News Release

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For Immediate Release
Contact: 518-565-4840

Meeting Community Needs while Slowing the Spread of COVID-19

Plattsburgh, April 9, 2020. Clinton County continues to meet the needs of residents while taking steps to minimize public gatherings and the transmission of COVID-19. County departments are engaged and working in partnership with public, not-for-profit and volunteer organizations to identify and address individual and community issues.

In order to minimize the potential spread of COVID-19, Clinton County Public Transit (CCPT) service was suspended as of March 22, 2020 and will remain so until further notice. Prior to the suspension of services, members of the transportation team for the County’s COVID-19 response began looking at alternative options for those with essential public transportation needs. Residents who need a ride to fill essential needs such as medical appointments, filling prescriptions or grocery shopping should dial 2-1-1 on their phone for information or referral for transportation through the United Way’s Adirondack Region 2-1-1 system.

A supplementary measure aimed at minimizing public gatherings and non-essential travel was initiated this week. Clinton County Health Department issued an emergency order requiring all children’s camps, campgrounds, cabin colonies, and seasonal temporary residences (that require a permit to operate under Part 7 of the New York State Sanitary Code) to remain closed and un-used. The order followed a similar New York State order closing all state campgrounds until further notice. The local order is currently in place until May 1, 2020 but will be extended if necessary. Violation of this Public Health Order (http://www.clintonhealth.org/pdf/files/COVIDcampgroundOrder04082020.pdf) may result in civil penalties or criminal prosecution.

Community members continue to voice concerns about individuals and businesses which do not appear to be complying with social distancing requirements, as well as retailers and manufacturers that continue to operate even though they may not fit the definition of an “essential” business. New York State has recently issued guidance for municipal codes officers about enforcing the Governor’s executive orders during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. The information has been shared to all town supervisors. Town of Plattsburgh’s codes enforcement staff has contacted large retailers located within the Town to assess whether they are in compliance. Violations noted by individuals can be reported at https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/new-york-state-pause or by calling 1-833-789-0470. Information provided via this method will be passed on to law enforcement or the appropriate municipality.

In regard to social gatherings that do not comply with distancing requirements, up to this point, law enforcement officers have been warning residents. However, they have the ability to enforce the requirement. Residents may face fines and other penalties could result from failure to obey a lawful order.
CCHD issued these numbers regarding the number of COVID-19 cases in Clinton County for Thursday April 9, 2020. There have been 346 tests performed resulting in 39 lab confirmed cases, 20 of whom have recovered. There have been no deaths. Please note that the CCHD number will always be one less than the number reported on the NYSDOH site due to an individual who was, but is no longer, a Clinton County resident.

About the Clinton County Health Department:

The Health Department is an accredited full service department serving the residents of Clinton County. The Health Department’s Mission is to improve and protect the health, well-being and environment of the people of Clinton County. Visit our website at www.clintonhealth.org or connect with us on Facebook (@clintonhealth), Twitter (@ClintonCountyHD), and Instagram (clintoncountyhealth).

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