



Harrison-Clarksburg Health Department

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Harrison-Clarksburg Health Department Advises the Public on Precautions During the Current High Rate of COVID-19 Transmission

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The Harrison-Clarksburg Health Department (HCHD) is advising the public that current rates of COVID-19 Transmission are high and are forecasted to increase during the next two weeks. We anticipate rates of new COVID-19 infections in the range of those seen in January of 2021 or even exceeding those amounts and resulting in some serious illness and death. Rates of COVID-19 related to hospital admissions, admission to intensive care units, and ventilator use are likewise increasing. The Delta Variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus is the dominant circulation strain causing more than 90% of recent infections in WV. Reports indicate that severely ill patients in local hospitals are much more likely to be unvaccinated, consistent with recently published reports regarding the protective qualities of COVID vaccination.

Harrison County residents are being advised of these events so that they can make appropriate decisions to protect themselves, their families, and the community against further COVID-19 infection. HCHD is asking residents to help “Shorten the Surge” by taking the following steps:

- Get vaccinated, and complete your vaccination series to become fully vaccinated. Individuals with specific immune deficiencies may now be eligible for a third dose to increase the likelihood of vaccine protection.
- Wear a mask in all indoor spaces whether you are vaccinated or not. Consider masking in crowded outdoor spaces.

- Maintain an appropriate social distance in all public spaces.
- Continue to wash hands and sanitize surfaces frequently.
- Get tested for COVID if you develop any symptoms or have been exposed to someone who is infected with COVID.

The HCHD currently offers testing and vaccination. Please call for an appointment to expedite your service, but walk-ins are certainly welcome.