

# Wood County Emergency Management Agency

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A department under the Board of County Commissioners  
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## Wood County EOC Situation Report

COVID-19 Response

September 15, 2020

County EOC Status: Virtually Activated

State EOC: Activated

This report communicates County EOC activity over the past 24 hours

Dissemination: After Governor's Press Conference at 4pm

Information Cutoff Time: 330pm

Executive Summary:

**\*\*Next press conference expected Thursday September 17\*\***

Governor DeWine- *Data: 88 counties ranked by highest occurrence: Putnam, Mercer, Butler, Shelby, Henry, Athens, Franklin, Montgomery, Darke, Miami.* Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame: In 1992 this was created to recognize that veterans not only serve in their time of active duty, but continue to serve when they come home. A new class of veterans have been inducted. 20 men and women from 4 branches of Armed Service from 16 counties. The virtual ceremony for this is on November 5<sup>th</sup>. *Director of Aging Ursel McElroy-* Nursing homes: testing is so important to catch positive cases early. We are continuing to build capability. Testing those who are- Symptomatic, all residents of a nursing home with a new positive case, and routine staff testing based on the extent of the spread in the community. Offering state supported assistance as needed. Lately, Ohio National Guard has been serving to transport the collected test kits from the facility to the labs. Testing materials and kits are supplied by the state. Assisted living: There are 770 facilities throughout the state. The current protocol is to test all staff at least every other week. When this was started, they were notified of some testing data inconsistencies early on, as a response they paused testing, found the source of the inconsistency and are resuming back on schedule this week. Adult day care: Can start back up on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Testing for staff and participants at least every other week. This is important due to the fluid nature of adult day care. They are coming and going every day. Senior Centers- open the 21<sup>st</sup>. testing will be for all staff every other week. Participants will strategically tested based on symptoms. The focus here is primarily for the staff. *JobsOhio-* New initiative *Ohio to Work.* Brings together employers, nonprofits, educators, and training providers to help Ohioans reskill and restart their careers. The program provides career coaches to identify people's skills, coordinate virtual career fairs (as early as October) and coordinate them with those employers looking to hire. 30 employers have signed up in the Cleveland area alone so far. JP Nauseef, president and CIO of JobsOhio- this initiative was formed to address the unprecedented number of working Ohioans impacted by COVID. Visit [www.OhioTowork.com](http://www.OhioTowork.com) to find roadmap, connect to a coach. This is soft launched for Cleveland area residents for now, but they are planning to expand. *School superintendents-* Timothy Hopkins, Brookville, in-person learning upon return, district of 1500 total students. Located in the NW corner of Montgomery County. 4 weeks in person so far. Before the school year started they reached out to a local picnic table rental company, and rented 60 picnic tables. The kids have been eating outside to lessen their COVID risk. Robert O'Leary, Vandalia-Butler City Schools- 3000 students in district. Have been back for 3 weeks in person so far. They reached out to a tent vendor and rented 4 30x60 outdoor tents. This provided an additional 1800 square feet of flexible space. They also divided an elementary playground into quadrants to create a "bubble" for individual classrooms. They are also bringing a pumpkin patch to school rather than their typical fieldtrip to the

pumpkin patch. *Universities*- The college presidents have been telling me the problem is in people getting together outside of classes, not wearing masks. Wear masks, be careful, stay outside of you can. One *Ohio bar* (in Akron) has lost its liquor license due to multiple COVID-related citations. This is the first bar to lose its license for this reason.

Ohio Confirmed cases: 132118

Probable Cases: 7367

Total plus probable: 139485

Ohio Hospitalizations: 14481

ICU Admissions: 3111

Confirmed Deaths: 4207

Total Deaths: 4506

For daily state hospitalization data please visit: <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards/key-metrics/hospitalizations/key-metrics-on-hospitalizations> scroll to the bottom, find the date you are looking for and hover your mouse over that bar.

