

Promoting healthy communities

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ledge Light Health District Announces Standing COVID Testing Sites in New London and Groton

Ledge Light Health District is partnering with lab company Sema4 to conduct weekly COVID testing events in New London and Groton. Testing will be conducted at the City of Groton Municipal Building every Tuesday from 3-7pm and at the New London Senior Center every Friday from noon-5pm. No appointments are needed, and testing is available to everyone; you do not need to be experiencing symptoms or have a doctor's order to attend. Sema4 will process collect your health insurance information if you have coverage, but there is no charge if you do not have coverage.

"We heard from community members that after the community testing site contracts ended June 30th, it was difficult to access testing," said Stephen Mansfield, MPH, Ledge Light Health District Director of Health. "While access is still not as robust as it once was, these weekly testing events add options for our community members, especially those without insurance or who are not able to schedule appointments through the online portals of other providers."

Both testing sites will accommodate both drive-up and walk-up testing; PCR testing will be conducted with results available from Sema4 in 24-48 hours.

Ledge Light emphasized that the testing events are open to all. "There is no cost to community members for this testing," Mansfield said. "While Sema4 will ask for insurance information or a social security number if it is available, we want to make it clear that it is not required. The only required data is accurate contact information so they can get your results to you!"

Municipal leaders expressed their support of the partnership and encouraged community members to get tested, especially if they are worried about an exposure or possible symptoms. "The City of New London is honored to make the Senior Center available for testing every Friday," said New London Mayor Michael Passero. "Even those of us who are fully vaccinated can transmit COVID to our vulnerable family members and neighbors; identifying asymptomatic cases in our community is crucial, especially during this spike in cases."

City of Groton Mayor Keith Hedrick agreed adding, "We have continued to partner with Ledge Light throughout this pandemic to host testing and vaccination events and are pleased to once again make our site available to all community members who want or need to be tested."

For more information or to find other available testing locations in Southeastern Connecticut visit: <u>https://llhd.org/coronavirus-covid-19-situation/covid-19-testing/</u>

Residents and businesses are urged to access up-to-date information regarding the pandemic from reputable sources including the Ledge Light Health District website (<u>www.llhd.org</u>), Facebook (@LedgeLightHD), Twitter (@LedgeLightHD), and Instagram (@LedgeLightHD).

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