

Jones County Health Department

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For Immediate Release

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Jones County Sees an Increase in Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Press Release #15

Trenton, NC – Since June 18th, Jones County has seen an additional 9 confirmed COVID-19 cases. From April 7th (date of first positive cases) through June 30th, Jones County has 35 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Possible factors that could be contributing to the increase in cases are: 1) Increased testing for COVID-19; 2) Increased exposure in workplace settings; 3) Reduced use of face coverings and social distancing; and 4) continued circulation of COVID-19 throughout in our community.

As we enter the July 4th holiday weekend, Jones County Health Department continues to stress the importance of practicing the three **W**'s: 1) **Wear** a cloth face covering; 2) **Wait** six (6) feet apart and avoid close contact; and 3) **Wash** your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

“As we enjoy the July 4th Holiday, it is important to not let our guard down. COVID-19 is still circulating throughout our community and in North Carolina, and we must do our part to keep our families, friends, and neighbors safe. It is important to remember that North Carolina is still under the Phase 2 “Safer at Home” Executive Order through 5:00 pm on July 17, 2020. As of 5:00 pm on June 26th, face coverings are required in most settings, whether inside or outside, unless an exception applies, when you cannot practice social distancing. Asymptomatic spread of the virus remains a concern because people can be infected, but not show any symptoms, and can transmit the virus to others. By practicing the 3W's and following the Executive Order everyone can have a part in reducing the spread of COVID-19 in our community,” states Wesley Smith, Jones County Health Director.

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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