



Main Office: 1300 W. 2 nd St.
Rock Falls, IL 61071
Phone: 815-626-2230
Fax: 815-626-2231

Environmental Office: 18819 Lincoln Rd.
Morrison, IL 61270
Phone: 815-772-7411
Fax: 815-772-4723

Whiteside County Health Department
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Cory Law, ERC (815) 626-2230

Whiteside County Community Health Clinic and Whiteside County Health Department Offer Free Rapid Testing Fridays in January

January 13, 2021 – The Whiteside County Community Health Clinic (WCCHC) and Whiteside County Health Department (WCHD) will be offering free, no appointment necessary, rapid antigen testing every Friday in January at their drive-thru from 8:00am to 12:00pm while supplies last as an extension of the Know Before You Go campaign. The goal of this campaign is to help find as many positive cases before the weekend so we can intervene quickly and stop Coronavirus from spreading. Antigen tests will be used to provide same day results. Together, we can work as a community to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 through testing, rapid identification of positive cases, isolation and quarantine.

As part of this initiative, participants will be called with results by the end of the day they test. As antigen tests are not as reliable for confirming someone is truly negative, notes will only be provided for individuals who test positive. **As the test does not confirm a negative, notes will not be provided for negative results.** WCCHC and WCHD do not recommend retesting if someone has tested positive in the last 90 days.

Antigen tests can be used to slow the spread of COVID-19 by providing rapid results. However, these tests are not as sensitive as PCR tests and can produce a higher number of false negatives. Rapid antigens testing may not detect COVID-19 in positive individuals if they are asymptomatic or early in their infectious period.

To keep COVID-19 from spreading, individuals who test negative should still follow CDC guidance for staying safe during daily activities and when going out. Learn more at:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/going-out.html>

If you have questions please contact the IDPH COVID-19 hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or reach out to us. Additional information is also available on the [Illinois's COVID-19](#) and [CDC COVID-19](#) websites.

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