



Media release

28 October 2021

For immediate release

New pop-up COVID-19 testing clinic to open in Maryborough

Maryborough District Health Service (MDHS) is working with Central Goldfields Shire Council to open a new pop-up COVID-19 testing clinic in Maryborough to deal with the extra demand for testing over the coming weeks.

The MDHS drive-through COVID-19 testing clinic will open at Lake Victoria on Friday 29 October. It will operate from 9am to 5pm, seven days a week. No appointment is needed.

Maryborough District Health Service Chief Executive Officer Nickola Allan said the time is right to open the new clinic to make it easier for the community to get tested.

"Thanks to a great effort and everyone working together we have been fortunate to minimise the impact of the COVID-19 in our local community so far," said Mrs Allan.

"However, we are monitoring a small number of active cases in the community at a time when restrictions across the state will ease this weekend, and the situation could change quickly.

"That is why we are asking our community to continue to do all the right things to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19.

"We know one of the biggest risks of transmission is when family and friends get together, and the reality is there will be lots of gatherings this weekend.

"Meet up outdoors where you can, keep your physical distance, wear your masks indoors or in crowded areas and stay on top of any exposure sites.

"If you do go out, make sure you check-in at the venue and get tested at the first sign of COVID-19 symptoms."

Mrs Allan said getting a COVID-19 test is quick and easy, and you no longer need to make an appointment at the local pop-up clinic.

"Simply drive up and get tested, then go straight home and isolate until you receive your result.

"Don't stop to get petrol or to pick up groceries at the supermarket. Call on your support network for supplies. Assistance is also available if you need it.

"Our community has been doing a great job of looking out for each other and we are well prepared to adjust to living with COVID-19 as part of the new norm.

"About 80 per cent of our community is fully vaccinated, which is a great start. We need everyone to jump on board to help protect our children and others that can't be vaccinated.

"We are also working closely with the Grampians Public Health Unit, Central Goldfields Shire Council and other key agencies to support the response effort," said Mrs Allan.

Central Goldfields Shire Mayor Cr Chris Meddows-Taylor congratulated MDHS for their efforts in getting the new clinic open so quickly.

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“We’re pleased we’ve been able to support the response effort and thank both our Council staff and the MDHS team for getting the pop-up clinic up and running so that our community can continue to get tested should they have symptoms,” said Mayor Meddows-Taylor.

“Our community have done such a wonderful job so far – our vaccination rates are high and our cases remain low but, with restrictions easing again this weekend, it’s more important than ever for us all to continue to play our part.

“Please continue to look out for one another, be kind, and together we will get through this.”

The number of active cases in the Central Goldfields Shire is six and three in the Pyrenees Shire. There are currently no Tier 1 exposure sites at 28 October 2021.

To stay up-to-date on local testing and vaccination clinics visit mdhs.vic.gov.au/covid.

For more information on the local response to COVID-19 including community and business support and initiatives visit centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au or pyrenees.vic.gov.au.

Check COVID-19 case alerts and exposure sites at coronavirus.vic.gov.au/exposure-sites.

MDHS Drive Testing Clinic

Where: Lake Victoria, Princes Park

Open: 9.00am – 5.00pm, 7 days a week

Enter via Lake Road from Napier Street, and exit via Burns Street.

Don’t forget to bring your Medicare card and mobile phone for check-in and registration.

Entry to the playground is via Burns Street

The COVID-19 testing clinic on Florence Lane will be temporarily closed while the pop-up clinic is open.



Tips for drive-through testing

- Drive slowly as you enter and exit the park.
- Look out for other traffic, pedestrians and clinical staff.
- Turn your engine off while waiting in a queue.
- Wait until you receive notification and drive into the testing area/marquee.
- Turn your engine off and place the car in park.
- Leave your face mask on until you are instructed to remove it for the test.
- Return home immediately after your test.
- Stay at home and isolate until you receive your results.