



## Ford County Public Health Department

235 North Taft Street

Paxton, IL 60957

For release on April 21, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

Contact: Danielle Walls, Community Health Educator

(217)379-9281

[dwalls@fordcountyphd.org](mailto:dwalls@fordcountyphd.org)

### Ford County, IL Daily COVID-19 Update

Ford County Public Health Department (FCPHD) is announcing no new cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) today. Ford County has a total of six confirmed cases, including one death. We are announcing that one of the confirmed cases is associated with a congregate living facility. These numbers are accurate as of the release time. Public health officials continue to investigate and contact all individuals who may have had exposure to individuals that tested positive for COVID-19. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any further information.

FCPHD continues to encourage all residents to conduct preventive measures, practice social distancing, and follow Governor Pritzker's Stay at Home Executive Order through April 30, 2020. COVID-19 appears to spread from person-to-person mainly with close contact (less than 6 feet), but may also be spread by a surface that has the virus and then touching one's mouth, nose, or possibly one's eyes. Illinois Department of Public Health states that the spread is through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

#### Mask Guidance

According to the Illinois Department of Public Health, all Illinoisans should wear a mask or face covering when they must leave their home.

Examples include:

- For essential work
- For grocery shopping
- For pharmacy and restaurant pickup
- While visiting your health care provider
- Traveling on public transportation
- Other travel deemed essential by the stay-at-home order

Face coverings should not be placed on children younger than 2 years of age, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cover without assistance. Also, medical grade masks should be reserved for healthcare workers and first responders.

#### How Can I Make My Own Mask or Face Covering?

There are many online resources with instructions for making homemade face coverings from cloth fabric or paper. Either a paper or cloth face covering is fine, as long as you are covering your nose and mouth.

Resources include:

- The CDC's guidance on how to make a face mask: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>
- U.S. Surgeon General's how to make your own face covering (YouTube) – <https://youtu.be/tPx1yqvJgf4>

We ask that you continue to visit our website ([www.fordcountyphd.org](http://www.fordcountyphd.org)) and follow our Facebook page for additional COVID-19 resources and updates. For general questions about COVID-19, call the Illinois Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Hotline at 1(800) 889-3931 or send an email to: [DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV](mailto:DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV) anytime, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.