

**CHEROKEE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER  
(3/20/2020) (12:00 P.M.)**

**DAILY UPDATE**

- The Georgia Department of Public Health has announced 420 confirmed cases of COVID-19 across the state.
- 13 deaths have occurred in the state as a result of COVID-19.
- Cherokee County has 13 confirmed cases of COVID-19. This decrease is due to 3 cases being incorrectly assigned to Cherokee County.
- All Cherokee County funeral service providers will limit funeral service attendance to 10 people until further notice.
- Governor Kemp has announced that the State of Georgia has received an official statewide disaster declaration from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). This will allow small business owners and non-profit organizations to apply for loans.
- District 1-2 Public Health has begun to conduct drive through specimen sample collections to test for COVID-19 cases. Initially, it will be limited to Public Safety and Healthcare personnel who are considered a "Person Under Investigation." Testing for the general public will follow soon but no date has been released.
- The Georgia Department of Public Health has established a COVID-19 hotline, if you have any general questions. This hotline will also answer testing specific questions. The hotline number is 844-442-2681.
- The Cherokee County School District will continue to distribute to-go bags of food to students in need every Monday through April 6, 2020. A child, infant to age 18, must be present for a bag to be provided. These bags will contain a week of breakfasts and lunches for a child. Please visit the CCSD website for locations where to-go bags will be distributed.
- The Georgia Department of Public Health advises that the risk to the general population of Cherokee County remains low.
- We ask that citizens of Cherokee County continue to practice the preventative measures outlined in this update.
- Must Ministries in Canton is a drop off location for canned food items 7 days a week/8:00 AM-4:00 PM.
- Local parks and trails remain open to the general public. Please utilize the following guidelines for park use.
  - Follow CDC's guidance on personal hygiene prior to heading to parks and trails — wash hands, carry hand sanitizer, do not use parks or trails if you have symptoms, cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, etc.
  - Self-clean any equipment such as playground equipment or benches prior to your use and wash/sanitize hands immediately after use.
  - Observe at all times CDC's minimum recommended social distancing of six feet from other people. Practice it and know what it looks like. Keep it as you walk, bike or hike.
  - Warn other trail users of your presence and as you pass to allow proper distance and step off trails to allow others to pass, keeping minimum recommended distances at all times. Signal your presence with your voice, bell or horn.

- Note that trail and park users may find public restrooms closed — be prepared before you leave and time outings so that you are not dependent on public restrooms.
- Bring water or drinks — public drinking fountains may be disabled and should not be used, even if operable.
- Bring a suitable trash bag. Leave no trash, take everything out to protect park workers.

The citizens of Cherokee County are resilient and have always stepped up to meet any challenge. We are all in this together!

Cherokee EMA will continue to provide the latest information as it is provided by the Georgia Department of Public Health, CDC, and other partnering agencies.

### **CURRENT PROCLAMATIONS**

- Governor Kemp has declared a Public Health State of Emergency for all of Georgia.
- Judge McElyea has issued a Judicial Emergency Order for Cherokee County.
- Statewide Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Declaration

### **LATEST CANCELLATIONS**

- All Cherokee County School District schools and activities have been canceled until March 31, 2020.

### **PREVENTATIVE MEASURES**

- Wash your hands often with soap and warm 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.
- If you are sick, please contact your primary care physician.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Practice social distancing
- Receive a flu vaccination
- All residents of Georgia are encouraged to have a plan in place to care for and protect family members who are elderly or have compromised immune systems. Check on neighbors who may be elderly or have a heightened risk of contracting the virus.
- We encourage citizens of the county to use take out or delivery options at restaurants.

### **SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS**

The following table is from the business news website Business Insider. Sources of information are included on the table.

## COVID-19 compared to other common conditions

SYMPTOM	COVID-19	COMMON COLD	FLU	ALLERGIES
Fever	Common	Rare	Common	Sometimes
Dry cough	Common	Mild	Common	Sometimes
Shortness of breath	Common	No	No	Common
Headaches	Sometimes	Rare	Common	Sometimes
Aches and pains	Sometimes	Common	Common	No
Sore throat	Sometimes	Common	Common	No
Fatigue	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
Diarrhea	Rare	No	Sometimes*	No
Runny nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes	Common
Sneezing	No	Common	No	Common

\*Sometimes for children

Sources: CDC, WHO, American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology

BUSINESS INSIDER

### LINKS

Please visit the Cherokee County Coronavirus Disease 2019 information page at the link below.  
<https://www.cherokeega.com/focus/corona-virus-plan.php>

Cherokee County School District  
<https://www.cherokeek12.net/>