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## NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**DATE: 02/08/2022**

**Free at-home COVID-19 test kits are now available**

### For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York State has provided Orleans County Emergency Management Office with free at-home COVID-19 test kits to distribute to residents.

Starting Tuesday, February 8th, 2022, each village hall, library, and the Orleans County Office Building will have a limited supply of COVID-19 test kits to distribute to residents during normal business hours until the kits are gone. "Orleans County is still considered high for level of community transmission," stated Paul Pettit, Public Health Director for Orleans County Health Department. "We continue to encourage anyone who has had close contact with someone who tested positive with COVID-19 to get tested 5 days after last contact. If you are experiencing any symptoms self-isolate and test for COVID-19."

The GCC Albion Campus Center at 456 West Avenue, Albion will be open through at least February 23<sup>rd</sup>, Monday – Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. for PCR and rapid testing. Walk-ins allowed for an appointment, [click here](#). If you need a lab-confirmed test, visit the [NYS COVID-19 testing sites](#) for lab testing locations. Home tests can be reported on the [GOHealthNY.org](#) website by clicking the red COVID-19 Testing button and clicking your county.

A maximum of 1 kit per person will be distributed at the following locations:

Orleans County Office Building: Monday-Friday 9-5:00

Village of Lyndonville: Monday-Friday 7:30-4 Closed Daily 12:30-1

Village of Medina: Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30

Village of Albion: Monday-Friday 8-4

Village of Holley: Monday-Friday: 8-4

Yates Community Library: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10-8 / Friday 10-5 / Saturday 10-2

The Genesee Orleans County Health Departments (GCHD/OCHD) uses 4 types of documents to provide important information to medical and public health professionals, and to other interested persons.

**Health Alerts** convey information of the highest level of importance which warrants immediate action or attention from New York health providers, emergency responders, public health agencies, and/or the public.

**Health Advisories** provide important information for a specific incident or situation, including that impacting neighboring states; may not require immediate action.

**Health Guidance** contain comprehensive information pertaining to a particular disease or condition, and include recommendations, guidelines, etc. endorsed by GCHD/OCHD.

**Health Updates** provide new or updated information on an incident or situation; can also provide information to update a previously sent Health Alert, Health Advisory, or Health Guidance; unlikely to require immediate action.

Lee Whedon Library: Monday-Thursday 10-8 / Friday-Saturday 10-5

Hoag Library: Monday-Thursday 10-8 / Friday 10-5 / Saturday 10-2

Holley Community Free Library: Monday, Wednesday 10-1 & 4-8 / Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10-5 / Saturdays 10-2

Please note all the school districts have received kits for their students and will distribute according to their respective plans. “Residents should use at-home COVID-19 tests after a possible exposure to someone with COVID-19 or when they exhibit symptoms of COVID-19,” stated Paul Pettit, Public Health Director for Genesee and Orleans County Health Departments (GO Health). “Testing is one mitigation strategy that can help reduce the community spread of COVID-19.”

### **To report a Positive At-home Test:**

Individuals can visit the [GO Health website COVID-19 Testing page](#) and choose the appropriate Home Test button for their respective county. Individuals should complete the at-home tests according to the directions provided. When the test is completed, individuals should take a picture with the individual’s name, the date and the time they took the test legibly written in permanent marker within 15 minutes of reading the test. Towards the end of the online form, the individual will be required to upload the picture on the website and attest to the authenticity and truth of the form. If there are any missing sections that are required, the form is invalid. At this time, individuals do not need to report negative at-home test results.

Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 is to self-isolate immediately. You may not be contacted regarding your contacts, so it is important to notify your close contacts (those who you spent 15 minutes or more in a 24 hour period 2 days prior to symptoms or 2 days prior to a positive test result). It is important to continue with self-isolation from household members as much as you are able. Isolate for 5 days and if you are fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication, your symptoms are getting better, and you can tolerate a tight-fitting mask you can return to work/school but you are still required to wear a tight-fitting mask for 5 more days. If you must share space, make sure all in contact with you are wearing tight-fitting masks covering their nose and mouth and frequently shared items/surfaces are sanitized often. To access isolation orders and isolation release paperwork visit our website at [GOHealthNY.org](#) (COVID-19 Isolation & Quarantine Documents & Information) and complete and print out or print and hand write the forms from the county you reside in and provide to your employer or school.

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