



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

June 24, 2020

TO: All interested parties
FROM: Stephen Sinclair, Secretary
Subject: **Staff and Incarcerated Individual COVID-19 Testing at CRCC**

Coyote Ridge Corrections Center (CRCC) will begin COVID-19 testing of employees at the Medium Security Complex (MSC) and Minimum Security Unit (MSU) as well as the incarcerated population at MSC on Wednesday, June 24, 2020.

A partnership with Benton-Franklin Health District, Washington Department of Health and the Washington National Guard

CRCC will work in partnership with the Benton-Franklin Health District, Washington Department of Health and the Washington National Guard to conduct the testing. Washington Department of Health and National Guard employees will provide assistance in the testing of the CRCC employees and incarcerated individuals, similar to the testing efforts you may have seen on the news in our surrounding communities.

The test will involve collecting a nasal specimen to detect active infection. It is not an antibody test and does not reflect possible immune status from a previous infection. The test will consist of a swab inserted into the nose and rotated. It is not the more invasive nasopharyngeal swab and individuals may be asked to collect the specimen themselves.

Testing of incarcerated individuals

CRCC will conduct testing of individuals in their units. CRCC expects to receive test results in three to five days and individuals will be notified if the results are positive for COVID-19.

Testing of employees

All staff will be tested prior to reporting to their assigned work station/post and testing will be conducted on all three shifts. To help prevent outgoing transmission at the facility moving forward, staff testing will be repeated every seven days until further notice. This is known as serial testing. Test results are expected back in three to five days and staff will be notified.

What happens next?

Depending on test results, incarcerated individuals may be moved to a different housing assignment within CRCC. Individuals who test positive will be housed together. Individuals who test negative will be tested a second time and those that receive a double negative result will be housed together.

Staff, whose results come back positive, will be placed on home isolation immediately and

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will then work with HR moving forward. Staff members who have tested positive and completed their isolation requirements will be exempt from further serial testing.

We are grateful to our staff and incarcerated population for their ongoing commitment to keeping themselves and each other safe and healthy. We will get through this together.