

Date: September 19, 2020

To: Orchard Woods Health Center Residents and Families

From: Missy Sellers, NHA, Associate Administrator

Subject: Orchard Woods Path Forward Update



**THE VILLAGE AT
ORCHARD RIDGE**

A National Lutheran Community

Orchard Woods Health Center is active and healthy as we move into the fall. For over a month, there have been no new cases of COVID-19 at Orchard Woods, and there are no positive cases of COVID-19 within the community at The Village at Orchard Ridge. Routine COVID-19 universal testing for residents and team members is based on the county positivity rate. Frederick County just crossed the threshold for required weekly testing with a county-wide positivity rate of five percent. Because of this, Orchard Woods will conduct COVID-19 testing next Tuesday and Wednesday, September 22-23.

Through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, we have received a COVID-19 rapid testing machine for use in Orchard Woods. Virginia has adopted the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) testing guidelines, which indicate the rapid testing equipment will be used for resident and team member monitoring as a required and proactive measure. With point of care testing providing results within 20 minutes, clinicians can quickly develop a treatment plan, which includes an immediate quarantine in the designated area of the Health Center for any resident who tests positive. Team members who test positive are required to self-quarantine in their home.

As a precaution this week, we used the rapid testing machine on one resident who was running a fever. Having the testing equipment onsite allowed us to quickly determine that the resident was negative for the COVID-19 versus waiting three to four days for a test result. As a part of our ongoing infection control protocols, we monitor team members for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 daily and residents twice daily.

Phase II of our re-opening for Orchard Woods began this week. With approval from the Virginia Department of Health, we are:

- continuing to offer outdoor visitation
- increasing small group ConnectedLiving programming opportunities from three residents to five residents
- continuing communal dining
- allowing one family member to accompany their loved one to and from essential medical appointments
- allowing pre-packaged food items; *we are still unable to accept homemade food items*

Continued

MEMORANDUM

Residents and families continue to embrace the opportunity to participate in outdoor visits together on our courtyard patios. Safety protocols continue to be in place, as shared in our weekly updates. To streamline the scheduling process, we have implemented SignUpGenius to help organize the visitation schedule. Families are encouraged to schedule their visits with their loved ones through the neighborhood links below. The schedule is released on a seven-day rolling schedule. For example, on Saturday, September 19, you will be able to schedule through Saturday, September 26.

Assisted Living Memory Care Neighborhood:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/memorycarevisits>

Gretchen Webster, ConnectedLiving Coordinator

Long-Term Care or Skilled Rehabilitation Neighborhoods:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/longtermsskilledvisits>

Molly Edmonston, ConnectedLiving Coordinator

As team member resources throughout Orchard Woods are allocated to meet all resident needs, ConnectedLiving team members coordinate and supervise outdoor visits. The sign-up schedule indicates times assigned for ConnectedLiving team members to assist residents and families in outdoor visits. These team members are not scheduled to assist residents with other engagement and connectivity activities during these times; their time is set-apart for the visits. Thank you for your understanding as we try to accommodate all needs.

Last week we communicated that meals from restaurants, commercially-prepared and pre-packaged food items can now be shared with residents. This is accurate, but please note that neither residents nor visitors can enjoy these items during the scheduled outdoor visits. Masks must remain on throughout the visits. Therefore, any food items brought in would need to be left for the resident to enjoy at a later time – outside of a visit.

Fortunately, we continue to enjoy warmer days where residents can comfortably be outside and enjoy visits. Realizing there may be days when the weather or temperature is not conducive for a time outdoors, our team members will communicate if there is a need to change an outdoor visit to a virtual visit.

We are continually blessed to experience the joys of reconnecting residents with one another in group programming and as they dine together. It's also delightful to see residents engage with their family during patio visits. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement as we navigate these times of constant change.