



**Seneca County EMA Situation Report #25**  
**COVID-19 Response**  
**April 15, 2020**  
**County EOC Status: Monitoring**  
**State EOC: Activated**

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

**Ohio**

**Confirmed Cases:** 7628 (+493 in last 24 hours)  
**Probable:** 163  
**Confirmed Deaths:** 346  
**Probable Deaths:** 15

**Seneca County**

**Total Cases:** 11  
**Confirmed Cases:** 5  
**Deaths:** 1  
**Recovered:** 5

**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 (Thanks to Wood County EMA)**

Governor Dewine: Battelle Labs has expanded its sanitation service to first responders (fire/EMS/law). Beginning Friday first responders can take their masks to any Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) Post. They will be delivered to Columbus and returned in approximately three days. OSHP will be sending more information to first responders on the process. Presented a challenge to Ohio to complete the census and have a higher percentage of completion than Michigan. We are currently at 52.2% with Michigan 55%. There are 2 additional potential COVID-19 cases in Pickaway Correctional Center. Working with the prison system, 105 non-violent offenders due to be released in addition to a decrease in the current population of 311 inmates. With the deficit of testing supplies, Wexner Medical Center OSU and Form Labs of Toledo have created synthetic testing medium and 3D printed swabs respectively. Hospital CEO's and Ohio Hospital Association have been tasked with creating a plan to bring back non-essential related medical procedures. The plan is due next week to be reviewed by the Governor for approval. Non-essential businesses should begin to devise a plan to create a safe working environment

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for both employees and customers. They should consider reviewing policies and practices from essential businesses as a potential best practices.

Lt. Governor Husted: Discussed many of the concerns of those trying to receive unemployment benefits. A case study was provided based on a question yesterday when a business where only 4 out of 40 employees have not been processed. After investigation: 3 did not meet the requirements and 8 were waiting for missing information. The current system is 2004 software and not cloud-based. Prior to the pandemic, there were 42 people in the call center and now have 1,194. These people are also working remotely due to social distancing. While they are expanding, limitations such as trainers and physical space for training limits how fast additional staff can be added. Remember if applying for COVID-19 unemployment use mass layoff number 2000180. Various improvements will be coming to the system in the next few weeks.

Dr. Acton: Provided an update on the above numbers. The process being used is looking at the trends due to the way the data is received. Some of the data used is real-time and some can be several weeks old. What may appear to be a sudden spike may only be how the data was reported.

For those with younger children, you can go to the website [www.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://www.coronavirus.ohio.gov) for additional information on how to present information in a way they can understand. Parents and caregivers should understand some days will be stressful and try to be calming. If you have symptoms and they worsen call your family doctor and if needed you should not fear going to a hospital for further care.

Governor DeWine reports that there is now an email set up to coordinate donations and offers to help. This address is [together@governor.ohio.gov](mailto:together@governor.ohio.gov).

Dr. Acton reports there is a new coronavirus interactive dashboard at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home/dashboard>.

#### **Seneca County General Health District:**

The Health Commissioner clarified the Seneca County Coronavirus numbers as 11 total confirmed cases of the COVID19 virus which INCLUDES 5 currently ill (one of those currently hospitalized), 5 recovered from the illness and 1 deceased due to complications of COVID19.

Seneca County Health Commissioner will produce Facebook Live videos with updates from the Health District. This will occur at 10:30 on Wednesdays. Videos will be archived on Facebook and can be viewed live on the Health Department's and Commissioner's FB pages.

#### **Emergency Management Agency**

We would like to thank everyone who has donated PPE and other supplies to our health care workers and first responders through the EMA. We are continuing to accept donations of the following items: N95 masks, surgical/procedure masks, gowns, goggles, face shields, eye protection, disinfectant wipes, hand sanitizer, bulk disinfectant, bulk hand soap, Isopropyl alcohol, Lysol concentrated cleaners and thermometers. The Donation Center at the Public Safety building will be accepting donations from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. M-F. These resources will be prioritized and dispensed on the directive of the Seneca County General Health District.