Wood County Cases (total plus probable): 1567 (+12)

Wood County Hospitalizations: 144 (no change)

Wood County Deaths: 74 (+2)

Wood County Active Cases: 79 (-5)

County EOC Objectives:

1. Coordinate the county's response to limit spread of COVID-19; and maintain medical care.
2. Provide timely, clear, and consistent messaging to the public, stakeholders and media on the status of COVID-19 and actions the public can take to keep themselves safe.
3. Determine how county agencies will continue delivery of essential services to Wood County residents while following COVID-19 public health guidelines.
4. Prevent, identify, mitigate, and respond to COVID19 hotspots within the county.

EMA:

- **National Preparedness Month (NPM) is recognized annually in September** to encourage family and community disaster planning not only for a month, but throughout the year. As our state and nation continue to respond to COVID-19, National Preparedness Month is an ideal time for Ohioans to ensure they are prepared for any disaster, including a pandemic. This year's theme for NPM is: "Disasters Don't Wait. Make Your Plan Today." Please visit [ready.gov](https://ready.gov) and follow Wood County EMA social media for tips and updates. We will be posting themed tips all month.
- State EMA: As of 8am, Over the past 24 hours, the Ohio Department of Health reported 1,079 (138,484) total new cases, nine (3,097) ICU admissions, four (4,419) deaths, and 64 (14,378) hospitalizations. ODH reports vaccine distribution discussions are occurring across all three clinical zones. State stockpiling and storage strategies continue to be developed through ESF-7 and the State EOC Unified Command.
- Wood County remains at a level 2 or orange level. Level 2 indicates: Increased exposure and spread. Exercise high degree of caution. Follow all current health orders. Same guidelines as in Level 1. • Avoid contact with anyone who is considered high-risk. • High-risk individuals\* should take extra care to follow precautions. • Decrease in-person interactions outside household. • Seek medical care as needed, but limit or avoid unnecessary visits to hospitals, nursing homes, and residential care facilities to see others as much as possible. **Ohio's Public Health Advisory System is updated every Thursday.** The system consists of four levels that provide

Ohioans with guidance as to the severity of the problem in the counties in which they live. The levels are determined by seven data indicators that identify the risk level for each county and a corresponding color code to represent that risk level.

- Please contact us if:
  - If you have PPE to donate, if you have any PPE needs or have any questions.
  - If you know citizens looking to purchase masks, please connect them with our office and we can give them the contact information of local mask sellers.
  - The EMA has kits for Wood County for-profit small businesses (under 100 employees) that contain PPE and hand sanitizer. These kits were provided through JobsOhio to Wood County Economic Development and are **at no cost to the business**. These kits are first come, first served. Please email us with your business name, address, point of contact, and how many employees you have if you are interested.

#### Public Health:

- There have been 132118 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Ohio. There have been 1567 cases (total confirmed plus probable) in Wood County, presently 79 active cases, of those 144 are or have been hospitalized, 74 deaths.
- There is a pop-up testing in Northwest Ohio beginning tomorrow September 16-17 12:00pm-6:30pm at UT Scott Park Campus (Near lot #23) 225 West Scott Park Drive, Toledo, OH 43607. ANYONE can get a NO-COST test at this location.
- K-12 school districts are required to notify parents/guardians whose children may be impacted by someone who has confirmed or probable COVID-19 illness and participated in class, sports or activities.
  - Within 24 hours, schools will provide written notification to:
    - Parents/guardians of a student who shared a classroom or participated in a school activity.
    - Parents/guardians of students at the school building.
  - Schools will also report cases to the Health Department within 24 hours.
  - School district information will be released to the public once per week.
    - Updates from Wood County Health Department will be posted on Wednesdays at [Coronavirus.WoodCountyHealth.org](https://www.coronavirus.woodcountyhealth.org) and on social media.
    - The Ohio Department of Health will release similar information on Thursdays at [Coronavirus.Ohio.gov](https://www.coronavirus.ohio.gov)
- We know people will have questions as school districts release COVID-19 case information this week.
  - For several reasons, there won't be a direct correlation between K-12 statistics and the daily numbers that Wood County Health Department reports.
  - Cases reported by school districts focus on the physical impact to the school. If a student attends classes in two school systems, both school systems are impacted, so both would report the case. In this example, one student would be counted twice for the school reporting, but they would only be counted as one positive case in the Health Department's regular COVID-19 case update.
  - It's also possible that employees who do not live in Wood County could be counted in one or more school district updates, but not as a Wood County COVID-19 case.
  - Overall case numbers will still be reported based in the county where a person lives.
- Wood County Health Department continues to engage with many public and private schools in our county.

