



June 26, 2020
COVID-19 Update

Dear St. John's Residents, Tenants and Family,

Testing of nursing home residents and staff at the Highway 13 site took place on June 23. I'm happy to report that all of the tests so far have come back negative. (We are only waiting on results for one employee that was tested on June 24.) Other than the one test result that we are waiting for, there were no findings of COVID-19 for residents and staff that were tested.

Testing at the Fountain Lake site is scheduled for July 13 and 14. We need to have authorization from the resident or the responsible party for testing, so you may receive a call from one of our staff requesting this. As a reminder, a person that tests negative for the COVID-19 virus one day could test positive for the virus a few days later. The test is a snapshot in time.

Outdoor Visits

The outdoor visits are going fairly well. I am concerned that some people are not understanding or following the guidelines. The guidelines are meant to protect your loved one and all of the residents. We are trying to avoid a situation where a resident has visitors, and then unknowingly brings the virus into the building and passes it on to other residents or staff. Clearly, we do not want to go down this path.

Most people that live at St. John's are 65 or older, and many have underlying health issues that make them very vulnerable to the COVID virus. Due to the age of the people that live at St. John's and their medical status, it is very difficult for them to fight this virus. Our primary goal is to keep the COVID-19 virus away from the people that live at St. John's, so please follow the outdoor visiting guidelines below.

Out Door Visitor Guidelines

Note: The below visitor guidelines have been established by the Minnesota Department of Health to protect the resident, visitors and staff.

- Please do not visit if you are not feeling well.
- Visitors must wear a mask at all times during the visit.
- Visitors must use alcohol-based hand rub prior to and after the visit.
- All visitors need to be actively screened at St. John's for signs and symptoms of COVID-19, and must attest to COVID-19 status prior to the visit.
- Visitors must sign in and provide contact information.
- Due to the risk of exposure, holding hands, hugging, kissing, or other physical contact is not allowed during visits.
- Children are allowed to visit but need to follow social distancing requirements.
- Pets must be under control of the visitors or on a leash.
- All visitors must maintain 6 feet social distancing from the resident at all times.
- Visitors must stay in the designated visitation area.
- Visitors cannot enter the buildings. Restrooms are not available for use.
- Please limit the number of visitors in your party to 6 people.
- Please do not bring food or drinks to the visit, as this would require visitor and / or resident to remove their mask.
- If you bring items for the resident, please give the item to the staff during the screening and staff will deliver to the resident's room.

As long as everyone follows the guidelines, we should be able to get through this pandemic without a major spread of the virus within the St. John's Community. We've gotten through the first four months of this pandemic, and there is talk of a vaccine by year-end or early 2021. This is hopeful news! Thank you for all of the precautionary steps that you are taking to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus at St. John's – it is very much appreciated!

God Bless,

Scot Spates

St. John's Lutheran Community
CEO / Administrator