

TOWN OF VERNON

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Town of Vernon to Distribute COVID-19 Home Test Kits at Noon Tuesday at Henry Park

Goal is to Provide Kits to People who Have an Immediate Need for Testing

(VERNON, Connecticut) – The Town of Vernon will distribute COVID-19 home test kits beginning at noon Tuesday, January 4th, 2022 at Henry Park. **Kits are available to Vernon residents only.** Access to the park is from South Street only.

Fewer than 2,000 test kits are available. Demand is far in excess of supply.

The COVID-19 home test kits are intended for Vernon residents who have an immediate need for testing because they have been exposed to COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. We respectfully ask that people who do not fit these criteria allow those who do to obtain the test kits.

Test kits are limited to one to a person and a maximum of two per vehicle, based on need. They will be handed out on a first come, first served basis.

N-95 masks will be distributed on separate day. This distribution is for home test kits only.

Anyone seeking a test kit must show identification to prove they are a Vernon resident.

“We want these test kits to get to residents who are seeking testing because they are symptomatic or have been exposed to the virus,” Vernon Mayor Dan Champagne said. “We are trying to halt community spread.”

“If you do not have symptoms and do not believe you have been exposed, we urge you to wait until additional testing opportunities become available,” said Michael Purcaro, Vernon Town Administrator and Emergency Management Director. “To stop the spread of COVID-19 we need to get these test kits to people who have an immediate need for testing because they are experiencing symptoms or have a known exposure.”

“There are three simple and effective public health interventions: vaccination, masking and testing,” said Patrice Sulik, Director of the North Central District Health Department. “We encourage folks who have an immediate need for testing, especially people who may have been directly exposed to someone who has COVID, to get one of these tests.”

Residents must access Henry Park from South Street.

- Distribution of test kits will be drive thru on a first come, first served basis.
- People must remain in their cars and wear masks.
- When asked to show your ID, hold your ID up to the closed window for it to be checked.
- Only Vernon residents can obtain kits.
- The number of test kits is limited. One kit per person and a maximum of two per vehicle, based on need.
- Residents are urged to carefully read the test kit directions. Information about the test kits and a video can be found here: <https://quickvueathome.com/>
- N95 masks will be distributed on a separate day.
- Schools are receiving a separate allocation of test kits.
- Please monitor the Town website, www.vernon-ct.gov, and Town social media for additional testing and vaccine clinic information.

About the Town of Vernon

The Town of Vernon is a celebrated place to live, work and visit. From its beautiful parks and lakes, to its vast trails and historic homes and buildings, Vernon is a resilient and thriving community that promotes the health and wellbeing of its residents and values the natural environment. With a resident population of approximately 30,000 and occupying 18.03 square miles, Vernon combines a balanced appreciation of history, and a strong economic base for growth, both residential and commercial. Located 15 minutes east of the Connecticut capital of Hartford, and 25 miles from the City of Springfield, Massachusetts, the Town of Vernon is strategically located in “New England's Knowledge Corridor” with close proximity to some of the top colleges and universities in the country.

Designated a certified Sustainable Community, the Town of Vernon offers a wide range of benefits and services to its residents. The Town of Vernon is a full-service municipality that practices a management philosophy of continuous quality improvement. To learn more about the Town of Vernon, please call (860) 870- 3670 or visit www.vernon-ct.gov.

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