- We are committed to continuing to work closely with schools to help them navigate this process. We will provide guidance, help them report information, and answer questions they may have.

#### Law Enforcement/Fire/EMS:

- Northwood: Accepting applications for part-time Firefighter/paramedic. Apply in person or at [http://www.northwoodfire.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=66&itemid=491](http://www.northwoodfire.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=66&itemid=491)
  - For additional information call 419-690-1647 or email [firechief@northwoodfire.com](mailto:firechief@northwoodfire.com)
- The Ohio State Highway Patrol will be launching a distracted driving initiative on Interstate 75 in Wood County. The section of Interstate 75 between the Greensburg Pike overpass and the Wood and Lucas County line is being focused on to combat distracted driving. Distractions can be visual, taking eyes off of the road; manual, taking hands off the wheel; or cognitive, taking the mind off driving. Texting while driving is an example that results in all three types of distraction. The public is encouraged to use #677 to report dangerous or impaired drivers, as well as drug activity. Additional crash information is available from [the OSTATS dashboard](#).

#### BGSU:

- Now publishing a situation report once every other week.
- The BGSU COVID-19 Response Hotline is now open, with staff available to answer questions regarding COVID-19 and related topics. Students, faculty and staff are also asked to call the hotline if they have a pending COVID-19 test, or to report a positive result to begin contact tracing. The COVID-19 Response Hotline is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. To call the hotline, reach out at 419-372-3000.
- To protect the safety of our students, faculty and staff, ***the University asks that any gathering, meeting, and/or event be moved to a virtual environment, if at all possible.*** Virtual online meetings, conferences or events may be scheduled by University students, faculty and staff using our BGSU affiliation with either **Webex**, or **Zoom**. If this is not possible to meet in a virtual environment, then the following strict guidelines must be adhered to in order for it to take place. <https://www.bgsu.edu/content/bgsu/en/bowen-thompson-student-union/conference-and-event-services/covid-19-pandemic-booking-guidelines.html>
- We recognize that it is not in the best interest of public health – and the health of those who plan to attend Homecoming – to move forward with an in-person Homecoming in 2020. We are announcing a virtual Homecoming experience, taking place Oct. 1-4.
- Our return to campus plan involves taking personal responsibility not only for your own well-being, but the health and safety of our entire campus community. The following safety protocols are at the center of this commitment to self-care and community, and *will remain in effect until further notice*. <https://www.bgsu.edu/coronavirus/return-to-campus/before-arriving-on-campus.html>

#### Schools:

- Eastwood Local Schools has evaluated its school schedule and has decided to remain on the hybrid model. Superintendent Brent Welker alerted the community to that decision in an email Friday. The evaluation was planned at the end of the first three weeks of the school year; the current hybrid plan will continue until the end of the nine-week period on Oct. 23.

#### Local:

- Wood County: Wood County Employment Opportunities: Know someone looking for a job? Wood County Government posts open positions on-line at <https://www.co.wood.oh.us/commissioners/employment/default.html>.

