



**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

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County Executive

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY OFFICIALS PROVIDE UPDATE ON COVID-19

8 News Cases of COVID-19 in County Today

Residents Urged to Take Precautions to Prevent the Spread of the Virus



Pictured above, from far left: John Griffith, Director of the Chautauqua County Office of Emergency Services; PJ Wendel, Chautauqua County Executive; and Chris Schuyler, Chautauqua County Public Health Director; update the public during a COVID-19 press conference on September 11, 2020.

MAYVILLE, N.Y.: – On September 11, Chautauqua County Officials provided an update on the novel Coronavirus-19 (COVID-19) in Chautauqua County.

COVID-19 is an infection associated with fever and signs and symptoms of pneumonia or other respiratory illness. If spread in the population, COVID-19 could have significant health consequences.

As of September 11, Chautauqua County's statistics are:

- 98 active cases, continue to recover under orders of the Local Health Official per NYS Public Health Law including:
 - 8 new cases today including:
 - 6 cases in Battalion 1
 - 0 cases in Battalion 2
 - 1 case in Battalion 3
 - 1 case in Battalion 4
- 470 cases under quarantine/isolation orders by the Public Health Director and being monitored. Not all of those being monitored are confirmed to have COVID-19 but have either shown symptoms, are awaiting results, or have risk factors;
- 252 persons under domestic traveler quarantine for having arrived to Chautauqua County from a state listed on the New York State travel advisory;
- 2 persons hospitalized* in Chautauqua County as of 9/9/2020
 - *number of persons in Chautauqua County hospitals diagnosed with COVID-19, regardless of residency
- To date:
 - 450 recovered cases;
 - 10 deaths;
 - 558 total confirmed cases; and
 - 38,013 negative test results.

Christine Schuyler, County Public Health Director, provided the following updates on the coronavirus pandemic:

- A tremendous amount of diligent work also continues to go into controlling the spread of COVID-19 related to the opening of SUNY Fredonia. A total of 84 students have tested positive.
 - 54 active cases
 - 39 recovered
- A tremendous amount of diligent work went into controlling the spread of COVID-19 related to Fieldbrook Foods. The situation was carefully and appropriately monitored and all appropriate actions were taken during the investigation and response. A total of 82 cases have been associated with workers at Fieldbrook Foods to date.
 - 61 employees (4 active; 57 recovered)
 - 21 close contacts of those employees (all have recovered)

- Statistics compiled by Bree Agett, Epidemiologist, for the time period of March 24 through September 9:
 - A total of 534 Chautauqua County residents have tested positive for COVID-19.
 - Of these 534 persons, 381 (71.3%) had at least one symptom of the infection. The five most frequently reported symptoms were:
 - Cough (53.2%)
 - Headache (48.4%)
 - Fatigue (42.7%)
 - Fever (40.8%)
 - 32 (6%) were hospitalized
 - 10 (1.9%) deaths

- 21 gyms have applied to reopen. Twenty of them have been inspected by Public Health Sanitarians with one remaining gym being inspected today.

- The collaboration of many partners including county agencies, law enforcement, health care providers, community based organizations, schools/colleges, churches, and businesses has been remarkable.

“I would especially like to thank Reverend Luke Fodor, the faith based organizations and their members who have stepped up to assist with meeting the basic needs of those in Isolation and Quarantine at this time,” said Schuyler. “What a testament to the generosity and kindness of people here.”

This week, New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo announced the launch of The COVID-19 Report Card, an online dashboard that tracks real-time COVID-19 infections and testing operations of every school and school district in the state. The public can view the report card, which is updated daily, by visiting <https://schoolcovidreportcard.health.ny.gov/>.

Chautauqua County Executive PJ Wendel also reported that starting on September 14, 2020, the County will be reporting new cases by zip code only.

“Throughout the pandemic, we have been very cautious about what personal information is given out about individuals who are diagnosed with COVID-19 so we are abiding by privacy laws to protect the patient while still keeping our residents informed about cases of the virus in our county,” said Wendel. “Keeping privacy laws in mind paired with the fact that our community populations are much smaller than neighboring Erie County, N.Y., we have been reluctant in announcing cases by municipalities as we felt it would easily pinpoint individuals in small communities. Considering that our number of cases has grown and that each school is required to provide COVID-19 reporting of the students and staff in its district, we now feel it is possible to announce new cases by zip code, with the person’s age and gender no longer being provided.”

“The 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic has shown the true strength of Chautauqua County,” said John Griffith, Director of the Chautauqua County Office of Emergency Services. “For the Office of Emergency Services, working as Logistic Support for Christine Schuyler and the Department of Health there have been many events over the past months where the working relationships in County Government and with agencies outside of government have proven that people in this County do work together and are offered assistance when needed. It is fitting that on 9/11 that while we remember the brave First Responders in New York, Pennsylvania and the Pentagon that we also thank all our first responders who have come together in Chautauqua County during this pandemic to contribute to efforts to contain COVID-19.”

For more information about COVID-19 in Chautauqua County, visit <https://chqgov.com>. For general information about COVID-19, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>.

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