



Posted 02-02-22

Birchwood Nursing and Rehabilitation has had new staff and resident cases of COVID-19 since the last posted update on 01-26-22.

Staff who have tested positive have been sent home. The facility will follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the local health authority's guidelines for staff member's return to work.

Residents who have tested positive have been separated from residents who are negative. As much as is possible, staff working with positive residents do not work in other parts of the facility. Personal Protective Equipment is changed between care.

We are open for visitation.

We have a few guidelines for visitors so that we can provide a safe environment for all: Visitors are required to wear face masks throughout the visit. Free COVID-19 testing is available to all visitors, but not required. Vaccinated and non-vaccinated residents will be allowed to host visitors both indoors and outdoors. Appointments are requested, but not required. All visitors must screen in by answering a series of questions about symptoms, travel, and contact on our kiosk. Visitors must use hand hygiene before and after their visit.

All visitors must be at least 6ft from staff, other visitors, and other residents

We will continue to practice rigorous COVID-19 infection prevention. This includes: health screening for everyone who enters the facility, hand hygiene, mandatory face coverings, PPE for our staff, resident and staff testing as required, and separate areas for COVID-19 care, as needed.

All staff are wearing appropriate personal protective equipment, per CDC guidelines.

Staff are screened upon arrival for their shift. They answer a series of questions about contact and travel, then a designated team member takes and records their temperature. This staff screening log is submitted to facility administration, daily.

Housekeeping team members have been provided additional, extensive training on proper disinfection techniques, disposal of trash, and cleaning of linens.

We encourage our communities to learn more about the COVID-19 vaccines. We recommend using resources such as [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) and conversations with personal healthcare providers. To find a vaccine near you, visit: [Vaccines.gov/search](https://www.vaccines.gov/search).

Please call us at (903) 395-2125, we would be happy to answer any questions you may have.