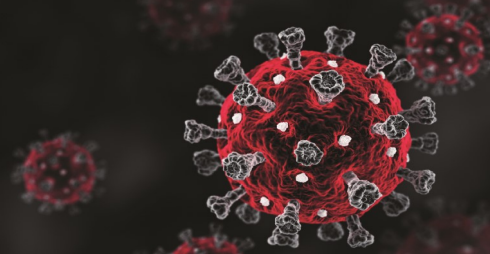


Vax Matters



May 21, 2021



News

NJ Transit Vaccination Pop-Ups

NJ Transit is hosting upcoming pop-up vaccination sites at three train stations. No appointments are necessary, and walk-ins are welcome. All three sites will be open from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and include:

- ◆ Tuesday, May 25, Newark Penn Station, 1 Raymond Plaza West and Market Street
- ◆ Wednesday, May 26, Frank R. Lautenberg Station at Secaucus Junction, Secaucus, County Road and County Avenue
- ◆ Thursday, May 27, Walter Rand Transportation Center, 100 South Broadway Boulevard, Camden

NJ Transit is offering two free roundtrip tickets for rides to vaccine appointments through its VaxRide program. For more information, visit www.njtransit.com/vaxride or contact NJ Transit Customer Service at 973-275-5555.

'Grateful for the Shot' Continues

Fourteen houses of worship are hosting "Grateful for the Shot" vaccination sites through the weekend, May 21-23, to reduce vaccine hesitancy and ramp up vaccination efforts. In partnership with the Governor's Office, the First Lady's Office, New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), the New Jersey Pandemic Relief Fund, and faith leaders, the initiative brings vaccinations to congregations in targeted communities and municipalities over the next several weekends.

This weekend's events are taking place in East Orange, Willingboro, Englewood, Camden, Vineland, Newark, Bloomfield, Bayonne, Westville, Lakewood, Passaic, Bound Brook, Hillside and Elizabeth.

Free State Park Access for Fully Vaccinated Residents

To encourage residents to get vaccinated, New Jerseyans who receive at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose by July 4 are eligible for free entry to all state parks, Governor Murphy announced.

Beginning May 27, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) will offer a free State Parks Vax Pass under the new "Vax and Visit" campaign.

The **State Parks Vax Pass**, which will be of the same value as the Annual State Parks Pass, will allow free access to all of New Jersey's state parks and forest facilities that charge daily walk-in or parking fees, from May 27 through December 31.

These residents will be able to request a State Parks Vax Pass upon entry at any of the state's parks. NJDEP will also provide refunds to residents who already purchased annual passes this year and have been fully vaccinated. Starting May 27, people can go to www.nj.gov/vaxandvisit to apply for the free season parks pass.

In addition, in partnership with the **Garden State Wine Growers Association**, New Jerseyans ages 21 and older who receive their first shot in May can visit one of the state's participating wineries and receive a free glass of wine. Participating wineries include: Amalthea Cellars, Auburn Road Vineyards, Bellview Winery, DiMatteo Vineyards, Salem Oak Vineyards, Terhune Orchards, Tomasello Winery, Villa Milagro Vineyards in Pohatcong, and White Horse Winery.

"Millions of New Jerseyans have rolled up their sleeves and received a vaccination to protect themselves and their loved ones from COVID-19, but there is still much work to be done in order to reach our goal of 4.7 million fully vaccinated New Jersey adults by June 30," said Governor Murphy. "We are determined to reach our vaccination goals and make this the best Jersey summer yet."

Individuals age 18+ who have received at least one dose since the start of the state's program can also enter to win **dinner with a guest and the Governor and First Lady Tammy Murphy** at either Drumthwacket, the official Governor's residence in Princeton, or the Governor's residence in Island Beach State Park. Entries must be submitted by May 31 at covid19.nj.gov.



The State Parks Vax Pass will allow free access to all state parks, including Island Beach State Park.



Vaccination Progress

- ◆ 8.2M+ vaccine doses administered in N.J.
- ◆ 4M+ fully vaccinated people



Check out all of NJDOH's vaccine public awareness videos on our [YouTube channel](#).

NJ Health Department Holds Trenton Neighborhood Vaccination Clinic

NJDOH hosted a neighborhood vaccination event on Friday across from its North Willow Street headquarters in downtown Trenton.

Music, balloons and snacks were on hand for area residents who came out to be vaccinated with either the Pfizer or the Johnson & Johnson vaccines.

The event was in partnership with NJDOH, Walgreens, City of Trenton, Trenton Health Department, Mercer County, Trenton Health Team, and Capital Health.

Members of the COVID Community Corps canvassed neighborhoods and businesses near the vaccination site to raise awareness.

“A lot of you are our neighbors, and we’re so happy that you have come out to join with us to save lives in this community, and that’s what you are doing by getting vaccinated,” Health Commissioner Judith Persichilli told the crowd. “You’re protecting yourself, your loved ones, the community and, at the end of the day, you’re participating with us in saving lives. We can’t thank you enough.”

Also on hand was one of NJDOH’s large blue Mobile Command Centers, where members of NJDOH’s Rapid Response Team provided COVID-19 testing.

The three Mobile Command Centers will be deployed regionally to provide testing and vaccinations in underserved communities.

The Trenton event drew over 240 individuals who received their vaccinations, including parents and children, many of whom arrived before start time.



Trenton resident Yinka Animasahun, top, was the first person vaccinated at NJDOH's vaccination event held Friday for community members. The department's Mobile Command Center vehicle also was onsite to conduct COVID-19 testing.



New Jersey's nationally recognized Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers met with Commissioner Persichilli Thursday, who presented them with state volunteer appreciation certificates.

From left, Ashlee Danner on behalf of the Burlington County MRC; Dawn Wilkes, on behalf of the Bergen County MRC; Commissioner Persichilli; Ella Shaykevich of Perth Amboy, recognized for mentorship; and Richard Kozub on behalf of the Middlesex County MRC.

Created in 2005, the state's MRC is a network of 24 community-based, locally organized units comprised of both health professionals and non-clinical community health members.

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