



Seneca County EMA Situation Report #17

COVID-19 Response

April 3, 2020

County EOC Status: **Monitoring**

State EOC: **Activated**

Distribution List: Villages, Townships, Seneca County Elected Officials, City of Tiffin Elected Officials, City of Fostoria Elected Officials, Fire Chiefs, Law Enforcement, LEPC/HS and Mental Health Recovery Services

Ohio

Confirmed Cases: 3312 (+410 in last 24 hours) correction: 2902 on April 2nd.
Deaths 91

Seneca County

Confirmed Cases: 4
Deaths: 1
Recovered: 1

Resources:

Ohio ODH: coronavirus.ohio.gov

CDC: [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)

Seneca County General Health District: senecahealthdistrict.org

Executive Summary

GOVERNOR: DeWine announced today that Ohio State University is going to start producing the testing materials that are needed in order to collect a sample from patients. They are also working to increase the testing machine capacity so that more tests can be run each day.

Gov. Mike DeWine announced Friday that his administration is asking local judges to consider the early release of 38 of the state's nearly 49,000 prison inmates due to the COVID-19 pandemic, noting 23 are new mothers or are pregnant, while the other 15 are over the age of 60 and are within 60 days of their scheduled release. He said those 38 convicts are non-violent and aren't sex offenders. He said his administration will continue to examine whether more inmates can safely be released.

The administration also announced the closure of Hocking Hills State Park as a result of increased use of the narrow paths and trails.

HOSPITAL CAPACITY: General Harris said they are able to strategize regionally to ensure that the hospitals can reserve their space for the acute cases. They will be working to retrofit other facilities for

John Spahr Emergency Management Administrator
Mike Klaiss Emergency Management Deputy/911 coordinator
126 Hopewell Ave., Tiffin, Ohio 44883
Office: 419.447.0266 • Fax: 419.448.5064



less severe cases. Harris said that their team will be focusing on existing infrastructure rather than building new facilities.

BUSINESS: Lt. Gov. Jon Husted announced that there are over 21,000 jobs listed on the new www.coronavirus.ohio.gov/jobsearch website. He stressed one employer that is in high demand of nurses are Ohio's two veteran nursing homes.

Governor DeWine reports that there is now an email set up to coordinate donations and offers to help. This address is together@governor.ohio.gov.

Dr. Acton reports there is a new coronavirus interactive dashboard at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home/dashboard>.

Seneca County General Health District:

Seneca County Health Commissioner will produce Facebook Live videos with updates from the Health District. These will occur at 10:30 Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Videos will be archived on Facebook and can be viewed live on the Health Department's and Commissioner's FB pages.

Emergency Management Agency

The County Outdoor Warning System will be tested this Saturday, April 4th at 11 a.m. as regularly scheduled.

EMA is continuing to accept and process Personal Protective Equipment from non-emergency sources to help support the supply for the Health Department. Contact the EMA at 419.934.1967 to arrange a drop-off. The Donation Center at the Public Safety building will be accepting donations from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. M-F. These resources will be prioritized and dispensed on the directive of the Seneca County General Health District.

Blood Collection

The American Red Cross now faces a severe blood shortage due to an unprecedented number of blood drive cancellations in response to the coronavirus outbreak. **Blood donation is considered an essential service** to ensure the health of the community and is listed as an exception in the state order. While everyone is being asked to avoid mass gatherings, it's very important to note that blood drives are **not** considered "mass gatherings."

Mental Health and Recovery Board of Seneca, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties

During these uncertain times, our office may be closed to the public, however, we are still hard at work to ensure that community member's needs are met. Our board staff is ready to help you navigate the resources. Call our office at 419.448.0640 for any questions regarding behavioral health.

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City of Tiffin

Mayor's Message: All City of Tiffin Municipal buildings shall remain closed to the public, except for employees of the city through the end of day May 1, 2020. This closure includes family members of city employees, friends of city employees, members of the general public, and employees currently on any sort of leave. Current employees should only enter and exit other buildings and offices within the city government if absolutely necessary. This includes all playgrounds and the city compost facility.

Declarations and orders by the Mayor and City Council can be found at tiffinohio.gov.

Job and Family Services

For the week ending March 28, 2020, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services reported 272,117 initial jobless claims to the U.S. Dept. of Labor, which set a record for the second straight week. The number of initial jobless claims filed in Ohio over the last two weeks stands at 468,414. To put that in perspective, 364,603 initial jobless claims were filed during the entire YEAR in 2019. Over these last two weeks, we have issued unemployment compensation payments totaling more than \$45 million to more than 108,000 claimants.

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services urges individuals to file their claims online, if possible, at unemployment.ohio.gov.

Employers with a critical need for employees are looking for workers. Go to Ohiomeansjobs.gov to search and apply.

EMS

Dispatchers in Seneca County have been doing a great job at screening calls for symptoms of the COVID19 and passing that information on to first responders to protect our front-line emergency medical workers.

EMS services in the county continue as usual, however, it is requested that you call your health care provider before calling 911 regarding symptoms of COVID-19. If you are in respiratory distress, call 911.

Law Enforcement

The Seneca County Sheriff has ended prisoner visitation for the foreseeable future to limit exposure to the inmates and staff of the jail and Sheriff's department personnel.

Tiffin City Police officers are taking reports by phone as much as is prudent, but still responding to emergency calls. Officers will remain on patrol throughout the city.

Fostoria Police Officers are also taking reports and patrolling; responding to emergencies as needed.

Business

Tiffin-Seneca Economic Partnership and the Seneca Regional Chamber of Commerce – together with other economic development organizations from the area – have invited the US Small Business Administration's Ray Graves to talk about the new business programs in the CARES Act on Tuesday, April 7 at 2:00 p.m.

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More information can be found at senecasuccess.wordpress.com.

TSEP and the City of Tiffin have put together webpages to direct the public to restaurants with carryout and delivery options.

Administration

Andrew Saul, Commissioner of Social Security, reminds the public that Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit payments will continue to be paid on time during the COVID-19 pandemic. The agency also reminds everyone to be aware of scammers who try to take advantage of the pandemic to trick people into providing personal information or payment via retail gift cards, wire transfers, internet currency, or by mailing cash, to maintain Social Security benefit payments or receive economic impact payments from the Department of the Treasury.

“Social Security will pay monthly benefits on time and these payments will not be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic,” Commissioner Saul said. “I want our beneficiaries to be aware that scammers may try to trick you into thinking the pandemic is stopping or somehow changing your Social Security payments, but that is not true. Don’t be fooled.”

This daily situational report will be sent around 4 p.m. each day M-F and as needed over the weekend. If you wish to update or add information to this report, please get it to the EMA at jspahr@senecacountyohio.gov by 2:30 p.m. each day.

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