
CLEVELAND COUNTY

PUBLIC HEALTH CENTER

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Cleveland County Health Department Announces Two More Cases of COVID-19

SHELBY, NC – Today, the Cleveland County Health Department announced two more cases of COVID-19, bringing the county’s total positive case count to fifty. Neither individual has recently traveled nor had contact with a confirmed case, indicating the virus was transmitted within the community. Both individuals are isolating at home and will remain in isolation until discontinued by local health department personnel.

“This is the third confirmed COVID-19 case we have had in the county in the past two days,” Cleveland County Deputy Director DeShay Oliver said. “With the State of North Carolina scheduled to move into Phase 1 of reopening at 5:00 pm on May 8, I encourage people to be mindful that COVID-19 still exists within the county. As people visit various public places, it is my hope that they will take heed of the Governor’s recommendations to wait six feet apart, wear a facemask, and wash their hands.”

Some of the major differences between the current Executive Order 121 and Executive Order 138 that goes into effect on May 8 at 5:00 pm include the opening of retail and commercial businesses with a fifty percent (50%) capacity limit, opening of childcare centers for working parents or parents looking for work, and the allowance of outdoor worship services to exceed the limit of ten people as long as social distancing guidelines are followed. Businesses such as hair and nail salons, spas, tattoo parlors, playgrounds, gyms, and entertainment venues will remain closed during this phase. Restaurants will still be limited to takeout and drive-thru options.

“Just as each individual’s behavior has the ability to impact how COVID-19 spreads in our community, so do the policies and procedures of businesses that will be reopening,” Oliver added. “It is critical that businesses follow guidelines issued by the State such as posting required signage, properly cleaning and disinfecting surfaces, screening employees for symptoms, developing a social distancing plan, and having employees wear face coverings when appropriate.”

A copy and summary of Executive Order 138, Frequently Asked Questions, and resources for businesses such as checklists, free signage, employee screening templates, and more can be accessed at <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/covid19/covid-19-guidance#phase-1-easing-of-restrictions>.

Of the 50 cases in the county, 37 have recovered and have been released from isolation, 11 are active, and two county residents have died from the virus. There have been approximately 1,100 COVID-19 tests conducted in the county.

To view the Cleveland County COVID-19 case count by ZIP code in both map and table format, visit www.clevelandcounty.com, click on “County Departments,” select “Health Department” and then click on “Coronavirus Information.” You can also receive daily COVID-19 updates by following the Cleveland County Health Department’s Facebook page @clevelandcountyhealthdepartment.

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