Calvert County NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19 Testing to Begin at Prince Frederick VEIP Station

PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – April 24, 2020 – The Calvert County Department of Health and CalvertHealth Medical Center are partnering to offer drive-through testing for COVID-19 at the Prince Frederick Vehicle Emission Inspection Program (VEIP) station located at 1035 Prince Frederick Blvd. in Prince Frederick beginning Tuesday, April 28. Testing will be available Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Free, appointment-only, drive-through testing for the coronavirus is currently underway at several Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration VEIP facilities around the state and will now be available at the Prince Frederick location here in Calvert County. This is a concerted effort by Governor Hogan to expand coronavirus testing throughout the state.

At this time, you cannot get a test without a health care provider. To qualify for testing at a VEIP site, individuals must:

- Meet testing criteria as determined by a licensed healthcare provider.
- Obtain an order for testing from a healthcare provider.
- Register online and make an appointment at a test site.

Once individuals have a confirmed order from a healthcare provider, they will receive a unique code they can use to make an appointment, according to Dr. Larry Polsky, health officer for Calvert County Health Department.

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Urgent Care Centers will also be able to generate an appointment. If individuals do not have a provider, CalvertHealth Medical Group is available for new patients. Individuals should call 410-414-2778 to be connected with a provider and get an appointment.

"We are happy to partner with the state of Maryland, our local Health Department and many of our area providers to expand testing efforts for our community," said CalvertHealth President and CEO Dean Teague.

After patients get a referral from their doctor, their doctor will order a test online through CRISP, the state's health information exchange, at a VEIP site, according to the state. Once the doctor submits a patient's order, the patient will be sent a unique code and a link to a scheduling website to make an appointment.

If, however, individuals develop any of these emergency warning signs for COVID-19, they should seek medical attention immediately:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face

The above listing is not all inclusive. If at any time while awaiting an appointment for testing individuals feel they need immediate care, do not delay coming to the CalvertHealth Medical Center Emergency Department.

For more health information and guidance from the Calvert County Health Department visit www.CalvertHealth.org and the health department COVID-19 online information center at www.CalvertCountyCOVID19.com.

For more information about CalvertHealth Medical Center, visit www.CalvertHealthMedicine.org.

Visit www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus for further updates, guidance and resources. Updates will continue to appear on the Calvert County Government website, www.CalvertCountyMd.gov, Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd and Comcast Channel 6.

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