



LAPEER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
1800 Imlay City Road
Lapeer, MI 48446

Date: March 25, 2020

Update Regarding 2019 Novel Coronavirus

- Today we are reporting the 2nd known positive case of COVID-19 in a county resident. See separate Press Release for this information. When State #s were updated today they did not reflect the 2 cases in our county – this is due to us receiving test results after the State #s were collected. The correct # is 2 and will be reflected in tomorrow's state total.
- We ask that you **please refrain from phoning the Health Dept. or Media for additional details** –we **are** following up with contacts and providing the necessary guidance. However, realize that the virus **is** out in the community in other individuals who have just not been identified yet. Therefore, you need to assume it is present and take the precautions necessary, as outlined regularly in these updates.

Executive Order 2020-21

This is regarding the announcement of Executive Order (EO 2020-21) presented by Governor Whitmer on Monday. If after completely reading the order you are still uncertain regarding essential workers please do not phone the health department. Here are some links that may be helpful:

- E.O. 2020-21: https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499_90705-522626--,00.html
- FAQ for E.O. 2020-21: https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_98455-522631--,00.html
- Specific list of Essential Workers (advisory) from CISA, linked in paragraph 8 of the E.O. <https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/CISA-Guidance-on-Essential-Critical-Infrastructure-Workers-1-20-508c.pdf>
- Michigan Chamber of Commerce: <https://www.dykema.com/resources-alerts-executive-order-2020-21-stay-home-order-what-does-this-mean-for-your-in-person-operations.html>
- Additionally, if anyone feels they need to file a complaint, they can contact the Michigan Attorney General's consumer complaint hotline at 877-765-8388, or online at www.michigan.gov/agcomplaints

I cannot emphasize more the importance of staying home. On March 13, 2020, my update reported 16 cases in the State. As of this afternoon, a mere 12 days later, we are up to 2,295 cases and 43 deaths. These are just the documented cases. There are most likely many more who did not seek medical attention, or whose symptoms were mild, and thus were not tested.

Looking at mathematical projections, at this rate the potential for overwhelming the medical system within a short time is real. We are already dealing with shortages of PPE (personal protective equipment) for our health care providers, EMS, and law enforcement.

The sooner we all stay home (if non-essential workers) the better the chance that those who DO need medical services are able to receive the care they need. These "critical infrastructure workers" include those "who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences." (See link for the FAQ above)

These are challenging times, but together we can pull through this. Yes, the grocery stores are still open, and you can still put gas in your tank. However, try to keep those trips to the store at a minimum. Thank you for doing your part to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Hotline 1-888-535-6136 for questions. Open 7 days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Current numbers (as of 2:00 p.m. today):

- Lapeer County Cases: Lapeer has 2 confirmed cases of COVID-19
- Michigan Cumulative Case Count: **2,295** Deaths: **43**
 - Male 51%; Female 49%
 - Age Breakdown:
 - Age Breakdown:
 - 0 to 19 years: 1%
 - 20 to 29 years: 8%
 - 30 to 39 years: 12%
 - 40 to 49 years: 17%
 - 50 to 59 years: 19%
 - 60 to 69 years: 21%
 - 70 to 79 years: 14%
 - 80 + years: 8%
 - See www.michigan.gov/coronavirus for additional statistical information, including county of residence for positive cases

New "Self Checker": The CDC has added a "Self-Checker" to help you identify if your symptoms may warrant a call to your doctor as potentially being COVID-19 related. Remember, this is only a tool. Your healthcare provider is the best source for additional information. To access this, go to:

- Link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>
- Near the bottom right you'll see a gold colored, rectangular box that reads, "Self-Checker"
- Click on the box and follow the instructions.

Warning: We've been informed that there are some test kits being marketed to the public that are not yet approved by the FDA and thus their accuracy cannot be verified. There are also scams out there. Be careful what you respond to. Always best to check it out first if you're considering responding. Price gouging is also a problem. The Consumer Protection Tip Line can be reached at: 877-765-8388.

Current High Risk Travel Locations: Level 3 countries that would require 14 day quarantine upon return. This list has greatly increased. The only way to slow this down is to stay home.

- Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, China, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Thailand, Turkey
- Europe (Schengen Area): Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Monaco, San Marino, Vatican City
- United Kingdom and Ireland: England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland

AGAIN – THE MESSAGE HERE IS IT IS BEST TO STAY HOME AT THIS TIME

Modified Health Dept. Services:

- Please see the following link for current service information.
<http://lapeercountyweb.org/index.php/departments/county-health-department>

Public information you may find helpful:

- There have been a number of orders sent out in an effort to help those who are especially affected in specific ways (children's school meals, unemployment, tax foreclosure relief, etc.)

- These and other information can be found on the State Website: www.michigan.gov/coronavirus .
- Executive orders can specifically be found at: https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499_90705---,00.html

Reducing Opportunities for Exposure

The best way to slow the spread of disease to ensure that those seriously ill will be able to get the medical care needed, and to reduce personal risk of exposure, continue with the following measures:

- **Stay home** when you're sick.
- **Unless seriously ill, do not head straight to the emergency rooms, urgent cares, and physician offices** – Instead, phone your physician to discuss your health concerns. They will direct you on what you need to do from there.
- Limit **travel**.
- Follow the guidelines for **social distancing**.
- **Avoid close contact** with sick people.
- **Wash hands frequently** with soap and running water (best method); or use hand sanitizer with a minimum 60% alcohol content if handwashing is not feasible at that time
- **Cough** into your sleeve or a tissue
- **Disinfect** commonly touched surfaces
- Avoid **shaking hands**
- **Avoid touching** your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- Remember that there is a lot of influenza circulating, along with other viruses. **COVID-19 symptoms** tend to be fever, dry cough, and shortness of breath. If unsure, ask your health care provider.

Information: Ask questions or consult a good information site:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/nCOV-2019_General_Fact_Sheet_v2-4-20_680266_7.pdf (Informational document)
- <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus>