



ITASCA COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ITASCA RESOURCE CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Grand Rapids, Minn. (May 1, 2020) -- Itasca County saw a significant rise in laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 this week. After holding steady at 2 confirmed cases since April 1, 2020, as of 8:00 a.m. Friday, May 1, laboratory confirmed cases among residents of Itasca County stand at 11.

“We have not received requests at this time to provide essential services for any of our COVID-19 positive community members. We are working closely with our community partners to access supplies and provide supports to mitigate the further spread of COVID-19,” said Kelly Chandler, division manager for Itasca County Public Health.

“There is no question that the coronavirus is in our midst here in Itasca County,” said Chandler. “Masks are our new normal, and one of the important measures we each need to take to protect each other. If you are coming into contact with others outside your household (such as when you are shopping, picking up takeout meals, walking in popular places, at busy boat landings, etc.), it is essential that you wear a covering over your nose and mouth.”

For information on various ways to make your own masks, the Centers for Disease Control website may be useful. It’s here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/DIY-cloth-face-covering-instructions.pdf>.

While Itasca County will not be releasing situation updates every day, it is our intent to keep local residents informed when we are aware of significant changes and issues. The most current information for the county can be found at the Itasca County Public Health Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ItascaCountyPublicHealth/> as well as through local media.

“State maps of COVID-19 cases may be slightly delayed in showing our numbers, but the state is aware when we have new cases,” said Chandler.

Community questions may be directed to the county’s COVID-19 information line at 218-327-6784. The line is answered between 8 AM – 4:30 PM, 7 days per week.



Note to Media: The next media briefing is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5 at 1:00 p.m. and is expected to feature information related to area businesses.

Media Contacts:

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