



BERNARDS TOWNSHIP HEALTH DEPARTMENT

262 South Finley Avenue, Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920
(908) 204-2520. Fax (908) 204-3075. www.bernardshealth.org

Contact: Lucy Forgione, Health Officer/Health Director
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2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-2019) Weekly Update #61 – January 28, 2021

NJ COVID-19 Hotlines for COVID-19 Vaccine

A phone line to help New Jersey residents get a COVID-19 vaccination appointment went live on Monday, January 25th. The phone line **(855) 568-0545** will be staffed with agents daily from 8am – 8pm to help residents, especially seniors sign up for COVID-19 vaccination appointments. The phone line is expected to be inundated with callers and residents are asked to be patient as the phone line is set up and vaccine continues to arrive to NJ.

In addition to the State line, **Somerset County** has set up a call center for residents to call and get answers about both COVID-19 testing and vaccinations. Call **(908) 231-7155** M-F 8:30am-8pm and Sat from 10am-4pm. **Morris County** residents can continue to utilize the COVID-19 Hotline **(973) 829-8250** which is staffed 7 days a week during business hours.



COVID-19 School Guidance

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the NJDOH has provided local health departments with guidance known as **“COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools”**. This is based off current **CDC guidance**. This guidance is meant to be used by local health departments to use in partnership with school districts. This guidance uses a regional approach to determine risk within the broader school community and puts protocols into place to ensure when a COVID-19 case is identified, individuals are excluded as efficiently as possible. It is based on what is currently known about transmission and severity of COVID-19 and is subject to change as more information is discovered.

The Bernards Township Health Department adheres to this guidance and works with all schools within jurisdiction to advise school staff and work through all scenarios and questions. The most recent **update to this guidance** was January 19th, 2021 and was sent out to Health Departments and Schools on January 20th, 2021.

Bernards Township COVID-19 Testing

Upcoming COVID-19 Testing

[Register Here!](#)

Thursday, Feb 4th Starting at 9 am [View flyer here \(English\)](#)
Peapack & Gladstone Municipal Gym [View flyer here \(Spanish\)](#)
1 School Street, Peapack, NJ

COVID-19 Variant Updates

Two confirmed cases of the UK virus variant identified in NJ.

- Confirmed cases include an Ocean County resident and young traveler in northern NJ. The cases do not appear to be linked.
- It is likely that there are more cases in NJ that have not been detected.
- The virus variants are more easily spread and could lead to increased cases. The public is urged to stay vigilant with prevention actions, such as wearing masks, social distancing, washing hands often, and adhering to isolation and quarantine recommendations.

Volunteers Needed!

The BTHD is in the process of planning COVID-19 vaccine clinics when vaccine is available. If you are interested in volunteering, please email covidvax@bernards.org

How to Get Vaccinated

NJ is currently experiencing a vaccine shortage. As time goes on and a vaccine becomes more available, expect more appointment slots to open and more sites to open. For now, there are only 3 ways to get vaccinated:

1. Make an appointment directly with one of the many designated vaccination sites across the state. [Click here to view a full list of designated vaccination sites.](#)
2. Pre-register on NJVSS, and you will be notified when an appointment is available to you. [Click here to visit the NJ Vaccine Scheduling System.](#)
3. Select healthcare facilities, including many hospitals, are offering vaccines directly to their workers. If you work at one of the facilities, you can contact your employer to learn if the vaccine is available to you from your employer.

Updated 1/28/2021

The Bernards Township Health Department is the contractual health agency serving Bernards Township, Bernardsville Borough, Chester Borough, Long Hill Township, Mendham Borough, and Peapack and Gladstone Borough. For update links and more information, visit: <http://www.bernardshealth.org>



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2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-2019) Resources and Links

COVID-19 Case Graphs per Municipality – Case counts come directly from raw data imported from Commcare by the Bernards Township Health Department.

Somerset County

- [Bernards Township](#)
- [Bernardsville Borough](#)
- [Peapack and Gladstone Boroughs](#)

Morris County

- [Chester Borough](#)
- [Long Hill Township](#)
- [Mendham Borough](#)

COVID-19 Weekly Activity Reports

- Provides data on COVID-19 transmission by six regions in NJ.
- Updated every Thursday.
- Used to determine school exclusion and other re-openings.
- This week NJ is in **HIGH RISK**
- Click [here](#) to view this week's report ending January 23, 2021.
- Click [here](#) to view past week's reports.

NJ COVID-19 Vaccine Resources

- Pre-Register for the Vaccine through NJVSS (NJ Vaccine Scheduling System) – <https://covidvaccine.nj.gov/>
- <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine>
- https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_vaccination.shtml

New Jersey COVID-19 Resources

- <https://covid19.nj.gov/> - Visit this webpage to get information on all things COVID-19 in New Jersey.
- COVID-19 New Jersey Dashboard + Positive Test Results available [here](#). Now including trends, hospital census, long term care facilities, psychiatric hospitals, demographics, contact tracing and school info. Updated daily.
- Somerset County NJ COVID-19 Status Dashboard available [here](#).
- Morris County NJ COVID-19 Status Dashboard available [here](#).
- Phone/Text Lines:
 - 2-1-1 for General COVID-19 questions (7am-11 pm)
 - 1-800-962-1253 for Clinical Questions (24/7)
 - Text NJCOVID to 898-211 to receive alerts
 - Text your zip code to 898-211 for live text assistance
- NJ COVID-19 Vaccine Phone Lines
 - State of NJ Hotline – (855) 568-0545 – Get help scheduling a COVID-19 vaccination appointment. Staffed with live agents from 8am-8pm daily.
 - Somerset County Hotline – (908) 231-7155 – Get answers to your questions about COVID-19 Testing and Vaccinations. M-F 8:30am-8:00pm, Sat 10:00am-4:00pm.
 - Morris County COVID-19 Hotline – (973) 829-8250 – Staffed 7 days a week during business hours.

Testing Updates – As of 1/28/21: Click [here](#) for more information on free testing across New Jersey

- NJ Testing Sites – [click here](#) for the most up to date information including new locations and testing criteria.
 - Morris County – [Click here for Morris County Testing Locations.](#)
 - Somerset County – County testing site closed 1/27/21 to prepare for vaccination clinics. [Click here for Somerset County Testing Locations.](#)

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