



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Walla Walla Veterans Home

92 Wainwright Drive | Walla Walla, Washington 99362 | 509-394-6800 | 509-527-4199 (fax)

September 10, 2021

Dear Walla Walla Veterans Home Residents, Family and Representatives,

I am writing today to provide you an update regarding COVID-19 testing and results at WWVH.

Today we received confirmation that two of our WWVH staff members have been diagnosed with COVID-19. We are working closely with the Walla Walla County Department of Community Health and following guidance from them, Centers for Disease Control, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and our State Department of Health to ensure we are safeguarding our residents and staff.

We are testing all residents and will continue to screen and monitor for symptoms regularly. Staff are tested twice each week. As part of our ongoing screening process, all staff are screened upon arrival at work each day. This process includes a series of questions around whether symptoms are present, any potential exposures, and a temperature check. In addition, staff are asked to report any symptoms that occur after coming to work. All staff continue to wear PPE that is in accordance with the strictest guidance for nursing home employees.

**According to guidance received from the Walla Walla County Department of Community Health, the following steps are to be put in place for the next two weeks:**

**Activities and Visitors:** A “No Visitors” rule will be put in place for the next two weeks, except for compassionate care visits. Our Activities Department is providing many 1:1 activities and individual opportunities during this time. If you would like to schedule a **virtual visit** with your loved one, please call 509-394-6800 during regular business hours M-F, and call 509-394-6890 on weekends or after business hours to schedule or leave a message requesting a call back. If you would like to discuss compassionate care visits, please contact WWVH Social Services at 509-394-6816 or 509-394-6821.

**Housekeeping and Maintenance:** Our Housekeeping and Maintenance departments are actively striving 7 days a week to assure that the facility, equipment and linens are kept clean and sanitized. Our housekeeping team provides continuous disinfections of all of the most commonly touched surfaces within the building along with the daily cleaning, sanitation, and repair routines that they provide.

**Vaccine Information:** As a part of our continued efforts to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus, we are hosting vaccination clinics for all unvaccinated staff and residents who wish to receive the vaccine. We encourage residents, staff, and community members (all those who are able and eligible) to consider getting vaccinated for COVID-19.

In an effort to provide information as quickly and accurately as possible, we have developed a website to provide up-to-date information to families and resident representatives, <https://www.dva.wa.gov/covid>.

Sincerely,

Lonna Leno, Administrator  
Walla Walla Veterans Home

*Serving Those Who Served*