



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Abilene State Supported Living Center

OUR MISSION:
To empower people to make choices
that result in a life of dignity and
increased independence.

AbSSLC News

Abilene SSLC

Week of May 31st, 2021

COVID19 Testing

Week of 05.31.2021

The COVID19 positivity rate for Taylor County is currently over 5% which requires us to do **weekly** testing. All staff must test either Tuesday or Wednesday unless positive in the last 90 days.

Testing Dates & Times

Tuesday, 06.01

0530-1130 & 1300-1500

or

Wednesday, 06.02

0700-1130 & 1300-1500

Testing is being done at the Lone Star Coffee & Tea House Conference Area (B647). Please enter through the west door facing Maple.

Got Bags?

If you have any plastic grocery bags (you know... the ones that are bad for the environment 😊) taking up room in your house, please bring them to us! Glenda's Second Edition can put them to good use.



You can contact Shae (x3547) and they will come pick them up from your department or you can bring them to B501 (Old Admin Building across from FCT/D) or take them to the Second Edition on Monday from 9-2 or Wednesday 9:30-2:30 (and shop while you're there Wednesdays!)

Phishing Emails

For the next several weeks, automated phishing emails will be sent out to agency staff. Users who exhibit "phish-prone" behaviors, such as clicking on links and entering requested data, will have their actions recorded.

If a phish-prone action is performed by a user, a page will populate letting the user know they have fallen victim to a simulated phishing campaign with tips on how to avoid phishing emails in the future.

Phish-prone users will be enrolled in **mandatory security awareness training** and receive a notification from the KnowBe4 platform with instructions on how to complete their training. This training is separate from the required annual HHS Information Security/Cybersecurity Training.

How to wear a face covering:

Cover your nose and mouth.



Nope.



Not quite.



Try again.



That's the one!

OIG, PI & Facility Investigation Interviews

Beginning June 1st, interviews with OIG, Provider Investigations and Facility Investigators will be done face-to-face instead of over the phone as has been the practice over the past 14 months due to COVID-19.

It's important to remember that as part of your employment you are required to be available at any time during an investigation and must fully cooperate with the investigation itself.

Reminders:

- You must wear your badge **at all times** while on-campus. It must be presented at the entrance gate when coming in – **no badge, no entry**.
- Please **dim your lights** as you approach the entrance gates. This makes it much safer for those working.
- Don't forget to have your **screening form** completed before you get to the gate!

Memorial Day

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2021 will occur on Monday, May 31.

Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.

The Civil War, which ended in the spring of 1865, claimed more lives than any conflict in U.S. history and required the establishment of the country's first national cemeteries.

By the late 1860s, Americans in various towns and cities had begun holding springtime tributes to these countless fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers and reciting prayers. It is unclear where exactly this tradition originated; numerous different communities may have independently initiated the memorial gatherings.

Some records show that one of the earliest Memorial Day commemorations was organized by a group of formerly enslaved people in Charleston, South Carolina less than a month after the Confederacy surrendered in 1865. Nevertheless, in 1966 the federal government declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day.

Waterloo—which first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—was chosen because it hosted an annual, community-wide event, during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags.

On May 5, 1868, General John A. Logan, leader of an organization for Northern Civil War veterans, called for a nationwide day of remembrance later that month. “The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land,” he proclaimed.

The date of Decoration Day, as he called it, was chosen because it wasn't the anniversary of any particular battle. On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, and 5,000 participants decorated the graves of the 20,000 Civil War soldiers buried there.

Many Northern states held similar commemorative events and reprised the tradition in subsequent years; by 1890 each one had made Decoration Day an official state holiday. Southern states, on the other hand, continued to honor the dead on separate days until after World War I.

Memorial Day, as Decoration Day gradually came to be known, originally honored only those lost while fighting in the Civil War. But during World War I the United States found itself embroiled in another major conflict, and the holiday evolved to commemorate American military personnel who died in all wars, including World War II, The Vietnam War, The Korean War and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30, the date General Logan had selected for the first Decoration Day. But in 1968, Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees. The change went into effect in 1971. The same law also declared Memorial Day a federal holiday.