

Wednesday June 24th, 2020

Dear Residents and Family,

Re: Outdoor Visits

The Minnesota Department of Health has issued guidance for long term care facilities to allow for outdoor visits. This announcement is very exciting as we know how hard it has been for both the residents and family member to be under strict visitor restrictions since March. Please know window visits are still an option.

Please call the facility to schedule an outdoor visit:

Adith Miller Manor (507) 454-0179

Roger Metz Manor (507) 452-7636

Watkins Manor (507) 494-7400

Facility criteria

- Each facility has a schedule to accommodate outdoor visits. Please arrive for your scheduled visit on time to make sure we stay on schedule for everyone. Please check in at the front entrance to let staff know you are here for the visit.
- Staffing will be present to allow for help with outdoor transition of residents, and to assist with wiping down any visitation areas as necessary.
- Visitors must sign in and provide contact information. Please do not go to the visiting area without staff knowledge. All visitors must be screened prior to the visit.
- Visitors must be screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 at a screening location designated outside the building. Visitors must attest to COVID-19 status if known.
- Residents and visitors must wear a mask or other face covering at all times.
- Staff will maintain visual observation but provide as much distance as necessary to allow for privacy of the visit conversation.
- Visitors are not allowed to walk through the facility to get to the outdoor visiting location.
- Visiting space must support social distancing of at least 6 feet between the visitor and resident and other visiting parties.
- Facilities will provide alcohol-based hand rub to persons visiting residents and provide signage or verbal reminders of correct use. Visitors must use alcohol-based hand rub upon entering and exiting the visitation area.
- Due to the risk of exposure, holding hands, hugging, kissing, or other physical contact is not allowed during family visits.
- Limit of 2 visitor per visit. Visitors not within the same household should practice social distancing. Visitors under age 12 years must be in the control of adults who bring them and must also comply with social distancing and masking requirements.
- Pets must be under the control of the visitor bringing them in.

- All visitors must maintain 6 feet social distance.
- Visitors must stay in designated visitation locations and are not allowed to walk to another area together.
- Items cannot be exchanged between the resident and visitor and food cannot be brought in and consumed during the visit. Any items, including food should be given to staff to be passed off to the resident.

Weather: Visits should occur only on days when there are no weather warnings that would put either the visitor or resident at risk. Please be aware if our area is under a severe weather watch or warning, visits must be cancelled or postponed.

Facilities that meet the criteria above retain the right to deny outdoor visitation to specific residents only if they believe:

1. Circumstances pose a risk of transmitting COVID-19 to the facility because the resident or visitor does not comply with infection control guidance, or
2. The resident or visitor is at risk of abuse/harm.

I understand this guidance is long, but the intention of the state and of the facility is to keep everyone safe and well. Please let me know how your visits go and if there are additional needs you would like to see.

We hope to see everyone taking advantage of outdoor visits during this beautiful time of year in Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Krage
Director of Assisted Living and Hospice
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