Page County Public Health 112 E Main St Clarinda, IA 51632 712-850-1212



Press Release

For More Information: Jessica Erdman, Agency Administrator Page County Public Health (712)850-1212 publichealth@co.page.ia.us For Immediate Release May 12, 2020

Page County Public Health Urges Residents to Complete the TestIowa Assessment

Page County Public Health Department urges those in Page County who have not yet completed the TestIowa assessment to do so as soon as possible. TestIowa is a new initiative in partnership with our state leaders and private corporations. The goal is to dramatically increase the rate of COVID-19 testing so Iowans can have better access to testing and help stem the spread of COVID-19.

"The sooner we can identify COVID-19 cases, the sooner we can get back to our normal way of life, or at least what the new normal will be. I know everyone is ready for some normalcy and calm in their lives," said Page County Public Health Director Jessica Erdman. "The process of TestIowa is very simple and it is recommended that every Iowan completes an assessment on themselves."

How it works is you first go to <u>TestIowa.com</u> and answer a few questions about yourself. The information you provide is protected by HIPAA and the Iowa Department of Public Health privacy policy and terms and conditions. Your information will be protected and analyzed ONLY by those with authorized access. The data collected under this initiative will only be retained in the short-term to aid the State of Iowa in responding to the pandemic.

After completing the assessment, you will be notified if you do or don't qualify for testing right now. However, if you don't qualify right away and develop symptoms or have been exposed to someone who has tested positive, we urge that you take the test again. You can take the test as many times as needed. If you do qualify for testing, you will be notified of time slots available and of the location of a drive-through testing location.

If you test positive, you will be asked some questions to help isolate the infection rate; for example, who you might have been in contact with and where you have traveled recently.

"It's that simple," states Erdman. "So please, go do the assessment on <u>TestIowa.com</u>. It is important that we get more testing done in our area so we can start to slow the spread of the virus."

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Page County Public Health Department at 712.850.1212 or publichealth@co.page.ia.us.