

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 22, 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:

Governor DeWine- Addressed *gun violence*. In the past 2 weeks at least 88 people have been shot in Ohio. 34 of those were killed. Currently there is legislation in front of the general assembly- The Governor asks that they please take it up and pass it. Most gun violence is committed by people who aren't legally allowed to have a gun anyway. Our current law is not tough enough. This bill will toughen penalties for these people breaking the law. We have an obligation to take action to protect people.

Data- We are experiencing a little trend downward. 12 deaths reported yesterday. Top 10 highest occurrence counties- Mercer, Putnam, Shelby, Athens, Lawrence, Miami, Butler, Delaware, Darke, Auglaize. Decline in positivity rate, currently at 2.9%. We would like to get our positivity number down as far as we can. Unveiling a *new dashboard today*. Case demographics dashboard- This will provide access to COVID case data broken down by race, age, and county and will compare that to the overall Ohio population. This was created as a result of recommendations from the minority strike force, and it helps to better track health inequalities and disparities.

Election- On Monday, September 14, 2020, the Ohio Department of Administrative Services sent voter registration forms to 59,000 individuals who previously requested these forms through the Ohio Benefits system but had not yet received them due to a system error. Ohio Benefits provides online services for Ohioans who receive benefits through programs within Ohio Medicaid and Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Pursuant to legal requirements, Ohio Benefits offers users an opportunity to receive a voter registration form at their request. Of the 59,000 Ohioans affected by the error, a review determined that approximately 18,900 were already registered to vote, 7,500 received voter registration forms from Ohio Benefits through other transactions, and 32,400 had not yet received a form at the time of the review. The deadline to register to vote is October 5, 2020. Citizens can register online at VoteOhio.gov.

Schools- Barberton City Schools, 3800 students, blue collar town. 20% students have special needs. This school district gave parents a choice, 1200 chose remote and 2600 chose in school instruction. This allowed for 15 or less students in person in each classroom. Preschool- seniors are wearing masks and doing what they need to do to in order to stay open.

Dr. Mark Weir Ohio State- Being outside is better, combined with masking, distancing to help slow COVID19. Colder months are coming. When you cough or sneeze you are expelling droplets and other particles. Much of this are heavier, larger droplets, but there is also a fine mist produced of smaller particles known as aerosols. There are a lot of variable when it comes to the amount and the spread of droplets and aerosols to include- volume of voice projection, the angle or height of the person projecting, and the proximity to others. Also, the airflow within the space they are in. Outside vs inside- There is dynamic airflow outside, and aerosols have more space to spread out. There is a saying- the solution to pollution is dilution. Surface spread is less likely than originally thought, droplet spread is more common. We've known that aerosols are a component but how

important they are is what is under discussion currently. Heading into winter there are some items to consider- air filtration, air exchange ratio, and make up air (outdoor air to bring in). Visit the EPA website for a better understanding of indoor air quality. Also, contact an HVAC licensed technician as well. *Contact tracing*- Governor DeWine today encouraged Ohioans to answer the call if contacted by a contact tracer. Contact tracing slows the spread of COVID-19 by notifying people who may have been exposed to COVID-19 and advising them to monitor their health for signs and symptoms; helping those who may have been exposed get tested; asking people to self-isolate or self-quarantine if appropriate; helping people identify the resources they need to safely stay at home. Contact tracers will not disclose a person's identity to their contacts, however, those who test positive will be encouraged to notify those they've been in contact with so that these individuals also respond to contract tracers and begin to isolate. Epidemiologist at Lorain County Health Department went through the contact tracing steps their department takes: We get a notification of a confirmed lab test, then identify how we can reach that person. Starts with a simple phone call, when they answer make sure they are medically fit enough to complete an interview based on symptoms. Once this is determined we are straight forward with what they are asked and why. Then, a time frame is created for the estimated infectious period. Once we have that time frame we try to identify those who had exposure to this individual. They start with household contacts and then move to workplace contacts. Then they move on to community exposures. They look at a two week history, and this helps to establish links with any outbreaks going on, and also helps the health department learn how it's being transmitted through the community. Team reaches out to those exposed and explains what they need to do moving forward and what they need to look out for.

Lt. Governor Husted- Announced that Ford is donating 2 million medical grade face masks to the state of Ohio for healthcare providers, first responders, underserved populations, and senior living communities. The donation is part of the Ford Fund's commitment of 100 million medical-grade face masks through 2021. The company, currently manufacturing 2.5 million medical-grade masks a week for its employees and at-risk communities, is growing the number of mask-making machines by mid- to late-October to increase production and deliver on its goal. Ohio's Department of Administrative Services and Development Services Agency have partnered with JobsOhio to work with the Ford Government Relations Team, as well as many others, to secure lifesaving personal protective equipment since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. National Small Business week- celebrates America's entrepreneurs and small business owners. Ohio is home to more than 965,000 small businesses that account for 99.6 percent of the businesses in the state. Together they employ 2.2 million people, which is 45 percent of Ohio's total employees. Additionally, small businesses created more than 44,000 jobs in 2019.

