



Quad Cities COVID-19 Coalition FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 7, 2020

Current COVID-19 case count

Scott County – Total of 825

Total deaths in Scott County: 10

Rock Island County – 11 new cases Tuesday for a total of 1,097

Currently in hospital: 8

Total deaths in Rock Island County: 30

Today's call

A video recording of today's media call can be found at

<https://www.scottcountyiowa.com/health/covid19/news>

Serious upward trend

Remarks from Nita Ludwig, administrator of the Rock Island County Health Department

The Quad Cities is entering week 3 of our increase in COVID-19 cases. A month ago, each county was averaging fewer than six or seven COVID-19 cases daily. We are now experiencing daily totals of upwards of 28 in Rock Island County and 40-45 in Scott. This trend is serious. This trend is dangerous. And this trend does not appear to be ending anytime soon.

While a majority of our recent cases have been younger individuals, those around age 30 and younger, we don't expect this to be the case long-term. As we know, younger individuals socialize with friends, visit their family members including grandparents and other older relatives, and work in a variety of settings including restaurants and other hospitality settings that are frequented by individuals of all ages.

Young individuals who may not show symptoms of COVID-19 could unknowingly be spreading it to any of those individuals I just mentioned. This unintentional spread is becoming very real as our case numbers continue to rise.

A natural consequence of a surge in positive COVID-19 cases is an increase in hospitalizations. This typically happens 8-10 days after an increase in cases, and we fully expect this to be the case in our community. A natural consequence to an increase in hospitalizations is the potential for COVID-19 related deaths. The public health and health care communities are doing everything we can to prevent both of these outcomes.

We all must do our part

Remarks from Ed Rivers, director of the Scott County Health Department

Our efforts mean nothing unless we have the support of our community. We need your help now more than ever. Here's simple things you can each do every day that will have you doing your part to protect those most vulnerable in our community:

- Make careful decisions when you go out.
 - It would be great to get together with your former college crew at a popular restaurant dinner. It's annoying to have to cancel those types of gatherings if you can't social distance. But cancel them anyway.
- Think carefully about who you put at risk.
 - Grandparents, family members or friends with health conditions like asthma, are all more likely to get seriously ill if the virus spreads to them.
- Wear a face covering to reduce the likelihood that you will unknowingly spread the virus to others.
 - Wearing a mask is inconvenient. It is not 100% effective at keeping you from spreading illness if you're sick and don't know it. But it studies show it's safer than not wearing one. So wear one anyway.
- STAY HOME if you've been told you're a contact to a positive COVID-19 case.
 - It's inconvenient to stay home even if you don't have symptoms. 14 days is a long time to stay home when you feel like your normal, healthy self. STAY HOME ANYWAY. You could be saving the life of someone else who might not survive if they get the virus from you.

We've never asked our community to do these types of things before. But then again, we haven't been in this type of a pandemic before.

We must make the hard decisions. There's no other way around the situation we are in. Please do your part to help stop the spread of this virus.

More information

- www.TogetherQC.com
- coronavirus.iowa.gov
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19>
- <https://www2.illinois.gov/idoc/facilities/Pages/Covid19Response.aspx>

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