



Ford County Public Health Department

235 North Taft Street

Paxton, IL 60957

For release on April 30, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

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Ford County, IL Daily COVID-19 Update

Ford County Public Health Department (FCPHD) is announcing no new cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Ford County has a total of nine confirmed cases, including one death. Two of the confirmed cases are associated with congregate living facilities. 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, which will be extended through May 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.

Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting

Medical experts believe that COVID-19 may remain contagious on surfaces of all materials for several hours to several days. Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces are the best ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses at work and home.

- **Cleaning** is the removal of dirt and germs from surfaces using soap and water. Routine cleaning will lower the risk of spreading COVID-19 infection, however it does not get rid of all germs.
- **Disinfecting** works by using chemicals to kill most germs on surfaces. By killing germs on a surface after cleaning, you can further lower the risk of spreading infection.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the virus that causes COVID-19 can be killed if the right products are used. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has compiled a list of disinfectant products that can be used against COVID-19, including ready-to-use sprays, concentrates, and wipes. Each product has been shown to be effective against viruses that are harder to kill than viruses like the one that causes COVID-19.

To view a list of EPA-approved disinfectants against COVID-19, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>

When EPA-approved disinfectants are not available, alternative disinfectants can be used.

For example:

- 1/3 cup of bleach added to 1 gallon of water, or
- 70% alcohol solutions

Do not mix bleach or other cleaning and disinfection products together. This can cause fumes that may be very dangerous to breathe in. Do not consume any cleaning products. Keep all disinfectants out of the reach of children.

Please continue to visit our website (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 anytime, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.