Ohio Confirmed cases: 137888

Probable Cases: 7962

Total plus probable: 145850

Ohio Hospitalizations: 14899

ICU Admissions: 3210

Confirmed Deaths: 4338

Total Deaths: 4635

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): 1736 (+9)

Wood County Hospitalizations: 150 (+1)

Wood County Deaths: 80 (no change)

Wood County Active Cases: 131 (-13)

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://www.ready.gov) and follow Wood County EMA social media for tips and updates. We will be posting themed tips all month.
- State EMA: Over the past 24 hours, the Ohio Department of Health reported 856 (145,165) total new cases, 19 (3,199) ICU admissions, 8 (4,623) deaths, and 56 (14,829) 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 137888 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Ohio. There have been 1736 cases (total confirmed plus probable) in Wood County, presently 131 active cases, of those 150 are or have been hospitalized, 80 deaths.
- 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)
- 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:

- September 21-27 is rail safety week. <https://oli.org/about-us/public-awareness-campaigns/rail-safety-week>
- 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
 - For additional information call 419-690-1647 or email 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](#).
- In honor of First Responder Appreciation Week the Wood County ADAMHS Board and the Frontline Responders Network will be providing a series of **FREE**, virtual webinars available to **ALL** first responders in Wood County! Please distribute this to your contacts that could benefit. The schedule is as follows:
 - **Wednesday 9/23/20 @ 4 P.M. : "Self-Care for the First Responders: Help for the Heroes"**
 - The extreme stress, inherent risk, and difficult medical nature of Covid-19 require even the most skilled professionals to attend to their own needs. This webinar will provide education on psychological stress, distress, and trauma and provide practical, quick, and easy coping tools to manage these challenges.

- **Friday 9/25/20 @ 9 A.M. : “Local Resources for Front Line Workers: Caring for Our Caregivers”**
 - Experts will provide various resources that are available in the Wood county region and how first responders and their families can benefit from these resources. To sign up for and to watch the webinar please visit: <https://www.frontlinerespondersnetwork.com/registration>. This registration will give you access to the Frontline Responders Network where you’ll be able to interact with others and watch other recorded webinars.

BGSU:

- Individuals experiencing COVID symptoms or who have been potentially exposed should call their health care provider or the Falcon Health Center and self-isolate while they await test results. If you have been exposed and receive a negative test result, you need to quarantine the full 14 days from the time of exposure, as symptoms could present at any point. In addition to symptomatic testing, BGSU is implementing a program of randomized surveillance testing that will help monitor and respond to the prevalence of COVID.
<https://www.bgsu.edu/coronavirus/return-to-campus/isolation-and-quarantine-protocols.html?deliveryName=DM8482>
- The BGSU COVID Response Hotline: 419-372-3000 is open M-F 8am-8pm and Saturday from 10am-2pm. Students, staff, and faculty can email health@bgsu.edu or call the hotline if they have a pending COVID test or to report a positive result to begin contact tracing.
- BGSU has launched the #campusclear app which can be downloaded for free and used for daily health screenings. <https://www.bgsu.edu/news/2020/09/bgsu-launches-campusclear-app.html?deliveryName=DM8482>
- Falcon Commitment: <https://www.bgsu.edu/coronavirus/return-to-campus/before-arriving-on-campus.html?deliveryName=DM8482>
- BGSU athletics:
<http://x.email.bgsufalcons.com/ats/msg.aspx?sg1=5e19b0b32d1f3987b0641949706f5131>

Schools:

- For school positivity data please see the Wood County Health Department website at: <https://sites.google.com/view/wchdohio-coronavirus>

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 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. If you wish to verify your voter registration refer to www.VoteOhio.gov or the Wood County Board of Elections website at www.co.wood.oh.us/BOE
- Grand Rapids Township Fire and Rescue: Saturday September 26th 2020. This will be a drive-thru event at the fire station. We will start to serve at 11am until sold out. We will only be doing full meals they are \$10 for a half chicken, baked beans, potato salad and a roll with butter. With the circumstances we are under this year, there is NO dining in at the station. We are asking that you please stay in your vehicles. If possible please have the exact amount for your order.
- Perrysburg Township Fire: Although our annual open house is canceled due to COVID we plan on having a drive through chicken BBQ Saturday Oct 10 at the station, 26711 Lime City Rd, from 4 pm until the chickens are gone. \$10 donation for a half chicken two side and cookies for desert. We hope to see you there!
- Wood County Committee on Aging: The Wood County Committee on Aging, Inc. (WCCOA) is offering various educational and enrichment opportunities through their new LivelyU Virtual Learning Academy (VLA). Virtual programs that fall under this umbrella will be recorded and accessible on the agency website and YouTube channel for participants unable to attend the live program. The aim of the LivelyU VLA is to reduce social isolation, encourage active engagement, and enhance older adults' abilities to remain at home while Wood County Senior Centers remain closed. LivelyU VLA is planned to continue after centers have opened as well. Sessions will focus on providing up-to-date information on various topics including public health, nutrition, financial planning, book clubs, cultural programming, caregiver education and more. If you are interested in joining LivelyU VLA programming, contact the Programs Department at 419.353.5661 or 800.367.4935 or email programs@wcco.net Past programs can be viewed at <http://wcco.net/video-library/>

- Wood County Senior Centers: All senior center locations within Wood County, including Perrysburg, Rossford, Walbridge, Grand Rapids, Pemberville Wayne, North Baltimore, and the Wood County Senior Center in Bowling Green will remain closed until November 3, 2020.
- The City of Northwood will be conducting a Public Hearing September 24, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the Planning Commissions recommendation for the re-zoning of parcel M50-812-350000032000 from (NCO) Neighborhood Commercial and Office and (PUD) Planned Unit Development to (RA) Rural Residential. If you would like to attend, please use the meeting information below. The same Zoom link will be used for the Council Meeting immediately following the Public Hearing.
 - Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85417306180...> Meeting ID: 854 1730 6180 Passcode: 133141 Dial by your location +1 646 876 9923

Weather

- **Tonight:** Clear, with a low around 50. Southwest wind around 6 mph. **Wednesday:** Sunny, with a high near 80. West wind 5 to 8 mph. **Wednesday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 56. Southwest wind 3 to 6 mph.

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
ODH Call line: 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634)
www.coronavirus.ohio.gov

