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Coronavirus testing returns to Blythe; other changes announced for test sites

Coronavirus testing is available again in Blythe for residents of the eastern Riverside County community who want to know whether they have contracted the virus.

Testing started June 10 at the site -- 445 N. Broadway Avenue -- and will continue for two weeks. Riverside County health officials had previously operated a testing location in Blythe and are returning because there is a need to know the extent of spread in the community and a recent outbreak at a local state prison.

The opening of the Blythe site was one of several changes to the sites made to provide testing services to a wider portion of community. Additional moves include:

--The walk-up sites in Mecca, San Jacinto and Valle Vista outside Hemet have closed.

--A walk-up site at 31215 Wild Meadow Drive in French Valley near Temecula has opened. The location operates Tuesday through Saturday between 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

--A walk-up site at the Edgemont Women's Club in Moreno Valley, 21640 Cottonwood Ave., will be operate June 17 through June 19 between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Testing at the county-run sites is open to anyone, whether they have symptoms or not, and there are no out-of-pocket costs to individuals. Participants will be asked to provide information about their health insurance, but they will not be charged any share of costs or copay, and will be allowed to get tested even if they do not provide the insurance information. You must have an appointment to get tested.

More than 146,000 coronavirus tests have been conducted in Riverside County, with more than 10,000 confirmed cases of coronavirus.

Testing continues to be an integral focus as more residents visit more businesses. Visit www.rivcoph.org/coronavirus/testing for more information on testing locations and how to make an appointment.