



April 23, 2020 – A Public Health Update

Dear Logan County Citizens:

Here are the latest updates on COVID-19 and Logan County Health District's response.

Situation Update

As of April 22, 2020, there are 14 confirmed; 5 Probable; now 8 recovered cases of COVID-19 in Logan County Health District's jurisdiction.

Our public health nurses and Mary Rutan Nurses (here helping with our call center) continue to notify and quarantine close contacts of all confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases. We expect to see more local cases as this outbreak evolves, and as we slowly begin opening some businesses. We are working diligently to respond to the situation and protect the health and safety of our community. We must all remember no one is immune to this virus since it is new. Those who have had COVID-19 have some immunity but it is unclear how long this immunity would last.

The Health Commissioner and Environmental Health Director have been working on plans to begin opening some businesses and how that will look for Logan County. A letter has been sent out to all businesses and posted on our website. The Health District will manage this carefully, test wherever needed to identify local outbreaks, and isolate and quarantine as indicated. There is also an emergency break to shut down again should cases get out of hand.

Personal Protective Equipment is being coordinated between the EMA; Mary Rutan Hospital and Logan County Health District (LCHD). At this time these are being dispersed to Healthcare and First Responders. Any First Responders needing PPE are to contact the EMA @ 937-593-5743 and anyone in the healthcare community needing PPE please call the LCHD @ 937-592-9040 Option 1.

All community members need to have a cloth mask. Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others or out in public or in buildings. This will be effective while out in community **and** at work as we slowly return to some kind of normalcy.

Thoughts from our Health Commissioner: This virus is incredibly contagious in enclosed areas; **Many people** infected are without symptoms or have very little symptoms; children who get COVID-19 do not have symptoms, few get serious illness and they breathe off a much smaller viral load than a sick adult; In Italy of their 20,00 deaths the average age was 80 years and on average those that died had 3 chronic illnesses; There is unlikely to be a vaccine for a year, perhaps much longer; Social distancing has proven to work for **100 years**; Being outdoors in the sun increases vitamin D and helps your immune system and UV rays destroy virus, breezes disperse the virus; all of our efforts have prevented an overload on our local and regional healthcare systems.

The addition of everyone wearing masks has been the second public health technique that has significantly decreased spread - Social distance - Wear masks - Cover coughs - Wash your hands - Clean surfaces

Other News to Know

Logan County Health Districts Public Health Sanitarians Encouragement of Social Distancing and Hygiene for Businesses Continues

Public Health sanitarians will continue to inspect businesses to assure they are complying with the Ohio Department of Health's orders for social distancing and basic hygiene to slow the spread of COVID- 19.

Community Resources

- Logan County business resources - <https://www.logancountyohio.com/>
- Communities, Schools, Workplaces and Events - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html>
- Cloth face covers - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>
- Jobs and Family Services <https://www.loganjfs.org/>

State Updates

State Health Director Dr. Amy Acton has extended the stay at home order for all Ohioans to May 1 in order to prevent the spread of disease. Additionally, Governor DeWine and Dr. Acton also urged Ohioans to begin wearing cloth masks in public as [the CDC issued the recommendation](#) that citizens wear face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, especially in areas of significant community-based transmission. To learn more about the state's latest recommendations and case numbers, visit www.coronavirus.ohio.gov.

What You Can Do

- **Stay home if you are sick and isolate yourself from others in your household.**
- **Wear Your Mask!**
- **Follow the usual steps that help prevent the spread of illness and the flu.** Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, cover coughs and sneezes with your arm or inner elbow, avoid close contact with people who are sick, and stay home when you are sick.
- **Prevent the spread of misinformation by learning the facts about COVID-19.** Understand that this is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as it becomes available.
- **Fight fear and stigma by understanding that you cannot tell if someone is at risk for spreading COVID-19 based on how they look.** Viruses cannot target people from specific populations, ethnicities or racial backgrounds. Treat everyone with compassion, kindness and respect.

Learn More about COVID-19

This situation is rapidly evolving. Please continue to refer to the following resources for the most accurate and current information:

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [Ohio Department of Health](#)
- www.loganhealth.org

Questions

For questions, contact Logan County Health District at 937-592-9040 Option 1 or email us at: LCHD@loganhealth.org