



**Henderson County Local Government**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Henderson County Manager and Health Director Issue Joint Statement Regarding COVID-19**

**HC-2020-11**

**Hendersonville, NC – March 20, 2020**

Henderson County continues to act to protect and ensure the safety of our residents in a very complicated, changing and challenging environment. We all realize that we are sailing in uncharted waters, not only in Henderson County, North Carolina, but also throughout the United States.

We have been given every assurance that the best and brightest in our scientific institutions are working day and night to find answers to this challenge. However today, until those objectives are realized, it is up to each and every one of us as individuals and citizens, to act responsibly within our community, within our homes and within ourselves to slow the spread of this virus. It is up to all of us to do our part to protect our families, our loved ones and ourselves.

We are fortunate in this community to have outstanding healthcare resources; Henderson County Department of Public Health, Pardee UNC Health and AdventHealth Hospitals, Blue Ridge Health, Henderson County EMS and Rescue Squad – all of our first responders. We need to make sure that those medical professionals are focused on the greatest needs. To provide for that, we urge anyone and everyone who is experiencing any of the symptoms outlined by our Public Health Director, to stay home, to minimize contact with other individuals and to follow the advice of our healthcare and medical professionals.

Today we are entering a new phase of coronavirus response in our community. Given the reality that we will likely start to identify confirmed cases in the near future, it is important that every individual and family follow necessary disease prevention practice.



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## **Stay home if you are sick**

This is the most important step that you and your family can take during this response. Remember that 80% of coronavirus cases are mild and there is no current treatment. If your symptoms are mild, there is no need for testing of any kind and you must help limit the spread of disease. Every other strategy in place today will not work if sick people continue to move around or go to work and infect others.

All persons with fever and respiratory symptoms should isolate themselves until the below conditions are met:

- At least 7 days since symptom onset

**And**

- More than 72 hours at home after symptoms cease (absence of fever and improvement with respiratory symptoms)

Persons who have had close contact with a person with respiratory illness are encouraged to stay home to the extent possible and monitor themselves for symptoms.

- North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Guidance dated March 20, 2020

We are encouraged by the responsible preparations and actions that everyone is taking today, but it is important to remind everyone of the absolute necessity of staying home if you are sick. Thank you for your continued support to protect your family, loved ones and the entire community.

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