



Tuesday, April 21, 2020

### **4/21/2020 COVID-19 Updates**

#### **No new cases of COVID-19 in Chautauqua County today**

Chautauqua County statistics:

- 27 confirmed cases;
- 2 active cases - continue to recover under orders of the Local Health Official per NYS Public Health Law;
- 22 recovered cases;
- 3 deaths;
- 49 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; and
- 590 negative test results to date.

#### **SHOPPING FOR FOOD DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC – ADVICE FROM THE US FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

<https://www.fda.gov/food/food-safety-during-emergencies/shopping-food-during-covid-19-pandemic-information-consumers>

“As grocery shopping remains a necessity during this pandemic, many people have questions about how to shop safely. We want to reassure consumers that there is currently no evidence of human or animal food or food packaging being associated with transmission of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19. This particular coronavirus causes respiratory illness and is spread from person-to-person.” - US Food and Drug Administration.

To help protect yourself, grocery store workers, and other shoppers, it is important to keep a few things in mind:

1. Prepare a shopping list in advance. Buy just 1 to 2 weeks-worth of groceries at a time. Buying more than you need can create unnecessary demand and temporary shortages.
2. Wear a face covering or mask while you are in the store. NYS guidelines require it.
3. Carry your own wipes, or use one provided by the store to wipe down the handles of the shopping cart or basket. If you use reusable shopping bags, ensure they are cleaned or washed before each use.

4. Practice social distancing while shopping – keeping at least 6 feet between you, other shoppers, and store employees. Keep your hands away from your face.
5. Wash your hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds when you return home and again after you put away your groceries.
6. Again, there is no evidence of food packaging being associated with the transmission of COVID-19. However, if you wish, you can wipe down product packaging and allow it to air dry, as an extra precaution.

*As always, it is important to follow these food safety practices to help prevent foodborne illness:*

7. Before eating, rinse fresh fruits and vegetables under running tap water, including those with skins and rinds that are not eaten. Scrub firm produce with a clean produce brush. For canned goods, remember to clean lids before opening.
8. When unpacking groceries, refrigerate or freeze meat, poultry, eggs, seafood, and other perishables—like berries, lettuce, herbs, and mushrooms—within 2 hours of purchasing.
9. Regularly clean and sanitize kitchen counters using a commercially available disinfectant product or a DIY sanitizing solution with 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) unscented liquid chlorine bleach to 1 gallon of water or 4 teaspoons of bleach per quart of water. WARNING: Do not use this solution or other disinfecting products on food.
10. Always keep in mind the basic 4 food safety steps — Clean, Separate, Cook, and Chill.

**Access daily updates on COVID-19 in Chautauqua County in any of these ways:**

- The COVID-19 page of the Chautauqua County website at [chqgov.com](http://chqgov.com);
- Chautauqua County Health Department Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/myhealthycounty/](https://www.facebook.com/myhealthycounty/);
- Chautauqua County Government Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/chautauquacountygovernment](https://www.facebook.com/chautauquacountygovernment);
- Direct email to the “Monday Morning Memo” distribution list. Individuals can sign-up to receive these alerts by going to [chqgov.com](http://chqgov.com) and under the County Executive’s page signing up under the Monday Morning Memo Newsletter tab.
- Listen to the daily update of COVID-19 cases in Chautauqua County by calling the Chautauqua County Public Health COVID-19 Hotline at 866-604-6789 and selecting option 6.

**Link to Chautauqua County COVID-19 Map:**

<https://chautauquacounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/012d07321ad6415c8cf17c4f673643c9>

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