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2019 Novel Coronavirus: Testing Offered at Sussex County Community College

(Hardyston, NJ) Testing is well underway at the Sussex County COVID-19 drive-through testing center at Sussex County Community College in Newton, which opened to the public on Monday, May 11, 2020, and is available for Sussex County residents only. The Sussex County Division of Health and Office of Emergency Management created the drive-through center in partnership with the Sussex County Sheriff's Office, Atlantic Health System, and Sussex County Community College.

The Sussex County drive-through testing center offers nasopharyngeal (NP) swab testing, which determines if a person is currently infected with the virus. A sample is collected by a healthcare professional from the person's nasal cavity using a specialized NP swab. The sample is then sent to a laboratory for analysis. This particular type of viral testing is among those currently recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to check for current infection with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. To learn more about nasopharyngeal (NP) swab testing, visit the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/guidelines-clinical-specimens.html>.

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Please note that the testing site does not offer antibody testing for residents, and prescriptions from healthcare providers for antibody testing will not be accepted. Antibody, or serology, testing requires a blood sample, and checks for two different types of antibodies in the blood to the virus that causes COVID-19. Antibody testing is not used to diagnose active COVID-19 infection, nor does it determine immunity to the virus that causes COVID-19. Residents are advised to speak to their healthcare providers if they are interested in antibody testing. Residents may also visit the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) website at https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/topics/covid2019_community.shtml to learn more about antibody testing.

The Sussex County COVID-19 drive-through testing site is located at One College Hill Road, Newton, NJ 07860. Residents must use the [Plotts Road entrance](#) in order to access the site. Testing is available Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays beginning at 9 a.m., weather permitting. Only residents who have a prescription from a medical doctor or medical provider AND who have pre-scheduled an appointment for testing through the county's COVID-19 appointment portal will be allowed to enter the testing site.

Please visit www.sussex.nj.us/covid19 for more information on Sussex County's drive-through testing center, including how to register and additional requirements for testing. If you have questions, please call the County Hotline at 973-579-9488, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. ***Please note, the Sussex County COVID-19 testing center and Hotline will be unavailable on Monday, May 25, 2020, in observance of Memorial Day.***

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