

# Media Release



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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**To:** All Media

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**For Immediate Release**

## **Tazewell County Announces First COVID-19 Confirmed Case**

**Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford Counties**- A resident of Tazewell County has tested positive for coronavirus disease (COVID-19). The individual is a male in his 70's. His exposure is not related to a confirmed case or travel. Positive test results were received Wednesday, March 25, 2020. Public health officials were notified immediately according state and local public health protocols, and the individual is currently hospitalized.

Tazewell County Health officials are working closely with Peoria and Woodford Counties, as well as Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) for investigating and notifying any individuals who may have had exposure to the individual who tested positive.

The care and safety of our residents our highest priority. All partners organizations involved remain fully prepared to respond to COVID-19 cases. Public health and hospital systems maintain highly trained infection control teams, specialized equipment and protocols consistent with the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The Peoria region is taking steps to increase its testing capacity and will share new information on testing as soon as it becomes available.

Residents are encouraged to learn more about the steps you can take to protect yourself and your family from being exposed to the virus:

- Stay home when possible, according to the Governor's Executive Order.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Stay at least 6 feet from other individuals.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or your elbow, then throw the tissue in the trash.

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- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.

Individuals who have questions or concerns about COVID-19 can contact the Illinois Department of Public Health Hotline at 1-800-889-3931.

For more information on COVID-19, visit:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>  
Illinois Department of Public Health, <http://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus>

Peoria City/County Health Department, <http://www.peoriacounty.org/pcchd>

Tazewell County Health department, <http://www.tazewellhealth.org>

Woodford County Health Department, <http://woodfordhealth.org>

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