## **Pike County Health Department**



David Iftner, PhD, President, Board of Health Anita Andress, RN, BSN, Administrator

> 606 W. Adams Street Pittsfield, IL 62363-1308 Tel: (217) 285-4407 Fax: (217) 285-4639



## PCHD News Release PCHD Reports Rapid Increase in COVID-19 Cases in Pike County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 21, 2021

CONTACT: Sharon Bargmann, RN, BSN 217-285-4407 x 125 sbargmann@pikecoilhealth.org

**Pike County, IL** – The Pike County Health Department (PCHD) is reporting a rapid increase in COVID-19 cases in Pike County during the month of December. In November, PCHD was notified of daily cases in the single digits and teens. This month, PCHD is being notified of daily cases in the 40's to 50's. November's average age for COVID-19 cases was 38 years old. So far in December, the average age is 33 years old. The Pleasant Hill school district went on adaptive pause prior to Christmas break due to the number of students and staff out due to illness from COVID-19 and flu like symptoms. Other school districts within Pike County were also experiencing multiple outbreaks.

PCHD has moved the FREE COVID testing to the PCHD building located at 606 W Adams St. in Pittsfield. Testing will be offered **Monday – Thursday from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm**. Please follow signage for COVID testing. **Participants will need to remain in their vehicle and park in the designated area**. A staff member will come to your vehicle to administer the test.

Please note that this testing is NOT a rapid test. Tests results will be available in 2-3 days. Participants will receive instructions via email on how to retrieve their results. If the participant does not have an email address, PCHD will call with **POSITIVE** results only.

Follow posted signage to enter the testing site. Testing will be drive-thru. Please stay in your car. PCHD staff will gather necessary information for testing and oversee self-collection of the COVID-19 test. Results of the test will be available approximately 48-72 hours from test date.

PCHD also provides free COVID-19 vaccinations and booster shots. Clinics will be every Thursday in December and January, 1:30 – 4:30 pm at the health department. Please go to <u>www.pikecountyil.org</u> for more information.

The best way to prevent contracting COVID-19 continues to be socially distancing yourself, washing your hands, masking, and getting a COVID-19 vaccination per CDC recommendations.

###