

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



Board of Commissioners

Samuel J. Schiccatano, Chairman
Joseph M. Klebon, Vice Chairman
Kymberley L. Best, Secretary

Emergency Management / 911

Stephen J. Jeffery, CEM
Emergency Management Director
Russel Fellman
911 Coordinator
Jason Zimmerman
Operations Officer/OEM

911 Greenough Street, Suite 2, Sunbury, PA 17801 | Phone: 570-988-4217 | Fax: 570-988-4375

SITUATION REPORT NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COVID-19 DATE: 03/19/2020

Northumberland County Department of Public Safety and Office of Emergency Management has been actively monitoring the developments of the Coronavirus outbreak through several sources coordinated by the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency and the PA Dept of Health.

We continue to take a proactive approach to carefully monitor and prepare for this situation as information is provided and will continue in that direction.

The County Commissioners as well as the county task force remain very engaged.

Northumberland County Department of Public Safety continues to monitor the situation in an enhanced watch with staff monitoring day to day events.

Governor Tom Wolf as many are aware has signed a State Disaster Declaration as well as a Presidential Disaster Declaration signed by President Trump.

Note this is not a state of emergency- it is a disaster declaration to ensure state federal agencies involved in the response have expedited resources they need to focus on the virus and its possible spread.

Governor Tom Wolf is strongly encouraging the suspension of large gatherings, events and conferences of 50 individuals or more as well as adjustments to in restrictions throughout the commonwealth which is intended to protect the citizens to where its intended to FLATTEN THE SPREAD of the COVID-19 virus.

The commonwealth continues discouraging travel to recreation activities and encouraging all to exercise discretion in order to prevent the spread of illness.

With the addition of testing facilities throughout the commonwealth additional presumptive cases a likely to increase.

Northumberland County Government will be reassessing times of services related to administration and the courts and human services. Note: there is no expectation to shut down or close offices.

Municipal leaders have indicated they plan or have initiated a state of emergency for their municipalities to regards to planning and response to the epidemic.

Statewide, there are 185 cases of COVID-19 reported from commercial, hospital and state labs. There are 1,608 patients who have tested negative. With commercial labs being the primary testing option for most Pennsylvanians, data is not available on the total number of tests pending.

In the United States, 9415 effected, 150 deaths, (106) recovered

There are 0 cases in Northumberland County.

There are 0 cases in any surrounding county.

The Department of Public Safety continues to work closely with many partners including those in our county, the regional task force, PEMA and the PA DOH and Geisinger.

Northumberland County continues to actively monitor this developing situation, primarily focused on state agency coordinated briefings and reports from county partners.

Local level briefings and meetings are also being conducted. Northumberland County OEM continues in performing information sharing and planning coordination activities.

Northumberland County Commissioners, Northumberland County Judge & court officials, Northumberland County Sheriff, and Northumberland County Department of Public Safety/ 911/EM and the Coroner's office have organized a County Government Task Force to share current situation information, review the Northumberland County Government Continuity Of Operations Plan, discuss and recommend any changes to county government and courts operations, and provide a consistent, unified message to the public of any relevant information.

Central Susquehanna Opportunities (CSO) of Northumberland County is available to assist those in need with food and housing. 570-644-6575 Community Active Agency Ext 171.

Continue Active Monitoring of situation; responding to inquiries; information sharing tasks
Daily

A request has been submitted to the state in regard to unmet needs in relation to providing additional protective equipment to our first responders and for those who treat, transport and provide patient care.

We are and will continue to forward guidance or updates to specific partners and stakeholders as appropriate.

- Receive and take any appropriate action on resource or support requests.
- Participate in/ Conduct briefings, in person and teleconferences
- Briefings to our stakeholders including this group ongoing
- Promote flu spread prevention information.

Restricting remain in place and are enforced to access to all county building and facilities.

Visitation out the county prison remains restricted

National guidance is evolving.

We are aware of many activities, events and meetings across the county being postponed or cancelled.

It's asked that the public refrain from making panic purchases which only complicates our healthcare system's ability to provide care to those in need from the public. The local stores as well as the larger chain stores are having difficulty keeping up with stock and essential needs.

Our day-to-day life's do not need to stop, be proactive in trying to stop the spread of this virus by practicing "social distancing".

Critical services within the county will remain as normal operations, but adjustments are expected.

Any Northumberland County residents with questions, concerns or conditions reports related to COVID-19 are urged to contact the EMA Office at 570-988-4217

After hours emergency contact/ dispatch is always available at 570-988-4539, for emergencies 911.

We are able to coordinate communications with regional and state-level agencies, partners and resources to address any questions or concerns. Or you may email the EMA Office at ema@norrycopa.net.

Coronavirus informational webpage on PA DOH website: www.health.pa.gov

KEY MESSAGE POINTS:

PA Department of Health toll free phone number for public use: 1-877-PA-HEALTH (1-877-724-3258).

WHAT ARE SYMPTOMS OF THE CORONAVIRUS?

- Symptoms of the COVID-19 can include
- Fever
- Cough Shortness of Breath

HOW CAN IT SPREAD?

Covid-19 is spread through the air by coughing or sneezing, close personal contact such as touching or hand shaking, and touching an object or surface with the virus on it.

HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF?

- Avoid Close contact with people who are sick
- Avoid Touching your eyes, nose mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with your elbow or a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Do not use your hands
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using REGULAR HOUSE HOUD CLEANER SPRAY OR WIPE.
- Stay informed- visit CDC,'s website for current information at cdc.gov/COVID 19

If you are sick stay home until you are feeling better.

We need to be prepared for community spread of COVID-19. Although community spread has not yet been reported in any Pennsylvania cases it does remain a challenge if it is identified.

Northumberland County will maintain a PROACTIVE APPROACH on the CORONAVIRUS and will continue to monitor and maintain situational awareness for the safety and wellbeing of our residents.

In this time of stress and uncertainties we would like to take the time and thank those who continue to protect care for us each and every day. A SPEACIAL thanks for those who have reached out to their communities providing lunches for those out of school during these trying times.

Stephen J Jeffery, CEM, Director
Northumberland County OEM