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#### HANCOCK COUNTY CORONAVIRUS EFFORTS

The Hancock County Health Department, Memorial Hospital, and Hancock Village are working closely to monitor and educate the public on Coronavirus (COVID-19). Although preparedness policies have been in place for years, our agencies are modifying procedures specific to Coronavirus using up-to-date information obtained by the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control. The public should do what is necessary to help reduce the spread of this illness. Like with any virus or illness it is very important to practice every day measures to help prevent the spread of illness. The following should be practiced;

- wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- if soap and water are not available use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- avoid close contact with people who are sick
- stay home when you are sick
- cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

People who are infected with COVID-19 have developed mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms including fever, cough, shortness of breath, and potentially respiratory distress. Individuals who have these symptoms and have traveled to an area of sustained or widespread transmission in the last 14 days prior to symptom onset or have had close contact with someone with Coronavirus (COVID-19) should call their healthcare provider. The healthcare provider will determine if the ill person should be seen at the clinic. Remember, there are many types of illnesses that can cause these types of respiratory symptoms.

As of Thursday, March 12, 2020 there have been no confirmed cases of COVID-19.

As new information becomes available or in the event that Coronavirus affects our area, our agencies will share this information with the public through conventional and social media and websites. For up-to-date Coronavirus information and guidance, please visit [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) or [www.idph.illinois.gov](http://www.idph.illinois.gov).

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