



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 15, 2021

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Toledo/Northwest Ohio Grassroots Initiative Offers COVID-19 Vaccinations at Metroparks

Restaurant gift cards and drawing to stay overnight in treehouse offered as incentive

COLUMBUS – The V Project, in partnership with Metroparks Toledo and Toledo-Lucas County Health Department, is offering COVID-19 vaccinations at three northwest Ohio area metroparks throughout July. Everyone who gets a COVID-19 shot at the Farnsworth, Oak Openings Preserve, or Pearson metroparks during one of these special events will receive a \$15 gift card to an area restaurant and be entered in a drawing for a chance to stay overnight in a six-person treehouse.

The Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson vaccines will be available from **10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** on the following dates. Anyone younger than 18 getting the Pfizer vaccine must have a parent or legal guardian present.

- **Saturday, July 17 and Sunday, July 18**
 - Oak Openings Preserve Metropark, Oak Openings Lodge parking lot, 5440 Wilkins Rd., Whitehouse
- **Saturday, July 24 and Sunday, July 25**
 - Pearson Metropark, playground shelter parking lot, 761 S. Lallendorf Rd. (between Navarre and Starr), Oregon
- **Saturday, July 31**
 - Farnsworth Metropark, Indianola Shelter parking lot, 8505 S. River Rd., Waterville

Everyone who receives their vaccine at one of these events will receive a \$15 restaurant gift card, and will be entered in a drawing for a free overnight stay for up to six guests in The Stables treehouse, the largest of overnight treehouses at the Cannaley Treehouse Village at Oak Openings Preserve Metropark.

Second doses of the Pfizer vaccine will be administered at other V Project mobile clinic locations, or will be available at the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department's vaccine clinics.

"Throughout the pandemic, Metroparks has provided places to relax and unwind safely outdoors, working closely with the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department," said Matt Killam, chief of outreach and experiences. "Bringing vaccination sites to parks on opposite ends of the county for the convenience of our residents is another way we are working together to combat this serious threat."

These COVID-19 vaccination events at the metroparks are part of the grassroots community initiative the V Project, in partnership with Toledo-Lucas County Health Department and Wood County Public Health. The goal of the V Project is to educate, motivate, and vaccinate 70% of residents in the Toledo and northwest Ohio region.

Innovative Ideas is a feature from the Ohio Department of Health highlighting ways providers and organizations are encouraging COVID-19 vaccinations. You can find more featured examples on the Ohio Department of Health's Innovative Ideas page at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/healthcare-providers-and-local-health-districts/innovative-ideas>.

If you are interested in hosting a vaccination clinic, the Ohio Department of Health has a toolkit for businesses and organizations available at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/covid-19-vaccination-program/businesses-and-organizations>. This toolkit contains a collection of resources vaccine providers and Ohio employers and organizations can consider using to build partnerships across the state to offer convenient vaccinations to their employees and members.

All Ohioans age 12 and older are currently eligible to be vaccinated. Ohioans can find additional vaccination opportunities and schedule appointments by visiting gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov or by calling 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634). Walk-in appointments are available at many providers statewide. Anyone with questions regarding COVID-19 vaccination within the state of Ohio can learn more at coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine.

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