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### **Blood Collection**

The American Red Cross now faces a severe blood shortage due to an unprecedented number of blood drive cancellations in response to the coronavirus outbreak. **Blood donation is considered an essential service** to ensure the health of the community and is listed as an exception in the state order. While everyone is being asked to avoid mass gatherings, it's very important to note that blood drives are **not** considered "mass gatherings."

### **Mental Health and Recovery Board of Seneca, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties**

The Mental Health and Recovery Services Board contracts with Firelands Counseling and Recovery Services who are making the attached resource available to our healthcare workers and first responders during this time.

During these uncertain times, our office may be closed to the public, however, we are still hard at work to ensure that community member's needs are met. Our board staff is ready to help you navigate the resources. Call our office at 419.448.0640 for any questions regarding behavioral health.

### **City of Tiffin**

**Mayor's Message:** All City of Tiffin Municipal buildings shall remain closed to the public, except for employees of the city through the end of day May 1, 2020. This closure includes family members of city employees, friends of city employees, members of the general public, and employees currently on any sort of leave. Current employees should only enter and exit other buildings and offices within the city government if absolutely necessary. This includes all playgrounds and the city compost facility.

Declarations and orders by the Mayor and City Council can be found at [tiffinohio.gov](http://tiffinohio.gov).

### **Job and Family Services**

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services urges individuals to file their claims online, if possible, at [unemployment.ohio.gov](http://unemployment.ohio.gov).

Employers with a critical need for employees are looking for workers. Go to [Ohiomeansjobs.gov](http://Ohiomeansjobs.gov) or [coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov) to search and apply.

### **OSS Solid Waste District**

Due to the health and safety concerns involving the COVID-19 epidemic for local citizens, contracted businesses, OSS staff, and assisting community service workers and volunteer groups, the District is cancelling all spring recycling collection events.

- **Household Hazardous Waste Collection – Saturday, May 2 – CANCELLED**
- **Television & Electronics Collection – Saturday, May 9 – CANCELLED**
- **Ottawa County Appliance Collection – Saturday, June 13 – CANCELLED**

The District plans to hold the scheduled fall recycling collection events. Fall collections will be

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held to accept materials for household hazardous waste, televisions and electronics, appliances and tires. Fall dates and information can be found at [recycleoss.org](http://recycleoss.org).

### **Administration**

The House Economic Recovery Task Force today heard from two small business owners in the restaurant industry, Dale Hipsley and Jason Duff. They also heard testimony from the Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio Regional Council of Carpenters (IKORCC), as well as associations representing the following industries: insurance, banking, CPA's and credit unions.

Both Dale Hipsley and Jason Duff expressed frustration to the committee with not being able to open their doors even though they feel confident in their ability to implement best practices within their businesses to keep customers and employees safe. Dale Hipsley said he believes their company will be able to maintain best practices without having to limit their capacity once businesses are allowed to reopen.

Mike Farley with Ohio Insurance Institute explained that the insurance industry is working to ensure they're able to be partners with their communities to get back on their feet. He gave them two points that he felt would be important as the economy prepares to open back up; property and casualty insurance for businesses, and policies that ensure contracts cannot be re-written in the midst of this time of uncertainty.

Representatives from the Banker's League said they are working hard to maintain liquidity while also being able to assist their communities and the financial impact. They said that at the current time the issues of liquidity within their businesses isn't dire, however they still need people who are able to make their payments to do so. For those customers who are in forbearance, the bank will still have to send the payments to Freddie Mac.

The Ohio Society of CPAs said their main ask in this pandemic is that small businesses are able to get a clear and concise road map and timeline for reopening. The gentleman with OSCPA said he has many clients who are unsure of how to plan financially because they have no clue when their revenue will be able to start again, and exactly how much revenue they can count on.

Barry Shaner with the Ohio Credit Union League said they are concerned that the federal assistance programs such as the PPP loan is not enough to help the smallest of small businesses, who they say makes up a lot of their membership. Shaner said large institutions like Wells Fargo have submitted millions of claims already, which makes it more difficult for smaller entities like credit unions to access that money.

The committee will meet again tomorrow at 12:30 in order to accommodate the influx of feedback they've received. The Chairman also said they are working on getting a website established to post the committee materials.

**This daily situational report will be sent around 4 p.m. 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](mailto:jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov) by 2:30 p.m. each day.**

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