

CARTERET COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Cindy P. Holman
Consolidated Human Services Director
cindy.holman@carteretcountync.gov



Clinton W. Lewis
DSS Director
Consolidated Human Services Deputy Director
clint.lewis@carteretcountync.gov

Stephanie M. Cannon, MPA
Health Director
Consolidated Human Services Deputy Director
stephanie.cannon@carteretcountync.gov

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Jaime Long
252.728.8454
jaime.long@carteretcountync.gov

Carteret County COVID-19 Increase of COVID-19 Cases Press Release #87

Carteret County, NC – On December 3, 2020, the Carteret County Health Department reported one of the highest reports of daily case counts since the pandemic began. Carteret County continues to see a significant increase of community spread. “Yesterday, Carteret County reported 63 new cases of COVID-19. This is one of the highest daily case counts we’ve reported. Social gatherings continue to play a large role in the increase of cases. This month, as we are gathering with family and friends, let’s do our part to keep each other safe. We know everyone is frustrated and experiencing ‘COVID fatigue,’ but now is the time for us to buckle down and slow the spread of this virus. Wearing a mask, waiting six feet apart (as much as possible), and washing your hands can make a large impact in keeping our community healthy.”

Persons At Higher Risk

Persons at-risk for severe illness include older adults and persons (of any age) with certain medical conditions (e.g. cancer, COPD, heart disease, obesity and severe obesity, pregnancy, Type 2 diabetes). Persons at-risk for severe illness should take extra precautions to reduce their exposure risk (e.g. limit your interactions with others as much as possible) and choose lower risk activities such as virtual-only activities, events, and gatherings. Persons at-risk for severe illness can find additional information on how to stay healthy on the CDC’s website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>

Prevention Measures

Together, we can implement prevention measures to lower our chances of contracting COVID-19 including, but not limited to: 1) Wearing a mask when around others outside of your household; 2) Waiting 6 feet apart from others while in public; 3) Washing your hands frequently or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol; 4) Cleaning and disinfecting high-touch surfaces often; 5) Staying home when you are sick; 6) Avoiding large gatherings; 7) Keeping gatherings small and outdoors as much as possible.

Testing Recommendations

Testing is strongly recommended for people who have COVID-like symptoms; people who are close contacts to confirmed cases; people who are at higher risk for exposure and/or severe illness; and, persons who have attended any large gatherings. People needing a test can call their healthcare provider or the Health Department for more information about where to get tested.

For more information on COVID-19, please visit the County website <http://carteretcountync.gov/>, DHHS website <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/>, and the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>.

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Department of Social Services — 210 Craven Street • PO Box 779 • Beaufort, NC 28516
Tel (252) 728-3181 / Main Fax (252) 648-7462 / Legal Unit Fax (252) 648-7463
Public Health Department — 3820-A Bridges Street • Morehead City, NC 28557
Main Office — Tel (252) 728-8550 / Fax (252) 222-7739
Environmental Health — Tel (252) 728-8499 / Fax (252) 222-7753
Animal Control — Tel (252) 728-8585 / Fax (252) 222-5823

