

## **Jones County Health Department**

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For Immediate Release

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### **Updated Information Related to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Press Release #12**

**Trenton, NC** – Jones County Health Department wants to make sure residents are receiving correct information about the coronavirus, which is also referred to as COVID-19. During these times, it is important that residents receive updates but also accurate information to help debunk rumors throughout the community. The following are updates regarding COVID-19 and preventative measures to reduce the spread of the virus.

- The N.C. Department of Health and Human Services confirms that there is community transmission of COVID-19 throughout the state. Community Transmission means that there are COVID-19 positive residents who do not know where or how they became infected with the virus. Specifically, these individuals did not travel to a high-risk location, nor did they have known close contact with a COVID-19 positive person.
- As of today, Jones County has a total of 15 positive cases since the beginning of April, and is widespread throughout multiple communities within Jones County. Jones County Health Department staff continues to conduct contact tracing to identify individuals who have been in close contact with known positive cases.
- People who have mild symptoms such as fever and cough without shortness of breath or difficulty breathing are encouraged to isolate themselves at home, separate themselves from others as much as possible, and call their medical provider for advice.
- Residents should continue to practice preventative measures such as: washing their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; covering their coughs and sneezes with a tissue and discarding the tissue immediately; avoid touching their face with unwashed hands; and practicing social distancing with at least 6 feet apart.
- Residents should continue to follow the Governor's Stay At Home Executive Order and only leave home for essential activities. Residents who must leave home, should continue to practice social distancing and other known precautions, wearing a surgical or cloth mask and limit the amount of time out, to reduce exposure to the virus.
- As of today, Jones County has reported that there have been 2 COVID-19 associated deaths. A COVID-19 associated death is defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as a person who was positive with the coronavirus at the time of death.

That does not necessarily mean the main cause of death was due to the COVID-19 but was an associated contributor to the death.

As Jones County continues to be impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) it is important for Jones County residents to stay vigilant and continue to follow the recommendations set forth to help reduce the spread of the virus.

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/>.

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