

INFORMATION RELEASE December 10, 2021

## Juneau Public Health & Juneau Police Department are new COVID-19 self-test distribution sites

The City and Borough of Juneau has added the Juneau Public Health Center and Juneau Police Department as public distribution sites for <u>free COVID-19 self-tests</u>. You can use these rapid antigen tests regardless of vaccination status, or whether or not you have symptoms. The test can be self-administered from home, or wherever, and returns results in 15 minutes. Here's the current list of free self-test distribution sites:

- City Hall Cash Office
- All Juneau Public Libraries (Downtown, Mendenhall Valley, and Douglas)
- **Juneau Public Health Center**, 3412 Glacier Highway (across the street from Twin Lakes parking lot)
- Juneau Police Department, 6255 Alaway Avenue
- Dimond Park Aquatic Center

At this time, the public can pick up two tests per family. The goal of the distribution is for families to have self-tests on reserve for when one might be needed. <u>Do not go into any of</u> these facilities to pick up self-tests if you're feeling sick.

Here are reasons to use a self-test:

- You're experiencing new <u>symptoms of COVID-19</u>.
- You've recently been in <u>close contact</u> with someone who tested positive.
- Consider using a self-test before joining indoor gatherings with others who are not in your household.

Currently, CBJ is distributing the QuickVue At-Home OTC COVID-19 Test. Here's an instructional video on how to use this particular test. These self-tests are rapid antigen tests, which – while not as sensitive as PCR tests – can detect COVID-19 when it becomes transmissible.

While positive results are not counted in Alaska Department of Health & Social Services <u>COVID-19 numbers</u>, CBJ asks Juneau residents to report positive self-test results to Public Health (907-465-3353) to learn about possible treatment options or any other appropriate medical followup.

Please note: In light of the COVID-19 variant, Omicron, if you've recently traveled, please take the free COVID-19 PCR test that's offered at the Juneau International Airport upon arrival. Similarly, if you've recently traveled and test positive on an antigen self-test, please take a follow-up PCR test at a local health provider or CBJ's drive-thru testing site (register online or call 907-586-6000). Positive PCR test results from the airport or other facilities are sent to the State Public Health Lab for potential sequencing.

The Juneau School District also has a supply of COVID-19 self-tests. Read about the district's <u>Test to Stay Program protocols here</u>.

Public Health has more guidance for rapid antigen COVID-19 self-tests <u>here</u> that will be handed out with the tests, or go to <u>CBJ's webpage</u>.

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For more information, contact CBJ Emergency Operations Center Incident Commander and Deputy City Manager Robert Barr at 907-586-5240 or <a href="mailto:Robert.Barr@juneau.org">Robert.Barr@juneau.org</a>, or email <a href="mailto:COVIDquestions@juneau.org">COVIDquestions@juneau.org</a>.