



Seneca County EMA Situation Report #40

COVID-19 Response

May 6, 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, Seneca County Education Contacts and LEPC/HS and Mental Health Recovery Services

Ohio

Confirmed Cases: 20,625 (+553 in last 24 hours)

Probable: 951

Confirmed Deaths: 1,114

Probable Deaths: 111

Seneca County

Total Cases: 14

Confirmed Cases: 5

Deaths: 1

Recovered: 8

Resources:

Ohio ODH: coronavirus.ohio.gov

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

Seneca County General Health District: senecahealthdistrict.org

Executive Summary

No Press Conference Today 5/6

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>.

Ohio Legislation

A House panel today voted along party lines to restrict the state health director's ability to issue orders that limit business operations and the movement of Ohioans.

The chamber's State & Local Government Committee approved an amendment to legislation on occupational licensing (SB 1) that would limit any order issued by the state health director to 14 days unless an extension is approved by the legislative Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review with three

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affirmative votes from both House and Senate JCARR members under the bill. If JCARR doesn't act, the health order would be rescinded.

The amendment would apply to any order issued on or after April 29, 2020 and also gives any Ohio citizen standing to seek a court order requiring the Director to comply with the requirement.

The amendment comes amid growing criticism by some majority Republicans of the DeWine Administration's orders regarding business closures and personal limitations as part of efforts to slow the spread of coronavirus.

The bill is scheduled for a House floor vote later Wednesday. If and when approved by the House, the bill will go to the Senate for a concurrence vote. The Senate is scheduled to be in session today, but a time has not been announced.

Seneca County

The Seneca County Board of Commissioners met digitally via Zoom Thursday morning. One topic of discussion was how office operations may change as parts of the state begin to re-open. Commissioner Shayne Thomas said many offices including the commissioners' office, will continue to be closed on Fridays for budgetary reasons until finances recover. The full press release is available at senecacountyohio.gov.

Seneca County General Health District:

The Health Commissioner clarified the Seneca County Coronavirus numbers as 14 total confirmed cases of the COVID19 virus which INCLUDES 7 currently ill (one of those currently hospitalized), 8 recovered from the illness and 1 deceased due to complications of COVID19.

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

Emergency Management Agency

As buildings re-open under the "Responsible RestartOhio" plan that have had little to no water usage during the Stay at Home Order due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important to flush water that has been stagnant in both cold- and hot-water distribution lines and fixtures. Low water usage can contribute to bacterial growth, including Legionella which can cause a serious type of pneumonia called Legionnaires' disease. It can also cause other water quality issues with potential health risks due to the build-up of lead and copper in stagnant water that's been collecting in older pipes and fixtures.

As buildings reopen, it is critical to drain, flush, and if necessary based on a review of building conditions, disinfect the hot and cold-water systems to remove harmful contaminants. Devices that store water, such as drinking water fountains, water heaters, storage tanks, and any droplet or mist-forming devices such as cooling towers, humidifiers, showerheads, and certain medical and manufacturing devices and process equipment should also be flushed and disinfected in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations or industry best practices.

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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

The Mental Health and Recovery Services Board contracts with Firelands Counseling and Recovery Services who are making the attached resource available to our healthcare workers and first responders during this time.

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.

City of Tiffin

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

Job and Family Services

Over these last six weeks, ODJFS has distributed more than \$1.45 billion in unemployment compensation payments to more than 481,000 claimants.

ODJFS urges individuals to file their claims online, if possible, at unemployment.ohio.gov.

Education

No Update

OSS Solid Waste District

Due to the health and safety concerns involving the COVID-19 epidemic for local citizens, contracted businesses, OSS staff, and assisting community service workers and volunteer groups, the District is canceling all spring recycling collection events.

- **Television & Electronics Collection – Saturday, May 9 – CANCELLED**

With our Spring collections cancelled, we have compiled a listing of alternative options to properly dispose of items like paint, batteries, motor oil, TV's and electronics, and scrap metals. Click on: <https://recycleoss.org/special-collection-alternatives/> for more details.

- **Ottawa County Appliance Collection – Saturday, June 13 – CANCELLED**

The District plans to hold the scheduled fall recycling collection events. Fall collections will be held to accept materials for household hazardous waste, televisions and electronics, appliances and tires. Fall dates and information can be found at recycleoss.org.

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Economic Recovery (State)

No Update

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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