



Public Health Administration

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COVID-19 Testing Appointments Available in Butte County

BUTTE COUNTY, Calif. – Testing for COVID-19 is an important tool to stop the spread of illness and remains a top priority for Butte County Public Health (BCPH). If you have symptoms or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should get tested. This is true even after being vaccinated as you may still be able to spread the disease to others who are not vaccinated.

The State's OptumServe COVID-19 testing site located at 900 Mangrove Avenue in Chico offers free and fast testing, Monday – Saturday from 7am to 7pm. OptumServe has plenty of appointment availability and may honor walk-in appointments. Schedule your appointment at OptumServe here: <https://lhi.care/covidtesting>

Butte County remains in the Purple Tier (Widespread or Tier 1) of the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy. As a reminder, Tier 1, or the purple tier, is the most restrictive tier and requires most businesses and activities to modify operations for outdoors only.

To determine which tier Butte County qualifies for, the State looks at the number of Butte County residents tested to ensure we have the ability to identify COVID-19 when it is occurring. Testing early, after the onset of symptoms is important, as this is when COVID-19 is most contagious and when contact tracing will be most effective in stopping the spread. Household and other close contacts of persons with COVID-19 are also recommended to be tested. Additionally, as allergy season approaches, it may be important to determine whether symptoms are due to COVID-19 or allergies.

If the county's overall testing numbers drop too low, BCPH and the State lose the ability to adequately assess the amount of COVID in our community and our ability to move to less restrictive tiers may hindered.

For more information on COVID-19 testing including a list of all testing sites in Butte County, visit: www.buttecounty.net/ph/COVID19/Testing

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