UCR PALM DESERT

Drive-up COVID-19 testing now available at UCR Palm Desert Center

PALM DESERT, CA — As part of Palm Desert's efforts to expand and streamline testing options for residents, the City has partnered with UCR Palm Desert Center and Curative to operate a drive-up, free test site.

UCR Palm Desert Center is centrally located within the Coachella Valley at 75080 Frank Sinatra Drive, just off Interstate 10. Testing is available 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Improving the ability to identify those who are positive is a key component for slowing the spread of COVID-19, reopening the local economy, and getting students back in classrooms.

"With the surge in cases, it is more important than ever to expand access to tests and identify COVID-19 positive individuals to help stop the spread of this virus," said Tamara Hedges, executive director of UCR Palm Desert Center. "As a research-driven facility, we understand the power in gathering data and using that to support the health of our community."

Curative is a private testing company that currently operates more than 10,000 testing sites across the nation. It offers FDA-authorized pain-free oral swabs that are self-administered.

All services at Curative testing sites are free, but appointments must be scheduled through the Curative website (available in English and Spanish) at curative.com.

As part of the scheduling process, patients will be asked to answer a series of questions, including insurance information. If they do not have health insurance, they can still get free testing. Test results will be sent to patients by email, text message, or phone within 48 hours.