



Seneca County EMA Situation Report #54
COVID-19 Response
May 28, 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: 31,625 (+798 in last 48 hours)
Probable: 2,290
Confirmed Deaths: 1,888
Probable Deaths: 210

Seneca County

Total Cases: 20
Deaths: 2
Recovered: 13

Resources:

Ohio ODH: coronavirus.ohio.gov
CDC: [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)
Seneca County General Health District: senecahealthdistrict.org

Executive Summary

TESTING: In response to data showing that Ohio is lagging in testing behind other states, DeWine today announced that ODH will be developing a map that will show where testing is available throughout the state. Those locations include pharmacies and community health centers. The map will be posted on Ohio's Coronavirus website.

DeWine is also adding individuals in the community to the list of testing prioritization with health care professionals, congregate living facilities and first responders. This is in an effort to decrease community spread.

ASSISTED LIVING: Starting June 8, intermediate care facilities for individuals with developmental disabilities and assisted living facilities can begin to allow outdoor visitation under protocol ODH will develop. Minimum requirements must include screening of temperatures for visitors and the ability to have social distancing in the visitation area, which must be outside. Each facility will determine what works best for their residents and their ability to allow outdoor visitation.

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BWC: The Bureau of Workers' Compensation announced that it will be deferring business premiums due in June, July and August.

COUNTY FAIRS: A task force has been assembled to look at holding junior fairs across the state. Guidelines are being developed for local health departments and local fair boards to safely allow children to participate in limited livestock shows and other activities. These decisions will be made locally based on each county's circumstances. The Department of Agriculture is in the process of distributing all county fair funds to each county.

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.

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

Ohio State Fair:

The Expo Commission has cancelled the 2020 Ohio State Fair due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ohio State Fair's management team along with the Ohio Expo Commission evaluated information from state and local health officials, along with the financial feasibility of a reduced attendance over the past several weeks.

Seneca County Commissioners: www.senecacountyohio.gov

The Seneca County Board of Commissioners received an update from Jacob Huner, who serves as a regional liaison for Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose.

Huner said he is the "eyes, ears, feet and legs" for the SOS in 16 counties, including Seneca. He said the secretary of state oversees elections but also has an important role in authorizing the opening of businesses in Ohio.

Huner said the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the economy, but he credited Ohioans for their resiliency, as there were still 11,447 businesses filing to be opened in April. This number was more than the monthly average for 2019.

Huner also discussed the Secretary of State's cybersecurity directive. The 39-point checklist was implemented by all 88 counties in January of this year. He commended the Seneca County Board of Elections for its work in complying with the directive quickly and efficiently.

"Your directors, Jim (Ehrman) and Lori (Ritzler) were very proactive," Huner said. "They do absolutely stunning work."

Huner said the Seneca County Board of Elections was chosen for a state pilot program for online campaign finance. That program should go live at the end of the year.

"I was happy to suggest Seneca County after the great work on cybersecurity," he said.

Huner said the Secretary of State's office is now turning its attention to the November election, with about five months to prepare.

He said due to uncertainty about COVID-19, the plans are flexible. He said several pieces of legislation are being considered at the state level about the upcoming election. Huner said LaRose hopes to have in-person voting in November, but the ultimate decision will be in the hands of the state legislature.

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In other business, the board voted unanimously to send a letter of support to the city of Tiffin for its proposed Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area program.

The program would allow alcohol to be consumed on sidewalks within the designated zone. The latest proposal for the DORA is to take place from 11 a.m.-11 p.m., seven days a week.

The board is offering county-owned property to be included in the DORA, with an exception for the area around the Seneca County Justice Center.

The support of the program is another example of the commissioners attempting to help local businesses through a difficult and unforeseen time brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Earlier this month, the board allowed the city of Tiffin to use park benches on county-owned property for the benefit of businesses and customers.

In other action, the board approved a proclamation recognizing May as Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month.

Also during the meeting, County Administrator Stacy Wilson gave the commissioners an update on General Fund financials. Revenue and expenses were each at about \$1.2 million for May. So far this year, revenue has been about \$9 million, while expenses have been about \$7.6 million. Due to a lag in when counties receive sales tax revenue, the extent to which the COVID-19 crisis will affect revenue has not yet been fully realized.

Seneca County General Health District: www.senecahealthdept.org

The Health Department reports 20 total confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus including 13 people who have recovered from the illness and two who have 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

Scammers are contacting people claiming to be tracing COVID-19 contacts. While legitimate health agencies, including the Seneca County General Health District are calling people to complete contact tracing, they will never ask for your Social Security or Bank Account information. Do not click on links or respond to texts saying you have been exposed to COVID-19.

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.

Seneca County Regional Planning: senecarpc.org

Seneca Regional Planning Commission will host a digital board meeting on June 3, 2020 at 5:00 PM via zoom. The public is welcome to attend. Please use the following link to access the meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/97227885227>

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Blood Collection: www.redcross.org

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

For more information or questions, please contact Melanie Collins at Melanie.Collins4@redcross.org or 330-204-6615.

Mental Health and Recovery Board of Seneca, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties: www.mhrsbsw.org

City of Tiffin: www.tiffinohio.gov

All City of Tiffin Municipal buildings shall remain closed to the public, except for employees of the city through end of day July 5, 2020. Please see the Mayor's order attached to this email.

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

For the week ending May 23, 2020, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) reported 42,082 initial jobless claims to the U.S. Dept. of Labor. The number of initial jobless claims filed in Ohio over the last 10 weeks (1,257,838) is more than the combined total of those filed during the last three years.

Over the last 10 weeks, ODJFS has distributed more than \$3.1 billion in unemployment compensation payments to more than 644,000 claimants. Of the more than 1 million applications the agency has received, nearly 93% have been processed, with about 7% pending. In addition, ODJFS has issued more than \$647 million in PUA payments to more than 109,000 claimants.

ODJFS urges individuals to file their claims online, if possible, at unemployment.ohio.gov.

The new unemployment rates for Ohio and the US came out today for April 2020. This report shows rankings by county. <https://ohiolmi.com/Home/Ranking?page85850=1&size85850=48>

Seneca County: 21.3%

Ohio – 16.8% which is an increase of 11%

United States – 14.7% which is an increase of 10.3%

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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EMA

SENECA COUNTY

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 by 2:30 p.m. each publishing day.

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