

Warren County Health Department

Media Release

Date: August 20, 2020 Contact: Jenna Link 309-734-1314

COVID-19 Case Update in Warren County

The Warren County Health Department is announcing 5 additional confirmed cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), bringing the total cases to 218. Most cases have experienced mild symptoms. 147 individuals have had their symptoms resolve. Due to federal privacy restrictions, release of any additional information is prohibited. To date there have been 2185 negative tests.

The new cases include:

- 1 male between the ages of 40-60
- 2 females between the ages of 20-40
- 2 females between the ages of 40-60

The Warren County Health Department is following all the guidelines set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and taking all the necessary precautions with all cases. Health department staff are working to identify, investigate, and actively monitor individuals who were in close contact with the confirmed cases.

COVID19 is spreading in the community and residents should be taking necessary precautions to prevent the spread of illness. Everyone has a role to play in staying healthy. Individuals have the potential to be contagious for up to 48 hours prior to showing any signs of symptoms. You are encouraged to self-monitor daily for any of the following symptoms: fever, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chest tightness, loss of taste/smell, extreme fatigue, abdominal discomfort, headaches, and muscle aches. If you are experiencing any of these symptoms you should stay home.

IDPH developed a new tool utilizing public health indicators that can help you monitor County Level Risk Metrics. This can help you make informed decisions about activities you choose to participate in. Check out the tool at: www.dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics

Follow social distancing recommendations:

- Stay home when you are sick
- Avoid mass gathering and large crowds
- Limit the amount of time spent in the community
- Keep a 6 ft. distance from others
- Wear a cloth mask when out in public

Where can I get the most reliable and up to date information?

- The Illinois Department of Public Health www.dph.illinois.gov
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov
- The Warren County Health Department <u>www.warrencohealth.com</u>