



November, 19, 2021

Dear River Bluff Families,

River Bluff Nursing Home recognizes the importance and value of in-person visits. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the facility has had to alter our normal visitation procedures. Effective **Tuesday, November 23, 2021** River Bluff will transition from scheduled visitations to open visitation. Our visitation process is based on guidance from CMS, the CDC, and IDPH and subject to change based on facility and pandemic status. Preventing COVID-19 within our facility is a safety priority for our residents, visitors and staff. Please be advised that our current county COVID positivity rate is high and rising. The county positivity rate increases the risks associated with in-person visits; therefore it is extremely important that visitation requirements are adhered to. If a facility identifies one COVID positive case, visitations will be paused until cleared from the occurrence through investigation, contact tracing, and testing. The information below outlines our open visitation requirements.

- Visitation hours are 9:00 am to 8:00 pm.
- Visits are limited to 2 visitors at a time in a resident room to accommodate social distancing.
- Visitors must hand sanitize upon entering the facility and wear a well-fitting face mask (covering nose and mouth) at all times while in the facility, unless actively eating or drinking.
- All visitors will be screened upon entry into the facility at the time of the visit. If all screening requirements for visitation are **not** met such as illness, fever, or exposure to COVID, the visit will not be allowed.

- Visitors must sign in and out of the facility with reception.
- Visitors must provide contact information.
- Visitors must comply with all infection control measures (source control): hand hygiene, screening, face masks, social distancing. Visits may be cancelled if infection control measures are not followed.
- Visitors must immediately report the onset of any signs or symptoms of COVID or a positive test result within 3 days after a visit to the facility.
- In-person visits will occur in Common Areas designated by the facility or in resident rooms.
- Visitors are to remain in the designated visit areas or resident rooms.
- Visitors must avoid close contact and physically distance from other residents and staff in the facility.
- Children must be 12 years of age or older to participate in visitation. Children must be managed to maintain social distancing and wear a face mask during the visit.
- Due to an increase in variants, source control (hand hygiene, face mask, social distancing of 6 feet) is required regardless of vaccination status.
- If a resident is fully vaccinated they can choose to have close contact (including touch) with their visitor while wearing a well-fitting face mask and performing hand hygiene before and after contact.
- Visitors may be required to wear additional personal protective equipment based on the individual resident's medical necessity.
- All high touch areas are to be cleaned after the visit.

- If your loved one requires assistance in getting prepared for the visit please contact the facility ahead of time so staff can have them ready for your visit.
- Eating and drinking may occur with your loved one during the visit, but 6 feet distancing must be maintained, and face masks are only removed while actively eating or drinking.
- We encourage visitors to share their vaccination status with the facility (although it is not required).

We are blessed and thankful for each and every one of our residents and family members. The holiday season is upon us. We encourage you to spend time with your loved ones. While River Bluff is not able to facilitate any large gatherings due to pandemic precautions, it is permissible for you to bring your resident home for the holiday, a meal, or other family festivities. If you are interested in planning an excursion with your family member please coordinate arrangements with the Neighborhood Coordinator or Social Services.

Sincerely,

Pat McDiarmid and Candy Manning