



VISIT www.lfnj.com for Updates

LITTLE FALLS COVID-19 UPDATE

Little Falls Mayor James Belford Damiano

Cell Phone: (973) 818-1790



UPDATE - January 4, 2021

IMPORTANT UPDATE ON CASE REPORTING

Due to an unprecedented and ongoing surge in COVID-19 cases, effective December 17, 2021, the Clifton Health Department is utilizing Township of Little Falls COVID-19 data recorded in the Communicable Disease Reporting Surveillance System (CDRSS). CDRSS is the system used by the NJ Department of Health to track COVID-19 cases. While the Health Department was already using this system for case reporting, we would initially ensure that any cases that were found to be out of jurisdiction, and any cases found to be duplicates of existing cases were removed from the weekly case counts and overall case count. Our goal was always to provide the community with the most accurate representation of COVID-19 in the Township of Little Falls.

Unfortunately, due to this surge and because the NJ Department of Health has directed local health departments to focus their efforts on prioritizing and investigating COVID-19 cases involving individuals ages 18 and under as well individuals ages 65 and older, it is no longer feasible for the Health Department to account for transferred and duplicate cases in its case reporting. We are also unable to provide the case information and age/gender breakdown. We will continue to provide the bar graph spreadsheet, but are distinguishing the change in data reporting effective 12/17/2021.

Below are the case numbers for the previous two weeks, as well as the overall case count generated by CDRSS reports. Remember that these numbers do NOT account for at-home tests, duplicates, and cases that are out of jurisdiction.

12/17/21 through 12/23/21: 70 new cases

12/24/21 through 12/31/21: 146 new cases

The total number of COVID-19 cases for the Township of Little Falls is 1,990.

NEW GUIDANCE PUT OUT BY THE CDC AND NJ DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REGARDING UPDATED ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE TIMES

New guidance regarding isolation and quarantine timeframes have recently been issued by the CDC and NJ Department of Health. Please note that this information applies to the general public. This information is currently being updated; we will provide the community with an update as more information becomes available.

If you tested positive for COVID-19 (REGARDLESS of vaccination status):

- *You should stay home and isolate for 5 days.***
- *If you have no symptoms (asymptomatic) or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days, you can leave your house but should continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.***
- *If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves.***

If you are identified as a close contact of someone who tested positive for COVID-19 (were within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more over 24 hours), or if you participated in a high risk activity such as attending large gatherings with people who may be unvaccinated, quarantine protocols are now as follows:

- *If you are up-to-date on your COVID-19 vaccines (received a booster dose, completed the two-dose series of Pfizer or Moderna within the last 6 months, or have received your single shot of J&J vaccine within the last 2 months, you do NOT need to quarantine but you should wear a well-fitted mask around others for 10 days.***
- *If symptoms occur, you should immediately isolate until a negative test confirms symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19. You should also be tested 5 days after your exposure if possible. If the test is positive for COVID-19, you should isolate for 5 days from the date of the positive test result.***
- *If you are NOT up-to-date on your COVID-19 vaccines (unvaccinated, are more than 6 months out from your second Pfizer or Moderna dose, or more than 2 months out from your J&J vaccine dose), you should stay home and quarantine for 5 days. and continue to wear a well-fitted mask around others for 5 additional days.***
- *If symptoms occur, you should immediately isolate until a negative test confirms symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19. You should also be tested 5 days after your exposure if possible. If the test is positive for COVID-19, you should isolate for 5 days from the date of the positive test result.***

For a list of updated locations near you that are offering COVID-19 testing, please refer to this link for the most up-to-date information: <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/testing#test-sites>. Simply put in your zip code, which will generate a number of testing locations near you. Each site should indicate if appointments are required and/or if walk-ups are accepted.

Additional testing information, including information on free public testing locations, can also be found here: <https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/testing-and-treatment/where-can-i-get-free-public-covid-19-testing-or-treatment>

We understand your frustration and ask for your continued patience as there is a very high demand for COVID-19 testing at this time.

The NJ Department of Health and Vault Medical Services have partnered to offer a free, at-home COVID-19 saliva test kit that is available to every New Jersey resident who thinks they need a test, even if they do not have symptoms.

To order a free test kit, visit learn.vaulthealth.com/nj

The kit will be shipped through UPS with next-day delivery. Once received, you will connect over Zoom with a Vault healthcare professional who will walk you through the test and answer your questions. When complete, the test can be sent back in a prepaid package via UPS next-day shipping. You will receive your test results 24 to 48 hours after your sample arrives at the lab.

You will not be charged for the test, and you will not be asked for your credit card information.

As a reminder to residents, if you are being tested, remain home while awaiting your results, whether or not you're showing symptoms, to avoid potentially infecting other people.

For general questions pertaining to COVID-19, please call the New Jersey Department of Health COVID-19 Hotline at 211 or text NJCOVID to 898-211. Please also feel free to visit <https://covid19.nj.gov/> for more information. For mental health-related concerns during COVID-19, call the Disaster Distress Hotline at 1-800-985-5990 or text “talk with us” at 66746. If you wish to get in touch with the Clifton Health Department for general COVID-19 questions, please email Health Educator Loyal Helwani at Lhelwani@cliftonnj.org.

The Clifton Health Department is a contractual health agency

serving the Township of Little Falls.

###



John E. Biegel, III

Health Officer

Director Human Services



Clifton Health Department
Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Phone: 973-470-5760

Fax: 973-470-5768

Email: jbiegel@cliftonnj.org