



Coronavirus Update – The New Jersey Department of Health has established a 24-Hour Public Hotline.

**1-800-222-1222 or
1-800-962-1253 if using an out-of-state phone line**

Trained healthcare professionals are standing by to answer questions about coronavirus. The call is free.

Coronavirus Update – Chatham Township

This is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation and we will continue to provide updated information as it becomes available, in addition to updated guidance.

Information as of March 11, 2020

COVID-19 An Update from the Office of Emergency Management

At the present time Chatham Township has no official reported cases of Coronavirus. The Township continues to prepare however for the potential impact of the coronavirus on our community. The Local Emergency Planning Committee met last week with a discussion led by our Joint Board of Health official, who is our Public Information Officer throughout this emergency. All of our emergency responders (Police, EMS, FD) continue to be briefed and updated on the status of the situation as well as support and directives from our local Health Official, the County and the State. The Mayor, Administrator and our Municipal Departments along with our emergency responders are preparing and planning to mitigate any potential disruptions to business continuity so we can continue to operate and deliver essential services to our residents. Our local hospitals are working jointly with the Morris County Board of Health and Office of Emergency Management to ensure the proper flow of communication has been established in detecting and reporting any cases of Coronavirus. The Superintendent of Schools, Dr. LaSusa has been in contact with State officials as well as our Boards of Health regarding any potential school closures and the steps surrounding an official announcement. Older adults are at the highest risk particularly if they have chronic medical conditions such as respiratory concerns, heart disease and diabetes. High risk individuals should take extra precautions to reduce risk of getting sick with the virus. The Center for Disease Control continues to be the official source for information on

COVID-19. If you have any concerns, the NJ Department of Health has established a 24 hour 800-822-1222 Any official directives or notifications from our Health Official or the State of New Jersey will continue to go out through our emergency communication system, ACT Now!

Simple Steps to prevent the spread of the flu and common cold will also help prevent COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water. If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands;
- Avoid contact with people who are sick;
- Stay home while you are sick and avoid contact with others;
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing;
- Routinely clean frequently touched surfaces.

This is not a time to panic, but a time for preparation. We ask that you do your part to help keep Chatham Township safe and healthy.

Please share fact not fear and refer to credible sources like the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, the New Jersey Department of Health or our shared services partner, Madison Board of Health to obtain updated information on COVID-19.

The Township Committee, Administration, Health Department and Office of Emergency Management would like to emphasize that this is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation, but we remain vigilant in providing updated information and guidance as it becomes available.

The safety of all residents is our highest priority, and we assure you that we stand ready to respond should COVID-19 appear in Chatham Township