

No new cases of COVID-19 in Chautauqua County today

Chautauqua County statistics:

- 24 confirmed cases;
- 3 active cases - continue to recover under orders of the Local Health Official per NYS Public Health Law;
- 18 recovered cases;
- 3 deaths;
- 127 cases under quarantine/isolation orders by the Public Health Director and being monitored. Not all of those being monitored are confirmed to have COVID-19 but have either shown symptoms, are awaiting results, or have risk factors; and
- 427 negative test results to date.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT POSITIVE COVID-19 CASES:

Chautauqua County Public Health staff is conducting investigations to identify close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases.

Following guidance from NYSDOH, contact tracing will begin 48 hours before the day the person with the positive test started having symptoms. NYSDOH deems this the beginning of the infectious period.

Once identified, our department notifies the close contacts of their potential exposure to COVID-19 and they are placed under mandatory or precautionary quarantine to monitor for symptoms. If you do not personally hear from a public health nurse, you are not a close contact of an individual who has been confirmed to have COVID-19. As of April 8, in a community setting, the definition of close contact with COVID-19 cases, for purposes of contact investigations and potential movement restrictions such as quarantine, includes - sharing the same household; direct physical contact; direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case; being within 6 feet of a case for 10 minutes or more (ex. room, car). The local health department considers other factors such as proximity of contact, duration of exposure, and whether an individual has symptoms, when deciding whether an exposure resulted in close contact.

Any contact with residents, or others, of essential employees, they must be wearing PPE. P J has sent out something, on this, but I have not received this yet. When I do, I will share it. Ken, and working employees, Rick Young, Lisa. Anyone working, if they come into contact with others, need to wear PPE.

There continues to be events at/in the Amish community. Please report to the Sheriff's office, but according to Constitution, there is freedom of Religion. I worry about these gatherings, as the Amish travel between State lines for some of these. Then they shop at our local stores. We need to take this seriously, and I hope our local stores will implement some more stringent controls, to try to assist with Social Distancing.

Again, encourage all residents to view these updates on our website.