

CLASSIFIED ADS

Silver Bay Veterans Home provides COVID-19 update

AA MEETINGS: TUESDAYS, 7:30 PM, Sychar Lutheran Church, Silver Bay, MN. 218-226-3914 or 218-353-7340

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The Minnesota Veterans Home - Silver Bay is testing both staff and residents weekly for COVID-19. That frequency may change depending on the incidence of both the Lake County community and facility positive cases. Home leaders notify residents, families and tested staff of any results as soon as those results are received.

New cases reflect an overall increase in positive COVID cases in Lake County. While the facility is abiding by all recommended infection prevention recommendations, some staff appear to have been infected through community spread of the virus. The Silver Bay Veterans Home has so far been fortunate to have had very few COVID cases among residents and these cases have been limited to one area of the facility.

The Home is currently testing staff and residents weekly per Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidelines. Some residents may be re-tested more frequently if they show symptoms. All staff who test positive or are determined to be "high risk" must quarantine for 14 days before returning to work.

"We are prepared for this situation and are taking all necessary precautions to keep resi-

dents and staff safe," said Douglas Hughes, Deputy Commissioner - Veterans Healthcare at the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Silver Bay Veterans Home has implemented several measures to stop the spread of the virus, including:

- A special isolation unit for residents who test positive for COVID-19
- Staff continue to wear the recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) which protects both residents and healthcare workers
- Screen all staff for illness at the beginning of their shift and continue to screen residents twice a day
- Any staff showing symptoms are required to leave the facility and should be tested right away.

"Our priority, as always, is to keep everyone safe and healthy and we are doing everything possible we can to stop the spread of this virus within our setting," said Hughes.

For more details and ongoing updates, visit the CMS COVID-19 Nursing Home Data website at <https://data.cms.gov/stories/s/COVID-19-Nursing-Home-Data/bkwz-xpvg/>

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