



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Henderson County Department of Public Health

Steven E. Smith, MPA, Health Director | Diana Curran, MD, Medical Director

1200 Spartanburg Highway, Suite 100, Hendersonville, NC 28792

Main Phone: (828) 692-4223 | Administration FAX: (828) 697-4709

Clinic FAX: (828) 697-4691 | Communicable Disease FAX: (828) 697-4504

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Media Inquiries Please Contact:

Jodi Grabowski 828-694-6064

JGrabowski@hendersoncountync.gov

Henderson County Department of Public Health Updates about Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Hendersonville, NC (March 6, 2020) ---- Henderson County Department of Public Health (HCDPH) hosted healthcare leaders, emergency responders, and regional partners at the Henderson County Emergency Services center to share updates on the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and prepare for the possibility that it becomes a local concern.

The situation surrounding COVID-19 is rapidly evolving and the information or public health recommendations are changing as new information becomes available. At this time:

- No COVID-19 cases have been identified in Henderson County or the local area.
- The HCDPH recommends individuals treat COVID-19 **prevention** the same as with the flu:
 - Stay home when sick
 - Avoid contact with persons that you know are sick
 - Cover your cough (cough into the crook of elbow or upper sleeve, not in hands; or use a tissue and throw in trash)
 - Practice good hand hygiene (wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing)
 - If you do not have access to soap and water use hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol
 - Routinely clean frequently touched surfaces with household cleaners
 - Note: Masks worn by healthy people do not help reduce the spread of COVID-19
- When a community has cases of COVID-19, local health officials will help identify those individuals and initiate next steps.

- Health officials will contact individuals who returned to Henderson County after travel to China. HCDPH would determine if those individuals require restrictions on their movement for a period of 14 days from the time they left the area. This could include being asked to stay home from work, school and other settings.

- Coronavirus symptoms include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. If you have these symptoms:
 - Call your healthcare provider. Isolate yourself and wear a mask, if available, before leaving the house.
 - Do not go to the emergency room. Emergency rooms need to be able to serve those with the most critical needs.
 - If you are having a medical emergency, call 9-1-1.

For more information, call the North Carolina Coronavirus Hotline at **1-866-462-3821** (staffed by nurses and pharmacists 24/7), or visit the Center for Disease Control's website for information and frequent updates at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

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