



**Seneca County EMA Situation Report #135**  
**COVID-19 Response**  
**March 12th, 2021**  
**County EOC Status: Monitoring**  
**State EOC: Partially Activated**

Distribution List: Villages, Townships, Seneca County Elected Officials, City of Tiffin Elected Officials, City of Fostoria Elected Officials, Fire Chiefs, Law Enforcement, Seneca County Education Contacts and LEPC/HS and Mental Health Recovery Services

**Ohio**

**Confirmed Cases: 833,772 (+6,610 in the last 2 days)**  
**Probable: 144,552**  
**Confirmed Ohio Resident deaths: 17,662**  
**Deaths in Ohio: 17,825**

**Seneca County: LEVEL 3 (High Incidence) PUBLIC EMERGENCY [Ohio's Public Health Advisory System](#)**

**Metrics (as of 03/03)**

**Total Cases: 4,802 (+47)**  
**Active Cases: 34 (-44)**  
**Deaths: 128 (+/-0)**  
**Recovered: 4,344 (+44)**  
**Hospitalized: 2 (+/-0)**

**Resources:**

**Ohio ODH: [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov)**

**CDC: [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)**

**Seneca County General Health District: [senecahealthdistrict.org](https://senecahealthdistrict.org)**

**Executive Summary**

**GOVERNOR:** Today, Governor DeWine provided updates regarding the process of re-opening across the state. This week, the federal government announced new national guidelines for nursing home visitation advising that facilities should allow responsible indoor visitation for all residents, regardless of the vaccination status of the resident or visitor. The federal announcement can be viewed [here](#).

The Governor is also updating a health order to allow visitation at Assisted Living Facilities inside a resident's room. We will provide you with the information, once released.

Additionally, Governor DeWine provided updates regarding county fairs and spring sports. The expectation is that full county fairs will be held this year, and they plan to release some limitations regarding that later today.

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Regarding spring sports, students who are not required to quarantine because they have had an incidental exposure to COVID in a classroom can participate in sports activities, as long as they don't have symptoms and follow the appropriate sports guidance.

Governor DeWine also discussed that Ohio has four key initiatives that are making rapid tests more accessible for Ohioans:

Since December, federally qualified health centers have been provided with more than 150,000 rapid tests that are administered on-site.

Local health departments have worked with the administration to address local priorities, partnering with schools, non-profit organizations, and first responders to provide rapid tests.

The state is also partnering with public libraries to make at-home tests available in more Ohio communities. During the first two weeks of this initiative, nearly 120 library systems have come forward to partner on this effort, representing more than 250 sites.

The newest initiative is to make rapid testing available in K-12 schools to increase confidence and safety in the schools. Soon, more than 200,000 of the at-home tests will be shipped to the state's Educational Service Centers.

**VACCINES:** Today, appointments were opened for the Ohio/FEMA Cleveland mass vaccination clinic. 17,000 Ohioans have already registered to get their vaccine at the site by visiting [gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov).

**VACCINATION SCHEDULING TOOL:** Ohio's centralized scheduling website is now available at [gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov). The website will serve as a singular location for Ohioans to confirm that they are eligible to be vaccinated, identify nearby providers, and schedule their appointments.

The Ohio Department of Health will continue to work directly with vaccine providers to integrate their current systems into the statewide system. Providers will be expected to use this system or another electronic scheduling system that interfaces this portal.

The centralized scheduling website will also be used for scheduling appointments at the mass vaccination clinics, including the FEMA site in Cleveland.

**PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY SYSTEM:** The Public Health Advisory System map has been updated. This week, four counties are moving from red to orange: Adams, Darke, Guernsey, Harrison, Knox, Morgan, Preble, Putnam, and Van Wert. They are primarily moving down because their cases per capita rates have all dropped below the high-incidence threshold of 100.

**TESTING LOCATIONS:** DeWine has started a walk-up/drive-up testing initiative with the Ohio Association of Community Health Centers and their affiliate members and the Ohio National Guard. These sites will also include other local community-based organizations i.e., faith-based organizations, community centers, food pantries, etc.

