



ALBEMARLE REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICES
Partners in Public Health

711 Roanoke Ave. Elizabeth City, NC 27909

NEWS RELEASE #65

June 26, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ALBEMARLE REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDES UPDATE ON REGIONAL
CASE COUNTS AND OUTBREAKS**

Local Health Director Urges Community Unity to Prevent Spread and Control Pandemic

Elizabeth City, NC – Albemarle Regional Health Services (ARHS) is providing updated data of lab confirmed positive COVID-19 cases as of 11 a.m. Friday, June 26, 2020 in addition, to the weekly surveillance report (attached). ARHS cases include:

Pasquotank County – 180 lab confirmed cases - 23 active, 142 recovered, and 15 deaths

Perquimans County – 32 lab confirmed cases – 4 active, 26 recovered, and 2 deaths

Camden County – 23 lab confirmed cases – 12 active and 11 recovered

Chowan County – 19 lab confirmed cases - 0 active and 19 recovered

Currituck County – 16 lab confirmed cases - 0 active and 16 recovered

Bertie County – 140 lab confirmed cases - 7 active, 129 recovered, and 4 deaths

Gates County – 26 lab confirmed cases – 4 active, 20 recovered, and 2 deaths

Hertford County – 157 lab confirmed cases - 3 active, 144 recovered, and 10 deaths

ARHS continues to monitor multiple outbreaks at local facilities. Elizabeth City Health and Rehabilitation (ECHR) is stable with 50 residents and 21 staff members with lab-confirmed positive cases and 14 deaths.

The outbreak at the Ahoskie House is also stable with 52 residents and 21 staff members with lab-confirmed positive cases and eight deaths.

Outbreaks at Ahoskie Assisted Living consist of three positive cases in residents and one staff member and Chowan River Rehabilitation and Nursing has one resident and one staff member with lab-confirmed positive cases.

Bertie Correctional Facility confirmed cases remains stable with 12 staff and 10 inmates.

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As noted previously, NCDHHS considers an outbreak to be over if there is no evidence of continued transmission within the facility. This is measured as 28 days after the latest date of onset in a symptomatic person or the latest date of specimen collection in an asymptomatic person, whichever is later.

Today at 5:00 pm, North Carolina will remain in Safer at Home Phase 2 until Friday, July 17, 2020. In addition, face coverings will be required in public places.

People must wear face coverings when in public places, indoor or outdoor, where physical distancing of six (6) feet from other people who are not members of the same household or residence is not possible. These settings include, but are not limited to:

- Inside of, or in line to enter, any indoor public space, including public schools;
- Waiting for or riding on public and private multi person transportation, including but not limited to buses, taxis, ride sharing, private car service, vans;
- Engaged in work, whether at the workplace or performing work off-site, when they are or may be within six (6) feet of other people, including working in or walking through common areas, such as lobbies, hallways, stairways, elevators, and parking facilities;
- Obtaining services in a healthcare setting;
- While outdoors in public spaces when maintaining a physical distance of 6 feet from persons who are not members of the same household or residence is not feasible.

Requirements for the use of face covering and masks can be found at this link:

<https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/guidance/NCDHHS-Interim-Guidance-on-Face-Coverings.pdf>

Frequently asked questions about Phase 2 Safer at Home restrictions can be found here:

<https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/EO-147-FAQ.pdf>

“Growing evidence shows that wearing a cloth face covering is an effective method to slow the spread of COVID-19. Wearing face coverings is a simple act that shows others we care about the health and wellbeing of our neighbors, family, and friends, especially our most vulnerable populations,” states R. Battle Betts, Jr., MPA, Health Director. “By doing our part, we can all get back to spending time with loved ones and enjoying the things we love to do much sooner. It is important for us all to recognize that in order to get back to some sense of normalcy it will take a collective community effort. The simple action of wearing a face covering could save a life. I am proud of our region and the compassion we show our neighbors – let’s continue that here to control the spread of COVID.”

COVID-19 testing is available for those meeting criteria by appointment only at the local health departments across the region. ARHS encourages residents to call their primary care provider for an assessment or information on testing availability before calling the local health department. If someone does not have a primary care home, ARHS does offer primary care services. All tests will be completed through a curbside screening clinic at the local health department. For more information on criteria for COVID-19 testing or appointments, call 252-338-WELL/9355 or your local health department directly.

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| Pasquotank County Health Department | Perquimans County Health Department | Camden County Health Department | Chowan County Health Department |
| 252-338-4400 | 252-426-2100 | 252-338-4460 | 252-482-6003 |
| Testing available Thursday 1-3pm | Testing available: Tuesday 1-3pm | Testing available: Thursday 1-3pm | Testing available: Monday 1-3pm |

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| Currituck County Health Department | Bertie County Health Department | Gates County Health Department | Hertford County Health Department |
| 252-232-2271 | 252-794-5322 | 252-357-1380 | 252-862-4054 |
| Testing available: Wednesday 1-3pm | Testing available: Wednesday 1-3pm | Testing available: Monday 1-3pm | Testing available: Tuesday 1-3pm |

ARHS is continuing to ask our community citizens to be mindful in practicing preventive and safety measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

These precautions include:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- 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. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- Practice social distancing; stay at least six feet away from others, avoid unnecessary travel, avoid handshakes, hugs and other close contact.
- Wear a cloth face covering in public when social distancing measures are hard to maintain.

For more information about COVID-19 visit these sites:

Albemarle Regional Health Services - <http://www.arhs-nc.org/> or call **252-338-WELL**

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services - <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/>

Center for Disease Control - <https://www.cdc.gov/>

For more information, please contact Amy Underhill, ARHS Public Information Officer at 252-338-4448 or aunderhill@arhs-nc.org. Albemarle Regional Health Services is dedicated to disease prevention and the promotion of a healthy environment to reduce morbidity, mortality, and disability through quality service, education, and advocacy.

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