



ITASCA COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ITASCA RESOURCE CENTER

1209 SE 2nd Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota 55744-3983
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Visit us at: www.co.itasca.mn.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ITASCA COUNTY RESIDENTS AND VISITORS CAN HELP HOLD THE LINE ON COVID

(Grand Rapids, Minn., **July 2, 2020**) – Following a run-up in COVID-19 cases over the past 10 days, Itasca County has once again stabilized. “In fact, case counts are back down to 64 as upon case investigation, one of our positives actually was residing in another county,” said Kelly Chandler, Itasca County Public Health department manager. The county also has seen no additional deaths.

“Fourth of July is a busy time for tourism in Itasca County,” said Chandler. “We welcome our visitors and remind them to stay safe, not only from COVID-19 but also don't drink and boat, find a sober driver, keep hydrated in the heat, protect yourself from ticks, and wear sunscreen.

“For COVID-19 prevention, avoid being indoors in enclosed spaces, avoid congregating in large groups, wash your hands, wear a mask, and please stay home if you are ill.”

Itasca Strong cloth masks are available at a variety of county businesses, compliments of the Mask Up Itasca initiative. For example, Minuteman Press of Grand Rapids has a supply in their lobby. Businesses and organizations wishing to have masks for distribution, including signage, may use an online request form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GCG7DCQ>

If you are attending fireworks or other gatherings, please remember to social distance. Stay six feet apart from anyone not in your immediate household, and please wear a mask, especially if you unable to social distance or are indoors in public spaces.

“To keep our businesses open, to ensure that our kids can get back to school this fall, and to keep each other out of the ICU, it will take every individual holding the front line against COVID-19,” said Chandler.

Itasca County's Message Center is available for those with COVID-related issues and needs at 218-327-6784. Response calls will be made between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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