



September 15, 2020

Dear Smith Crossing Family,

We are heartened to see Will County's positivity rate began to decline early last week and remains under eight percent. Once the County achieves a 6.5 percent positivity rate, we can lift some restrictions that affect our community. On Monday, the County's positivity rate was 7.2 percent.

Planning visits again

We are so pleased families are reserving times to visit in person with residents in assisted living, memory care and skilled nursing care starting on Wednesday, September 23. The occurrence of a new resident case of COVID-19 is the only reason we would be required to emend this plan.

Call Mary DePaola at 708-326-2305 to schedule your visits on campus and during the interim to set-up virtual visits.

Having fun, dining together

We encourage all residents take advantage of a variety of ways to socialize—from participating in activities organized for small groups to enjoying each other's company when dining. In all instances, we applaud residents for complying with our three basic precautions to protect themselves and each other against the virus.

This week, we also welcome Kim Vitek, our new dining services manager who brings to Smith Crossing a wealth of experiences working in country clubs and senior living communities.

Arming everyone for flu season

The Saint Xavier University Clinic is administering flu shots for independent living residents between 4:30 and 7pm on Wednesday, September 16, and between 9am and 12noon on Saturday, September 19, in the IL Lobby. Residents must pre-register with the on-campus SXU Clinic. During the next few weeks, this clinical team also will provide shots for residents in the healthcare wing and for all employees.

Testing yields good news for our community

Smith Crossing received negative results for all 233 people—92 residents, 151 staff members and 10 third-party caregivers—tested on September 8.

In accordance with Will County and IDPH guidelines, we continue to test residents in assisted living, memory care and skilled nursing care as well as those work in these areas on Tuesday afternoons. Independent living residents also can be tested if they ask.

Providing more services with Smith Crossing Greenleaf Rehab

On this Wednesday, elected officials will join Smith leaders to celebrate the opening of our new rehab wing for a very brief ceremony. Because families cannot visit the new rehab wing, click here for a virtual tour of our beautiful spa-like setting <https://www.smithcrossing.org/living-options/senior-rehabilitation/>

Following practices that matter

We ask visitors and staff members to adhere to our protocols to abate COVID-19 as a way to protect our Smith Crossing family.

When anyone is on our campus, they are required to

- Wear a mask in all common areas and while interacting with each other as well as when traveling in a car with family and others
- Observe six-foot social distancing at all gatherings, including outdoor events, and individual encounters when walking in hallways and delivering mail and packages to a neighbor
- Practice hand-hygiene throughout the day

In addition to these three key precautions, we also ask all visitors to

- Limit visitors to two people from the same household
- Contact Smith Crossing if they experience symptoms of COVID-19 within three days after their visit

Smith Crossing employees follows these and other practices published by Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and Will and Illinois Departments of Public Health.

We adhere to all restrictions by the Will County Department of Public Health and require employees, residents and visitors, who visit States and Territories designated as COVID-19 hot spots by the City of Chicago, to self-quarantine for 14 days. This list is updated on Tuesdays.

We also ask all residents only leave our campus for necessary medical appointments. Please watch televised religious services instead of attending your place of worship, and do not visit restaurants and family homes.

We appreciate how you communicate with us by using our designated email address, COVID19SmithCrossing@SmithSeniorLiving.org. Please continue to send your suggestions and questions to us so the appropriate staff member can respond to you.

We are grateful to everyone who cares about Smith Crossing for your contributions to everyone's safety and commitment to finding more ways to enjoying the spirit of our community lifestyle.

Very truly yours,

Amanda Mauceri

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Executive Director