

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER

Dear Community Members:

Positive cases of COVID-19 in Medina County continue to climb. Last week, the Health Department reported the highest number of positive cases in a 7-day period for our county since the pandemic began. From July 12 to July 18, we've surpassed that number with 87 new positive cases.

With our rising numbers, the recent limitations on COVID-19 testing have been frustrating. The rapid increase of sick individuals are causing regional labs to become backed up and we're seeing turnaround times taking up to a week in some instances. This makes things difficult. It's difficult for public health in our disease control efforts, but we also acknowledge it's hard for the individual waiting on those results as well.

If you are waiting for your test results, please assume you have the virus and take actions to prevent others from exposure. Stay home and away from family and friends, even if you are feeling better. This is crucial in slowing down this virus that's now gaining steam in Medina County.

Mask Up Medina County

I think we are all well-aware of the commotion masks have sparked across our community and beyond. I've received a lot of questions about them and what I would like our community to know is this: regardless of our risk level designation in the Ohio Public Advisory Alert System and regardless if masks are mandated or not, wearing a mask as another layer of protection is a simple action we can all take to make a huge impact on preventing the spread of the virus. If you are physically able to, wear your mask as a simple courtesy for others.



The county-wide #MaskUpMedinaCounty initiative was recently launched as a unified effort to keep our community healthy and support our economy through safe commerce. If we continue to have record weeks of new cases, this could all change. Help us keep moving forward, and mask up Medina.

Travel Concerns

At the time of this message, Ohio has no formal quarantine requirement after out of state travel. I would encourage everyone to be aware of the community conditions and the exposure you may have to others while away. The CDC offers guidance on U.S. travel <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-in-the-us.html> that I encourage residents and businesses to review. There are links to travel restrictions by state, safety tips to consider while traveling, and a link to the CDC COVID Data Tracker to see trends by state. Being safe both home and away is important to the well-being of the entire community.

Where can I find the latest information?

Medinahealth.org or Coronavirus.ohio.gov have the latest real-time information. You can find health and safety messages and information you can use to help make decisions that are best for you and your family. Every Friday, we update the data dashboard on our website to provide the most up-to-date insights on COVID-19. You can find that information here:

www.medinahealth.org/community/current-outbreaks/data/

