



NEWS



<https://health.mcleancountyil.gov>

www.facebook.com/mcleanhealth

www.twitter.com/mcleanhealth

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 21, 2020

CONTACT: Kim Anderson
(309) 888-5448 (office)

Public Health Officials Announce 3 New Cases of COVID-19; Total 7 Cases in McLean County

BLOOMINGTON, IL – Three additional McLean County residents have tested positive for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), bringing the total of positive cases in the county to seven.

The new cases include one female in her 70s with underlying health conditions currently hospitalized in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU); and a male in his 50s who has a history of international travel and is recovering at home in isolation; and a male in his 20s recovering at home in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case.

“The McLean County Health Department remains dedicated to protecting the health of our residents and doing what we can to prevent further spread of this virus,” Health Department Administrator Jessica McKnight said. “We continue to work with our local and state partners in a collaborative response effort to COVID-19. It has been amazing to see so many local groups and the citizens of McLean County step up during this difficult time, working together to ensure that the needs of our community are being met.”

Melissa Graven, McLean County Health Department Communicable Disease Supervisor, said that with the limited amount of testing, the McLean County Health Department continues to serve as a public resource. She says, “More and more commercial labs are able to test for COVID-19 so there are more avenues to direct people to get tested; however, the need for testing far outweighs the resources that are available to do that testing, both locally and nationally.”

“Testing for COVID-19 will not change the course of your treatment, as there is no treatment for COVID-19. We must work together to slow down the transmission of COVID-19 so we can protect our most vulnerable populations; those in our healthcare community; and, each other,” Graven added.

Every single McLean County resident help by staying home, limiting the number of people you are in contact with, maintaining a 6-foot distance from others, washing your hands, and staying home when you feel ill.

Residents must be vigilant and continue to take preventative actions to prevent the spread of illness. Everyone has a role to play in staying healthy and keeping others healthy. Remember the 3 Cs – clean, cover, contain.

-MORE-

Clean

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Cover

- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- If no tissue is available, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve, not your hands.

Contain

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

For more information on COVID-19, contact the McLean County Health Department at (309)888-5450 or the Illinois Department of Public Health coronavirus hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or visit idph.illinois.gov (<http://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19>) for questions and more information.

It is very important for the public to implement social distancing to limit the spread of this virus. Social distancing means putting distance between yourself and others and staying home as much as possible. Be mindful of those who are at a greater risk for contracting this virus, including older adults and those with certain health conditions.

Social distancing:

- **Stay home when you are sick**
- **Avoid mass gathering and large crowds (avoid social gatherings of more than 10 people)**
- **Limit the amount of time spent in the community (all non-essential activities need to be avoided)**
- **If you must pick up prescriptions or groceries, use caution and keep a 6ft distance from others.**
- **Work from home as much as possible**



<https://health.mcleancountyil.gov>

###