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Testing for this initiative will be available for individuals with or without symptoms. The test has no out-of-pocket cost to the patient and individuals of any age are able to access the test. Minors will need signed consent of a parent/guardian.

For an exhaustive list of all the locations in the state that are offering testing, [click here](#).

**Seneca County Commissioners:** [www.senecacountyohio.gov](http://www.senecacountyohio.gov)

**Seneca County General Health District:** [www.senecahealthdept.org](http://www.senecahealthdept.org)

**Emergency Management Agency** [senecacountyema.org](http://senecacountyema.org)

Phase 1D (Ohioans with Type 2 Diabetes and End Stage Renal Disease) as well as Phase 2B (Ohioans age 50+) can begin registration for the vaccine starting March 11<sup>th</sup>. The schedules by week are available at <https://senecacountyema.org/covid-19/vaccination-information> or you can see them in the attachments to the email.

Sign up for Vaccination Notifications on Seneca County WENS [here](#).

You can register online at [senecahealthdept.org](http://senecahealthdept.org), [senecacountyema.org](http://senecacountyema.org), [Walmart](#) and [Kroger](#). You can call the Health department to register as well as Mercy Hospital in Tiffin or at Tiffin Community Health center or Community Health Fostoria.

What do you do if you have symptoms of COVID? Contact your doctor. If you don't have a doctor, but have insurance, check to see if your insurance has tele-health and see a doctor. If your doctor does not recommend a COVID test but you need one, call the Tiffin Community Health Center, 419.455.8140 and make an appointment.

PCR swab tests may take 4-6 days to return results as they must be sent to a lab and be cultured to test for the virus. Rapid tests have a much shorter return time, but are in short supply. No test is 100% accurate. The test relies on, among other things, the amount of virus in your system at the time of the test. Tests are available at the following locations:

PCR (4-6 day return):

Mercy Health-Tiffin Hospital (with Drs. order)

ProMedica Hospital (with Drs. order)

Tiffin Community Health Center (Tele-health or Dr. on site)

Rapid Test (6-8 hour return):

Urgent Care (Tele-health or Dr. onsite)

CVS

The Public Health Advisory System shows that Seneca County has met 5 of the 7 indicators needed to change the level. Wearing a mask, washing your hands and/or using hand sanitizer and not congregating with friends or family not living in your household is the best way to stem the tide of this virus. This is inconvenient and difficult, but necessary.

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The EMA will continue to update our partners on the numbers twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays. Please continue to send your information to be shared with our partners to [jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov](mailto:jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov).

**Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio:** [hcno.org](http://hcno.org)

**Seneca County Regional Planning:** [senecarpc.org](http://senecarpc.org)

**Red Cross:** [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

For a limited time, your blood donation will include an antibody test with results returned to you through your Red Cross Donor App. Go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) for more information.

Blood Collection Screeners Needed: COVID-19 has disrupted our daily lives, but the need for lifesaving blood hasn't changed. To help protect everyone's safety, we have a need for Donor Screener volunteers (ages 18+) to take the temperatures of blood donors entering American Red Cross blood drives or donation centers.

In this volunteer position you can volunteer just once or multiple times, the choice is yours!

Apply now at [www.redcross.org/volunteer](http://www.redcross.org/volunteer)

For more information or questions, please contact Melanie Collins at [Melanie.Collins4@redcross.org](mailto:Melanie.Collins4@redcross.org) or 330-204-6615.

**Mental Health and Recovery Board of Seneca, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties:** [www.mhrsbsw.org](http://www.mhrsbsw.org)

**City of Tiffin:** [www.tiffinohio.gov](http://www.tiffinohio.gov)

**Job and Family Services:** <https://djfs.co.seneca.oh.us/>

**Tiffin-Seneca Public Library:** <http://tiffinsenecalibrary.org>

**Tiffin-Seneca Economic Partnership:** <https://senecasuccess.wordpress.com/tag/tsep/>

**This situational report will be sent around 4 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays and as needed on other weekdays and weekends.**

**If you wish to update or add information to this report, please send it to the EMA at [jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov](mailto:jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov) by 2:30 p.m. each publishing day.**

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