Ford County Public Health Department
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Ford County, IL Daily COVID-19 Update

Ford County Public Health Department (FCPHD) is announcing one new case of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The individual is a male in his 30's.

Ford County has a total of eleven 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 has been 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.

Wearing a Cloth Face Covering
Wearing a cloth face covering can help prevent the spread of COVID-19 to others, which is why it is important to wear one correctly.

Your cloth face covering should:
- Reach above the nose, below the chin, and completely cover the mouth and nostrils.
- Fit snugly against the sides of the face.
- Be made of multiple layers of fabric that you can still breathe through.
- Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damaging the material or shape.

It is equally important to follow proper steps when using a face covering or mask.
- Wash your hands before putting on a face covering or mask and after removing one.
- Fully cover your mouth and nose. Make sure there are no gaps between the face covering or mask and your skin.
- Avoid touching the face covering or mask while using it. If you need to adjust it, wash your hands thoroughly before and after you touch it. If you need to take your mask off for a short period of time, fold it so its outer surface goes inward and against itself. This will prevent the inner surface from coming into contact with the outer surface during storage.
- If your face covering or mask gets damp, replace it with a clean one and wash if reusable. If it is disposable, throw it away and replace with a new one.
- Remove the mask from behind, trying to not touch the front. Wash washable face coverings right away. Throw away disposable masks into a closed bag or trash can.

Do not place face coverings on children under the age of two.

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.