

Status of Testing at the Vermont Health Department Laboratory

Effective Immediately

As the state prioritizes the response to the new coronavirus in Vermont, the Health Department Laboratory is working to make sure staff are protected against COVID-19 so they can continue to perform essential testing. This means sending home any staff who aren't working on essential testing and making the difficult choice to suspend non-essential lab services.

We know that these decisions will have an impact on Vermonters, and we will be watching closely to determine if we need to adjust lab testing priorities to protect public health in Vermont as this situation evolves. At this point, we feel this is an important step to take in order to respond to this new public health threat.

Effective immediately, all non-essential testing at the Vermont Department of Health Laboratory will be suspended. **The following essential testing will continue at the Health Department Laboratory:**

- COVID-19 testing
- Tuberculosis testing
- Animal Rabies testing (only in cases where a human has potentially been exposed to rabies)
- Measles testing

A full list of ongoing and suspended testing services at the Lab is available at www.healthvermont.gov/labtesting. Thank you for your partnership as we continue to respond to this evolving situation.

See the table below for a complete list of the status of testing at the Health Department Laboratory.

Status of Health Department Lab Testing

Organic Chemistry

Testing	Status
Blue Green Algae	Non-essential
Drinking Water (bacteria, metals, etc.)	Non-essential
Recreational Waters	Non-essential
Urine Drug Screening	Non-essential

Inorganic Chemistry

Testing	Status
Radiochemistry (Radon in air, etc.)	On call in the event of an emergency as determined by the Commissioner of Health
Drinking Water Inorganic Chemistry	Non-essential
Blood Lead	Non-essential

Status of Health Department Lab Testing

Microbiology

Testing	Status
COVID-19	Essential
Measles	Essential
Animal Rabies (human exposures only)	Essential
Tuberculosis	Essential
Arbovirus	Non-essential
Bordetella	Non-essential
BT/CT	On call in the event of an emergency as determined by the Commissioner of Health
Enterics	Non-essential
Food Testing	Non-essential
HIV/Hep/STD (GC/CH)	Non-essential
Influenza	Non-essential
Legionella	Non-essential
Mycology	Non-essential
Norovirus	Non-essential

Status of Health Department Lab Testing

Testing	Status
Parasites	Non-essential
Varicella	Non-essential
Water Bacteria	Non-essential
Zika	Non-essential