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### **Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Daily Update**

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan has received questions regarding the use of face masks and face coverings. As PPE (personal protective equipment) supplies are low, usage of N95 masks should be prioritized for front line, healthcare workers and first responders. Aligning with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations, the general public is advised to wear homemade face masks or face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.

As Governor Whitmer mentioned in her press conference today, those having contact with people outside of their household are at an increased risk to either get or spread the virus. We can't stress enough the importance of staying home and leaving home ONLY for urgent or essential needs and to limit the number of people in a household who are going to get groceries or medical supplies.

Health Officer, Lisa Peacock, shared "We know that it is becoming more difficult to remain patient. But we also know we are not yet at the peak of this illness. Our communities must stay strong together and believe that staying home is working."

The Emmet County Testing Facility for COVID-19 will be closed tomorrow, Friday, April 10. Beginning on Monday, April 13 the facility will begin hours of 12:00-3:00pm and may be adjusted based on the testing need.

As of 4:00pm, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 6, Charlevoix – 8, Emmet – 17, Otsego – 29; and confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Emmet – 2, Otsego – 2. The State of Michigan has reported 21,504 cases and 1,076 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](http://nwhealth.org).*

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