



MEDIA CONTACT:
Erin Luckhardt, PIO
O: 231-347-5628
e.luckhardt@nwhealth.org
www.nwhealth.org

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Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Daily Update

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reminding residents of the importance of staying home to save lives. In the event it becomes necessary to leave your home, guidance has shifted for individuals wearing masks. In an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19, the White House is formalizing new guidance for Americans wearing face coverings like homemade masks or bandanas but are urging everyone to ensure healthcare workers and first responders are prioritized when it comes to surgical and N95 masks.

Dr. Meyerson, Medical Director at the Health Department of Northwest Michigan, remarked “As we learn more about COVID-19, guidance for people wearing masks to the grocery store or out in public has shifted. However, it’s extremely important to remember that even when wearing a mask, people should practice social distancing and continue regular, if not more frequent handwashing, as they may touch their faces more to adjust masks.”

Additionally, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issued an emergency order that sets fines at \$1000 for not complying with the executive orders banning gatherings or non-essential businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. The [full emergency order](#) is available on the State of Michigan’s Coronavirus website.

As of 4:00pm, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 4, Charlevoix – 7, Emmet – 10, Otsego – 22; and confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Emmet – 2, Otsego – 1. The State of Michigan has reported 14,225 cases and 540 deaths.

Stay up-to-date on the latest information in the Health Department jurisdiction by [liking and following our Facebook page](#) and visiting [our website](#).

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is mandated by the Michigan Public Health Code to promote wellness, prevent disease, provide quality healthcare, address health problems of vulnerable populations, and protect the environment for the residents and visitors of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Otsego counties. For more information, visit nwhealth.org.

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