



Lincoln County Health Department

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For Immediate Release:

The Lincoln County Health Department has been coordinating with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and state and local partners to prepare for COVID-19 since January 28, 2020. We are alert, but not alarmed and we are asking Lincoln County citizens to plan ahead for the possibility of the spread of the infection, while the risk for North Carolina is currently low.

The health department, health care providers and others are equipped with the means to quickly identify and respond to any potential isolated cases that might occur in Lincoln County. The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services recommends everyone continue taking precautions to protect themselves and others from the spread of respiratory illnesses, which includes COVID-19 such as:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water, and for at least 20 seconds each time.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are ill.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Do not reuse tissue after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are frequently touched.

All businesses, student/childcare institutions, and long-term care facilities should make sure all employees, students, and staff are aware of and practicing good hand hygiene and taking common-sense precautions to protect from the spread of respiratory illnesses and are being discouraged to attend school or work if they are sick. We want to emphasize that no one group, ethnicity or population in the US is at a higher risk for acquiring COVID-19 infection than others and it is important to not let fear and anxiety lead to social stigma towards friends, neighbors or members of our community and we encourage citizens to speak the facts and to speak up if you hear others giving misinformation and making statements that cause stigma against people in our community.

As a reminder, be cautious about what you read or hear about the virus and make sure you are separating rumor from fact before you react to statements or social media posts you may view. Again, the Lincoln County Health Department is alert, but not alarmed of the current public concern over coronavirus, but citizens can instill trust in us because we are the leading local institute for prevention, preparedness and education in our community.

Resource Links:

- [WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW](#)
- [LATEST UPDATES](#)
- [INFORMATION FOR SPECIFIC GROUPS](#)
- [NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES](#)

Questions and concerns about coronavirus (COVID-19)? Call the **Coronavirus Helpline 1-866-462-3821**

MISSION STATEMENT

The Lincoln County Health Department provides quality health services to promote a healthy community.



VISION STATEMENT

Lincoln County Health Department services will promote healthy lifestyles through prevention, preparedness, and education.