



Seneca County EMA Situation Report #1
COVID-19 Response
March 18, 2020
County EOC Status: Monitoring
State EOC: Partially Activated

Ohio

Confirmed Cases: 88
Deaths: 0

Number of counties with cases: Ashland (1), Belmont (2), Butler (8), Coshocton (2), Cuyahoga (38), Darke (1), Delaware (1), Franklin (7), Geauga (1), Huron (1), Lake (2), Lorain (6), Lucas (1), Mahoning (3), Medina (4), Stark (3), Summit (4), Trumbull (2), Tuscarawas (1)

Seneca County

Confirmed Cases: 0
Deaths: 0

Executive Summary

Governor DeWine added barbershops, hairdressers, spas, salons and tattoo parlors to the list of businesses that are ordered closed by the end of business today. The DMV will close 181 Deputy Registrar locations throughout the state as well as 52 driver testing centers. Five of the Deputy Registrar locations deemed critical will remain open. Libraries are encouraged to make their own decisions regarding opening, but are asked to adopt the social distancing model in their activities.

The Governor and Dr. Acton both stressed the importance of social distancing, and stressing that not everyone presenting with symptoms will need a test for COVID-19. There is a shortage of tests and those need to be used for extreme cases and for testing healthcare workers to keep the workforce safe.

If you feel you have symptoms, stay home and isolate. If the symptoms get worse, the call your health care provider and follow instructions.

County EMA Objectives

Seneca County EMA is monitoring the minute by minute updates and changes at the local, state and federal level. We are here for information gathering and dissemination and to assist the Seneca County Health District with their needs.

EMA will also accept and process PPE from non-emergency sources to help support the supply for the Health Department.

County Commissioners

The Commissioners have advised the elected county officials and offices to limit their in-person contact with the public by doing business by phone, text and email for the time being. The

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Commissioners have also cancelled their meetings and have been staying in contact with the rest of the county through conference calls to gather information on the swiftly changing landscape of this response.

Courts

The Common Pleas Courts have postponed all jury trials for the time being, and are asking those with trial and hearing dates to call ahead of time to confirm that they need to appear in person. When appearing, only bring those persons that are necessary to the case. Family members and others will not be admitted to the courthouse. The Clerk of Courts and title office is open, but only to the individuals with business. Others will not be admitted to the building.

Seneca County Veterans Services

The Veterans Services department has stopped all in-person meetings with clients. Services will continue using phone and email. Contact the Seneca County Veteran's Services for more information.

Healthcare

Nursing homes have ended visitation at this time to limit the exposure of the residents.

EMS

EMS services in the county continue as usual, however, it is requested that you call your health care provider before calling 911 regarding symptoms of COVID-19. If you are in respiratory distress, call 911.

Law Enforcement

The Seneca County Sheriff has ended prisoner visitation for the foreseeable future to limit exposure to the inmates and staff of the jail and Sheriff's department personnel.

Business

TSEP and the City of Tiffin have put together webpages to direct the public to restaurants with carryout and delivery options. 24 hour grocery stores have modified their hours to accommodate restocking shelves and limiting exposure for their employees. Those that may have been laid off due to business closure should look for temporary work at grocery stores and big box department stores as well as distribution centers that are now looking for employees on a seasonal basis.

The Small Business Administration is completing agreements with the State to offer low-interest loans for businesses impacted by COVID-19.

Higher Education

Tiffin University has suspended classroom learning and moved to an online environment. Heidelberg University has suspended classes for the semester.

Public/Private Schools

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As per the Governor's order last week, schools are closed through April 3rd for the time being. Some schools are providing breakfast and lunch, delivered to sectors around the area for students and teachers are reaching out to students to assist them in learning while at home.

Administration

FEMA is working with the states to get their agreements in place for an Emergency Declaration. This is very different than a Disaster Declaration. The Department of Health and Human Services will be the lead on this Emergency Declaration and this is unprecedented. It is vital, that agencies that are experiencing extra cost in overtime, supplies, etc.. keep a detailed record of expenses and time worked. There is no guarantee right now that these expenses will be reimbursed through FEMA, however, if there is a match required for grants or relief, overtime, volunteer time and time worked outside of regular hours, if documented, could be used to offset match requirements.

This daily situational report will be sent around 4pm each day M-F and as needed over the weekend. If you wish to update or add information to this report, please get it to the EMA at jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov by 2:30pm each day.

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