



Department of Health

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Executive Deputy Commissioner

July 31, 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Dear Resident / Representative:

This letter is to provide you with an update on the status of the Veterans Home's efforts to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. The safety and wellbeing of all residents is our top priority. We continue to receive regular guidance from federal and state government agencies and the departments that oversee nursing home care and services. The Infection Prevention and Control Committee met at least once daily this past week to review new guidance and took action accordingly. The full-time Infection Control nurse is also monitoring our efforts and working closely with the county, regional, and state health department contacts.

A total of twenty-one residents have tested positive since testing started along with one resident who was presumed to be positive. We continue to test all residents with symptoms or if a resident must test prior to a hospital appointment or procedure.

Twenty-one employees have tested positive or presumptive positive since testing became readily available. Staff continue to be tested weekly.

The Apple, Oak and Maple Neighborhoods are under limited quarantine. Residents on limited quarantine may come out of their rooms but most stay on the Neighborhood and are encouraged to wear a mask while outside of their room. They may also go outside in designated areas if accompanied by staff.

The Pine Neighborhood is under quarantine precautions through August 3rd. The Hawthorn Neighborhood is also under quarantine precautions until tests come back for three remaining residents of the group tested earlier in the month. Residents on these neighborhoods are asked to remain in their rooms with the doors closed and staff wear additional personal protective equipment (PPE) while working on the neighborhoods.

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

Kurt D. Apthorpe, MBA, CNHA, LNHA
Administrator

NYS Veterans' Home

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