- Voting: Absentee and early voting are the same thing which is casting a ballot prior to Election Day. Voters may choose to vote in person at the Board of Elections at the Wood County Courthouse or may request a ballot by mail. Early In-Person Absentee Voting: Starting on Oct. 6 (the day after the close of registration) you may cast your absentee ballot in person at the Wood County Courthouse Atrium. The board of elections will be open extended hours for early in-person voting; the schedule is: Oct. 6-16, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Oct. 19-30, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Oct. 24 and Oct. 31, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 1 from 1-5 p.m. Nov. 2 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. The entrance to the Wood County Courthouse is located on North Summit Street. Absentee Voting by Mail: If you are a qualified Ohio voter and your registration is up to date, you are eligible to cast an absentee ballot by mail. Absentee ballots will be mailed beginning on Oct. 6 (the day after the close of registration). To vote by mail this year, the request should be received by the board of elections no later than Oct. 23 to be assured of getting your ballot in time to complete and return it by Election Day. Request an absentee ballot any time. You are encouraged to submit your request as early as possible to ensure time to receive, vote and return your ballot. The Ohio Secretary of State has sent absentee ballot request forms to all Ohio active voters. Download an absentee ballot request form from the Wood County Board of Elections website at [www.co.wood.oh.us/BOE](http://www.co.wood.oh.us/BOE) and click on Absentee Ballot Application. Be aware that if you have requested an absentee ballot and decide to vote in person at your polling location on Election Day or in-person at the BOE, you will vote a provisional ballot which will be included with all other provisional ballots in the official count approximately 3 weeks after Election Day.
  - If you choose not to use the form you may still obtain an absentee ballot by writing to the board of elections and providing the following information: Name, Wood County voting address, Address ballot should be mailed to if different than Wood County voting address, Voter's Date of Birth, Proof of Identification: Voter's Ohio driver's license number (begins with two letters followed by six numbers) or the last four digits of voter's Social Security number; or a copy of a current and valid photo identification or military identification or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check, or other government document that shows the voter's name and current address, A statement identifying the election for which you are requesting an absentee ballot, A statement indicating that the voter is a qualified elector and Voter's signature. Absentee ballot requests may be mailed to the Wood County Board of Elections, 1 Courthouse Square, Bowling Green OH 43402-2427 or they may be placed in the Board of Elections drop box located near the entrance to the Wood County Courthouse on N Summit St. in Bowling Green. You may provide a phone number or email address to assist the Board of Elections in contacting you if your application is incomplete. An absentee ballot must be returned to the Board of Elections by the close of voting (7:30 p.m.) on Election Day, or if mailed, must be postmarked by November 2 and received by the Board of Elections by November 13. You may track your absentee ballot online at [www.VoteOhio.gov/track](http://www.VoteOhio.gov/track). If you wish to verify your voter registration refer to [www.VoteOhio.gov](http://www.VoteOhio.gov) or the Wood County Board of Elections website at [www.co.wood.oh.us/BOE](http://www.co.wood.oh.us/BOE)
- Perrysburg: Please be advised: Perrysburg Sealcoating will begin sealcoating parking lots throughout the City beginning Tuesday, September 15. Once seal coated, lots will be closed for approximately 24 hours. The anticipated schedule is below. Please note that the schedule is weather dependent and is subject to change. Municipal Park: 9/15 and 9/21 Rivercrest Park: 9/21 and 9/22 Fire Station at 140 W. Indiana: 9/22 Hood Park: 9/24 130 W. Indiana: 9/26 Engineering Building: 9/26 Senior Center: 9/26 Courthouse and surrounding buildings: 9/26 Department of Public Service (11980 Roachton Road): 9/26

Weather

- **This Afternoon:** Sunny, with a high near 73. South wind around 6 mph. **Tonight:** Clear, with a low around 45. South wind around 6 mph. **Wednesday:** Sunny, with a high near 80. Light south wind becoming southwest 5 to 9 mph in the morning. **Wednesday Night:** Increasing clouds, with a low around 54. Southwest wind 5 to 7 mph becoming calm.

**Administrative Information:** Any information and contributions your agency has for this report is valuable to maintain a common operating picture and situational awareness for the county as a whole. Please reach out to our office via phone or email (email preferred) to share information.

- EOC Hours of Operation: 830a-430p
- **We do not answer phones during the governor's press conferences.** Please feel free to send an email during those times or leave a message and we will get back to you when we are able.
- Requesting support: Call Wood County EMA at 419-354-9269 or email [woodcountyema@co.wood.oh.us](mailto:woodcountyema@co.wood.oh.us)  
ODH Call line: 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634)  
[www.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://www.coronavirus.ohio.gov)

