**April 4, 2020 Wyandot County Public Health COVID-19 Update:**

**As of 1:00PM today there are 3 newly confirmed Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases, for a total of five cases, identified in Wyandot County.** The latest three individuals are not hospitalized at this time. The Health Department is currently conducting follow-up notifications of all known close contacts to the new cases. Please, do not rely on the number of positive tests to determine when you need to protect yourself.  Continue to practice social distancing.  The Stay at Home order was put in place to protect citizens through self-quarantine.  Please take these regulations seriously to keep Wyandot County healthy.

As of 2:00 PM Saturday, the Ohio Department of Health reported 3739 confirmed cases, 1006 hospitalizations, and 102 deaths.  For additional statewide case information visit: <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/>

The Ohio Department of Health has created the following dashboard which will provide you with both local and regional data: <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home/dashboard>

**New Directive 04/04/2020**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is now recommending that Americans wear cloth face coverings (masks) in public to help slow the spread of COVID-19. This recommendation is being made based on studies that show a significant proportion of people with COVID-19 lack symptoms and can transmit the virus to others in close proximity, through speaking, coughing, sneezing or other means.

Ohio Department of Health Director Amy Acton, M.D., MPH, strongly recommends that Ohioans take the following actions:

* Use coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, such as grocery stores, pharmacies, and public parks.
* Maintain 6-feet social distancing whenever possible, even if you are wearing a face covering.
* DO NOT place cloth face coverings on children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
* DO NOT use medical supply masks, which must be reserved for healthcare workers, first responders, and people who are known to be sick.
* Make cloth face coverings from household items or common materials. Use multiple layers of a fabric that does not damage or lose shape when laundered or machine dried.
* Support small businesses selling fabric masks at a reasonable price, but watch out for scammers offering high-priced or so-called superior masks.
* Use coverings that fit snugly but comfortably and allow for breathing without restriction. Secure with ties or ear loops.
* Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth when removing the face covering and wash your hands immediately after removing.
* Launder coverings after each use. Avoid wearing when wet from laundering or from spit or mucus.

DIY Face Coverings

* Use tightly woven fabric (preferably cloth that lets minimal light shine through) such as quilting cloth.
* If you need to buy materials, consider purchasing online to avoid public places.
* The CDC offers instructions on creating a [no-sew face covering](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html) out of a T-shirt; or out of a bandanna, coffee filter, and rubber bands. You will also need scissors.
* The CDC offers instructions on [sewing a face covering](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html) with 10-by-6-inch rectangles of tightly woven cotton fabric. You will need a sewing machine, needle and thread (or bobby pin) and scissors. You also will need elastic, rubber bands, hair ties, string, or cloth strips

To view the current Ohio Department of Health Orders and Governor DeWine’s executive orders, please visit:

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home/public-health-orders>

As we continue to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak, it is important that we rely on good information. Wyandot County Public Health recommends the following resources:

ODH Information Line (833) 4 ASK ODH

State- [https://coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/)

Federal- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Jeffrey Ritchey RS                                                              Please tell us how we are doing.

Director of Environmental Health                                      <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KLWF93Y>

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Our Mission:  Wyandot County Public Health is dedicated to providing health and safety services that positively impact the well-being of all citizens of Wyandot County.