

Jones County Health Department

418 Hwy 58 North, Unit C
Trenton, NC 28585

Phone: (252) 448-9111 Fax: (252) 448-1670

March 17, 2020
For Immediate Release

Contact: Diana Craft, Public Information Officer
252-448-9111, ext. 3017
dcraft@jonescountync.gov

Health Department Response to COVID-19 Press Release #2

Trenton, NC - The Jones County Health Department continues preparation for the possibility of a coronavirus outbreak in Jones County. As of today, there are no confirmed cases in Jones County. The Health Department is closely monitoring the coronavirus outbreak and continues to work with local, state and federal agencies to share information and update protocols in the event of a coronavirus case in Jones County.

Coronavirus, or COVID-19, is a respiratory disease caused by a new virus strain first identified in Wuhan, China. The symptoms are similar to the flu – including fever, cough, or shortness of breath. The most common spread is from an infected person to others through the air by coughing or sneezing; close personal contact, including touching and shaking hands; and, touching your nose, mouth, or eyes before washing your hands. Elderly persons (people over age 65), or persons with chronic conditions like heart disease, lung disease or diabetes, or person with compromised immune systems are at greatest risk for severe infections.

If you become ill, seek care with your regular medical provider. If you do not have a medical provider and are not feeling well, call your nearest Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)/ Community Health Center, Urgent Care or Emergency Room. Your provider can test you for the commonly occurring infections and if negative, may test you for COVID-19 as this testing is now available through commercial laboratories. Please note that Jones County Health Department is not routinely offering COVID-19 testing; however, we can help your provider decide if it's right for you.

As of March 18, 2020, Jones County Health Department is suspending walk-in appointments and requests that all individuals call 252-448-9111, extension 3013 to set up an appointment.

For more information on the coronavirus, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html>) and the North Carolina Division of Public Health Coronavirus call line (1-866-462-3821) or (<https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/cd/diseases/COVID19.html>). Jones County Health Department also is a source of information (252-448-9111) or <http://www.jonescountyhealth.com/>.

###