov).

MCHD is working with community partners to plan for the expansion of community-based testing efforts.

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MCHD is educating McLean County residents through social media and the MCHD website regarding preparations for maintaining social distance and non-pharmaceutical interventions while the state prepares to re-open through the phase approach outlined in 'Restore Illinois'. MCHD is communicating with local elected officials, community leaders, and regional Health Department Administrators to evaluate the county's potential participation in 'Heart of IL' plan to re-open through a phased approach in a sub-region of the 'Restore Illinois' plan.

MCHD has been conducting activities to ensure that public messaging is appropriate for all McLean County populations, including:

- Providing a digital communication package to community leaders
- Conducting surveys through community leaders
- Conducting a focus group to assess public messages

MCHD released its weekly COVID-19 Activities report that can be located at [health.mcleancountyil.gov](http://health.mcleancountyil.gov).

Follow the McLean County Health Department on Facebook and Twitter for up-to-date information. If you have questions about COVID-19 please share a Facebook post hashtag askmchd (#askmchd). staff from local agencies and organizations join us for Facebook live sessions to talk about their operations during COVID-19.

## Community Response to COVID-19

**McLean County COVID-19 Resource Site** - the community has come together to provide resources to aid in navigating such challenging times. The COVID-19 website provides information and resources to support to our community and will be updated as new information is received. This information can be found at:

[mcleancountyil.gov/1393/COVID-19](http://mcleancountyil.gov/1393/COVID-19)

### McLean County Emergency Management Agency (309) 888-5020

The drive-thru testing site is functioning and supported by EMA as needed. The daily maximum of 250 tests was finally reached yesterday, likely in response to the announcement that the site is closing after Thursday. There will be drive-thru sites opening in Peoria and Champaign, details for those have not yet been released.

With the governor's new order for masks in public, we are trying to ramp up our supply of sewn masks to better assist our responders, long term care facilities, and medical providers throughout the county. The McLean County EMS office has issued guidelines for all personnel to be wearing masks on all calls, patients are also supposed to wear surgical masks.

We are sharing information on a free decontamination & sterilization service for N95's for hospitals, first responders, long term care facilities, and medical offices. The CBTS will continue its operations and will not be closing end of day Friday.

### Central Illinois Regional Airport (309) 663-7384

The Central Illinois Regional Airport is open and operating with two to four commercial airline flights per day. Our airlines have implemented new rules and protocols for travel and additional onboard cleaning and seating policies. The airport has placed social distancing floor markings and counter shields throughout the terminal building.



Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting are a daily practice with new disinfecting equipment in use, hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes are available for public use in multiple locations. Masks are available upon request. Reminders to wash hands thoroughly and frequently are in place in restrooms and on public signage.

### **The City of Bloomington**

We continue to offer the same services as before (i.e. we still have a walk-up window open at the Arena and staff available for tasks that cannot be completed online or over the phone). Garbage/recycle/bulk/brush collection continues. Other City services like the issuance of permits is continuing. We have opened the Citizens Convenience Center (public drop-off facility south of the Library).

We still have our resources page available on our website and continue to update it <https://www.cityblm.org/government/advanced-components/covid-19-microsite>

Pools will not open for the 2020 season and Miller Park fireworks will not occur. The City's outdoor concerts are canceled. We are currently doing the Downtown Farmers Market as a curbside event. We'll move it back to a more traditional layout (with more spacing) once the stay-at-home order is lifted.

### **ISU**

More than 15 work groups are formulating plans for fall, including creating the Redbird Return Plan, which will be a systematic, date-driven process to return employees to campus between now and the start of the fall semester. The detailed plan will include guidelines about protocols in workstations and offices and staggered return dates for employees. Decisions regarding the fall semester are still in process and will be communicated when they are available.

### **Heartland**

During Phase 2 Heartland offers all services remotely. Only authorized workers who are performing the Minimal Basic Operations and who can't perform their duties remotely are allowed in campus facilities. Access points are monitored.

Access to campus for others is provided only with executive approval during designated times and with precautionary measures in place. Check in and check out is required

All employees must wear face coverings (mouth and nose) and maintain a 6-foot distance from others while on campus and sanitize upon entry and exit of facilities.

### **PATH 211**

This is a service provided by the PATH with trained specialists to match people to the right service agency based on your individual needs. For access, dial 211 or visit the PATH 211 website at [pathcrisis.org](http://pathcrisis.org).