



MEDIA RELEASE

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LUDLOW- The Town of Ludlow in partnership with the Hampden County Sheriff's Office will hold an outdoor, drive-through COVID-19 testing site for Ludlow residents on Tuesday outside the department's Pre-Release Center, adjacent to the main institution.

Paid for by CARES Act funding received by the town, Ludlow officials contracted with American Medical Response (AMR) to work from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 22 to conduct COVID-19 testing with the goal of getting all the results to concerned town residents within 48 hours or before Christmas day. In order to be tested, you must be in line Tuesday by 3 p.m. at the absolute latest.

"We felt it was important to provide this event prior to the holidays in order to assist those residents unable to get a test," said Town Selectman Derek DeBarge. "The Town greatly appreciates the assistance of Sheriff Nick Cocchi, his Legislative Director Jon D'Angelo and the Hampden County Sheriff's Department staff, as well as AMR's Patrick Leonardo and all the AMR staff. Without them, this would not have been able to happen, especially before the holidays."

Sheriff Nick Cocchi, who offered up the department's property as well as its staff to help coordinate the effort, said the joint testing effort just made sense as the infection rate rises across Massachusetts and the nation.

"As expected, winter has brought a significant surge in COVID-19 infections as people move indoors to escape the cold weather," Sheriff Cocchi said. "This initiative will help bring people peace of mind and knowledge of where they stand ahead of Christmas Day when they will hopefully be practicing social distancing from loved ones, and CDC-recommended best practices to prevent unnecessary spread of the virus."

AMR, which is conducting the tests, says the company is working with local government officials, businesses and community partners to establish testing sites throughout Western Massachusetts and that it is grateful to collaborate with the Town of Ludlow to stop the community spread of the virus.

“AMR is proud that the Town of Ludlow and the community entrust in us to do the testing and is honored to have the privilege, knowing the number of positive cases is on the rise across Massachusetts,” said Patrick Leonardo, AMR’s operations manager. “AMR continues to bring much needed testing to our communities and we urge everyone to take advantage of this testing initiative.”

This testing does not require a medical referral and you not need to have any COVID-19 related symptoms. However, Ludlow residents interested in being tested are encouraged to pre-register to make the process simpler and take less time on-site. That can be done online via the attached QR code or by direct URL here: <https://bit.ly/2LLoZJ3>

Who: Town of Ludlow, Hampden County Sheriff’s Office & AMR

What: Town of Ludlow COVID-19 Testing Site

When: Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2020 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Where: Adjacent to the Hampden County Correctional Center, 627 Randall Road, Ludlow, Ma. Drive to the main entrance and follow the signs and directions of the first responders on-site to assist.



COVID Testing Ludlow