



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Henderson County Department of Public Health

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Henderson County Community Partners Prepare for Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Hendersonville, NC. Since the initial identification of novel coronavirus in late 2019, Henderson County Department of Public Health in conjunction with Henderson County Emergency Services, Pardee UNC Health Care, AdventHealth Hendersonville, Henderson County Public Schools, local healthcare providers, and many other partners have been preparing for the possibility of cases here. The Health Department has been monitoring daily situation reports and guidance from the NC Department of Health and Human Services, State Laboratory of Public Health, and other federal and state partners about the virus. Recent information about the spread of the virus to individuals who had no travel history to affected areas and no known source of exposure has elevated our concerns, and we are asking for the community's help to minimize the impact this illness may cause in our community. We are asking that individuals:

1. Seek accurate information about the virus from credible sources like www.cdc.gov or www.hendersoncountync.gov/health.
2. Practice protective measures (see below)
3. Have a family plan for how you will manage if you, or a family member needed to stay home due to illness

It is important to know that currently, there are **no confirmed cases of COVID-19 anywhere in North Carolina**. In addition, this is a very active Flu season. Symptoms for the Flu and Coronavirus are similar and include fever, cough and shortness of breath. At this time, respiratory symptoms are more likely due to the Flu or other viruses as there are still no cases of COVID-19 in this area. The following precautions are recommended to protect yourself from the spread of all respiratory illness, including Flu and COVID-19:

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Avoid contact with persons that you know are sick.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If you do not have access to soap and water use hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol.
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow – or into a tissue that you immediately throw away.
- Routinely clean frequently touched surfaces with household cleaners.

For general information, call North Carolina Coronavirus Hotline at 1-866-462-3821, visit www.cdc.gov/coronavirus, or visit www.hendersoncountync.gov/health .

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