

CHENANGO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

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The Current Situation with COVID-19: Reminder to Continue to Stay Safe

As the state continues its opening phases please remember that you are personally responsible for your health and the health of those around you. It is important to continue to stay safe and to protect yourself and others. It is especially important to protect the elderly and those individuals who are more vulnerable to the disease. Everyone should continue to follow the recommendations:

- ✓ Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially before you eat
- ✓ Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- ✓ Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Keep a distance of at least 6 feet to help slow the spread of COVID-19
- ✓ Cover your cough and sneezes with a tissue and discard it, wash hands
- ✓ Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects
- ✓ Stay home when you are able and if you are feeling sick
- ✓ Stay home if you have a fever for at least 24 hours and monitor symptoms
- ✓ Continue social distancing recommendations
- ✓ Individuals must obtain and wear a mask or face covering when they are in public and are within 6 feet distance of other individuals; or in a situation where they are unable to maintain 6 feet distance from other individuals; or when using public or private transportation

Each day the Chenango County Department of Health reports weekly numbers for COVID-19 to the public. Our current statistics as of 6/3/2020 are: Total Quarantines 104, Total Confirmed Cases 133, Active Hospitalizations 1, Recoveries 93, Total Tests Performed 4657, and Total Deaths 5.

Here is a reminder of what those definitions mean:

- Total Quarantines – (Previously listed as both Mandatory and Precautionary) This includes the current positive cases plus the people who are quarantined because they have had close or proximate contact with the positive case while the case was infectious, as defined by the NYSDOH.
- Total Confirmed Cases – This is a running cumulative number of cases which have tested positive for coronavirus since it began.
- Active Hospitalizations – Current hospitalizations; when discharged these patients either remain in quarantine or are discharged from the health department surveillance and are counted in the recovery data.
- Recoveries – The positive cases that meet discharge criteria.
- Total Tests Performed – This number is taken from the NYSDOH COVID Tracker information on the website. Our department does not count tests. Labs that do testing report the number to the state as they are performed.
- Total Deaths – All deaths confirmed due to coronavirus from our county.

Since March 2020 when we received our first COVID-19 case, The Chenango County Health Department has quarantined 1053 total people, because they were either positive for the disease or a close or proximate contact to a positive case. Case investigations done early on in the county revealed that persons testing positive had up to 10 close contacts needing quarantine. As people started staying home and practicing social distancing, we observed that close contacts decreased to household members of only 1-3 contacts needing quarantine. As the county has begun to open up, the identified positive cases have had more contacts and once again their contact numbers have increased to 10 or more contacts needing quarantine per case. This makes it essential that the community continue to social distance and NOT gather in groups.

For more information and data go to the NYSDOH COVID Tracker

<https://covid19tracker.health.ny.gov>

Other websites for reliable information about Coronavirus

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>

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

Persons with questions or requiring additional information may contact the
Chenango County Health Department at **(607) 337-1660**.

Promoting and protecting health, safety, and the quality of life in Chenango County