



## DUTCHESS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL & COMMUNITY HEALTH

85 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie, NY 1201

Livia Santiago-Rosado, MD, FACEP, Commissioner

# Public Health Alert

May 13, 2022

## DBCH reminds residents of COVID mitigation steps as CDC updates risk level classification

Dutchess County has seen an increase in COVID-19 cases over the past several weeks and is one of several counties in the Hudson Valley currently classified as a “High Transmission” area by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

**To prevent COVID-19 spread, the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health (DBCH) urges residents to follow CDC Disease Prevention recommendations including:**

- **Get Vaccinated and boosted, if eligible!** COVID-19 vaccine is safe, effective, and readily available throughout the community, including at local pharmacies, doctors’ offices, urgent-care facilities, medical practices and the County’s Immunization Clinic.
- **Get tested** when not feeling well or potentially exposed. Report positive test to healthcare provider to discuss eligibility for treatments. Free test kits are available at local pharmacies and other locations throughout the community, including Dutchess County Government offices and buildings.
- **Wash hands** regularly with soap and water; or using hand sanitizer when necessary.
- **Stay home when sick!** Anyone experiencing cold or COVID-19 symptoms – including coughing, sneezing, loss of taste or smell – should stay home to rest, recover, and help prevent the spread of virus and disease.
- **Consider wearing a mask in indoor public spaces, even if fully vaccinated.**

Residents can receive free vaccinations, including booster shots, Monday and Wednesday, 10am – 3pm, at the Dutchess County Immunization Clinic inside the Family Partnership Center, 29 North Hamilton Street in Poughkeepsie. Appointments are required and can be made by calling 845-486-3455. To find a vaccination site near you visit [www.dutchessny.gov/covidvaccine](http://www.dutchessny.gov/covidvaccine).

Dutchess County, in partnership with Senegene Systems, offers free COVID testing at the former JCPenney at the Poughkeepsie Galleria at 2001 South Road in Poughkeepsie. Testing is offered Tuesdays and Thursdays 1pm -7pm and Saturdays 9am-noon. A list of additional local testing locations is available on the County’s website: <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/DBCH/Collection-Sites-for-Testing-in-Dutchess-County.htm>

For more details on CDC community level determination and prevention please see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>. Information about local vaccine availability and other COVID-19 updates, please visit [www.DutchessNY.gov/Coronavirus](http://www.DutchessNY.gov/Coronavirus) or call the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health at (845) 486-3555.

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