

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASEjcampos@woodcountyohio.gov**Free Rapid Home COVID-19 Tests Available in Locations across Wood County***Test before Thanksgiving Gatherings for Safer Celebrations*

BOWLING GREEN—Wood County Health Department is working with partners across the county and Ohio Department of Health to make free COVID-19 at-home test kits available for residents who wish to use them before getting together with family and friends to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday.

“Taking a rapid test shortly before your Thanksgiving celebrations can help to keep your loved ones healthy,” said Benjamin Robison, Wood County Health Commissioner. “If you test positive for COVID or feel sick, stay home so you don’t pass your illness on to your family and friends.”

Free at-home COVID-19 rapid tests are available at Wood County Health Department in Bowling Green, senior centers, as well as public libraries including: North Baltimore Library, Pemberville Library, Rossford Library, Walbridge Library, Way Library in Perrysburg, Wayne Library, Weston Library, and Wood County District Public Library in Bowling Green. Rapid tests are also widely available for purchase through pharmacies and retail outlets.

When you should use an at-home test:

1. You have COVID-19 symptoms. If you have symptoms of COVID, stay home even if you get a negative result on an at-home test and avoid being around others until you are symptom-free.
2. You were exposed to someone with COVID-19. Take the test at least five days after the exposure.
3. You are going to a large indoor event (such as a wedding or holiday gathering). Test immediately before the gathering.
4. You will be around someone who is at higher risk for serious illness.

Anyone who tests positive or has symptoms of COVID should take precautions to isolate from others.

Now is also a good time to get your flu shot and an updated bivalent COVID booster shot if you’re eligible. For more information on COVID tests and COVID vaccine clinics, go to woodcountyhealth.org and click on “Information on COVID-19” for details.

The mission of Wood County Health Department is to prevent disease, promote healthy lifestyles and protect the health of everyone in Wood County. Our Community Health Center provides comprehensive medical services for men, women and children. We welcome all patients, including uninsured or underinsured clients, regardless of their ability to pay, and we accept most third-party insurance. For more information, visit woodcountyhealth.org.

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