



**Seneca County EMA Situation Report #46**  
**COVID-19 Response**  
**May 14, 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, Seneca County Education Contacts and LEPC/HS and Mental Health Recovery Services

**Ohio**

**Confirmed Cases:** 22,891 (+1,909 in last 24 hours)  
**Probable:** 1,557  
**Confirmed Deaths:** 1,388  
**Probable Deaths:** 146

**Seneca County**

**Total Cases:** 15  
**Deaths:** 1  
**Recovered:** 9

**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: DeWine today announced that childcare facilities will be permitted to open beginning May 31st. This announcement comes amid mounting concerns that 90% of the economy has been green-lighted to reopen, yet childcare was remained closed. DeWine explained the delay was because there is a lack of data surrounding the impact of COVID-19 on children. To address this, DeWine said there will be an ongoing study of the child care impact so the state is able to learn and adapt.

Child care providers are being asked to routinely take the temperatures of children, reduce group sizes to a maximum of 9 per class, sanitization of toys, playground equipment and common areas, frequent hand washing, and other procedures to keep children safe.

Lt. Gov. Husted announced openings of a majority of other industries that have continued to be closed. Those facilities include campgrounds, gyms, pools, sports leagues and others. These openings are listed below.

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**OPENINGS:** The following are the opening dates that have been announced thus far. Protocols and guidelines for all industries will be listed on the Sector Specific Operating Requirements Page. The newest openings that were announced today are highlighted.

MAY 1: Manufacturing

MAY 12: Consumer & Retail Services

MAY 15: Outdoor Dining, Personal Care Services

MAY 21: Dine-In Services, Campgrounds

MAY 22: Horse Racing\*

MAY 26: BMVs, Gyms, Fitness Centers, Sports Leagues\*\*, Pools

MAY 31: Daycares, Day Camps

\*no spectators, \*\*no-contact or low-contact

Those industries that are to remain closed include amusement parks, concert venues and other large capacity event spaces.

**UNEMPLOYMENT:** The downward trend in new unemployment claims continued last week, with 51,125 Ohioans filing initial requests for compensation, according to the Department of Job and Family Services. It marked the third consecutive week that new claims have come in below six figures amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic and resulting restrictions on business activity.

The number of initial claims filed over the last eight weeks sits at about 1.17 million, according to ODJFS data. The department reported sending more than \$2.4 billion in payments to more than 587,000 residents over that period. It said 90% of the applications received during that time have been processed.

The U.S. Department of Labor reported 2.98 million seasonally adjusted initial claims were received nationwide last week, down 195,000 compared with the prior week's revised total.

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

The Seneca County Board of Commissioners met Thursday morning for a digital session in front of nearly 70 online participants.

The meeting was streamed live on Facebook and also was available to the public through Zoom.

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The board received one bid for the 2019 Community Development Block Grant Village of Bloomville Sidewalk Replacement Project.

Seneca Regional Planning Commission Executive Director Charlene Watkins said the project, including engineering work, is of no cost to the county and will include the enhancement of sidewalks in the village. She said a new sidewalk will be installed on the north side of Beeghly Avenue from the edge of the ball diamond to the corner of High Street.

Watkins also said a sidewalk will be removed and a new one installed on the south side of Beeghly Avenue in front of the two village parking lot and sidewalk will be removed and a new one will be installed on the east side of Marion Street from Beeghly Avenue running north to the edge of the Veteran's Memorial Park.

The project includes a combined total of about 4,750 linear feet of new sidewalk. For a map of where the work is to occur, visit [this link](#).

Smith Paving and Excavating, of Norwalk, had the low bid for the project at \$53,500. The engineer's estimate for the project is \$56,230.

In other business, the commissioners briefly discussed the county budget. Commissioner Shayne Thomas said there was not much of an update to be given, because it is unclear exactly how much revenues will be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Sales tax, which accounts for about half of county revenues each year, has a significant lag from when it is collected to when it is distributed to counties. Thomas said it's unlikely to truly understand the extent of the revenue reductions until the summer.

"We really won't know until the (sales tax revenue) hits our account," he said. Thomas said the commissioners are evaluating the situation daily. In other action, Roger Kuns, owner of North Coast Security, demonstrated a digital thermometer scanner to the board.

With state guidelines recommending that temperatures be taken frequently, the scanner could make it easier to check the temperatures of many people.

The scanner is a digital device that quickly takes a person's temperature. It can be set to make a specific sound when someone is above a certain level. It also can detect if a person is wearing a mask or not.

Kuns said the scanner could cost about \$3,100 per device. The commissioners thanked Kuns for the presentation and agreed to consider the county's need for the devices.

Also during the meeting, County Administrator Stacy Wilson told the commissioners that the security camera project at the Seneca County Museum has been completed. Although the museum is currently closed due to funding issues, several renovation projects are still ongoing. The board hopes to open the museum again when revenues recover. The project was partially grant-funded.

In other action, Tiffin-Seneca Economic Partnership Downtown Main Street Manager Amy Reinhart updated the board on efforts being made to help restaurants and bars as they re-open from COVID-19 restrictions. She said a formal proposal should come to the county soon on what areas could be used for extra space. The commissioners previously agreed they would allow restaurants to use county-owned property for tables to make it easier to practice social distancing. Reinhart said picnic tables from city parks are to be brought into the downtown area to be used for this purpose.

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In new business, the commissioners approved:

- \* A \$50,000 supplemental appropriation to the Ditch Maintenance Fund for contract projects.
- \* A \$9,176.25 supplemental appropriation to the General Fund for reclaimed estates and warrants.
- \* A \$3,000 fund advance from the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program Fund to the General Fund.
- \* A \$10,000 fund advance repayment from the Impaired Driving Enforcement Program Fund to the General Fund.
- \* A \$5,000 and a \$2,000 fund advance repayment from the FFY19 Selective Traffic Program Fund to the General Fund.
- \* A \$527.02 fund transfer to the General Fund.
- \* A \$218.13 fund transfer to the Drugged Driving Enforcement Program Fund.
- \* A \$4,423.35 fund advance repayment from the Drugged Driving Enforcement Program Fund to the General Fund.
- \* A \$239.61 fund transfer to the Selective Traffic Enforcement Fund.

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

The Health said there are 15 total confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus including nine people who have recovered from the illness and one who has died 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**

The EMA will continue to update our partners on the numbers on a daily basis Monday through Friday with weekend reports only being published if there is breaking news. Please continue to send your information to be shared with our partners to [jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov](mailto:jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov).

**Blood Collection:** [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

**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/>

**Education:** <http://www.ncoesc.org/>

**OSS Solid Waste District:** <https://recycleoss.org/>

**Economic Recovery (Seneca County):** <https://www.tiffinchamber.com/coronavirus-resources>

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**Economic Recovery (State)**

**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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