

**CHEROKEE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
(3/24/2020) (5:00 P.M.)**

DAILY UPDATE

- Cherokee County EMA and Board of Commissioners ask that you be mindful of your needed travels, contact with others, continue to practice social distancing, and practice good hygiene.
- The Georgia Department of Public Health has announced 1,026 confirmed cases of COVID-19 across the state.
- 32 deaths have occurred in the state as a result of COVID-19.
- Cherokee County has 28 confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- Governor Kemp's March 23 Executive Order requires certain persons to shelter in place, including:
 - Those persons who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility
 - Those persons who have chronic lung disease
 - Those persons who are currently undergoing cancer treatment.
- The Governor's order requires a "cease of operations" for all businesses which possess a license to operate as or otherwise meet the definition of "Bar"
- The Governor's order prohibits gatherings of more than 10 people in businesses, establishments, corporation, non-profit corporation, or organization, to allow more than 10 people at a single location if such gathering requires people to stand or to be seated within 6 feet of another person. NOTE: We have been advised that until specific regulations are issued by the Georgia Department of Public Health, the Governor's Deputy Chief of Staff has interpreted the Governor's March 23 order as follows: If more than 10 people are present in a restaurant, two or more people may not be seated together. Each person must remain at least 6 feet from any other person.
- The cities of Canton and Woodstock have jointly issued executive orders placing a ban on dining inside restaurant facilities effective at 12:01 a.m. on Wednesday March 25 through Sunday, April 12, 2020. Restaurants can utilize take-out, curbside to-go, and delivery options. Additionally, restaurants operating under a consumption on premises or pouring permit for beer and wine may sell packaged (un-opened) beer and wine with food services outlined above. This ban on dining does not impact personal care facilities, group homes, assisted living facilities, or healthcare cafeterias.
- Cherokee Recreation and Parks (CRPA) has announced the closing of all CRPA operated Playgrounds, Athletic Fields and Courts, Pavilions and the Skate Park. Walking and Hiking Trails will remain open.
- The City of Canton has closed all playgrounds in City parks, as well as ballfields, basketball courts, tennis courts, pavilions and restroom facilities until further notice. The City encourages residents who wish to exercise to practice social distancing and groups of 10 or more are prohibited.
- District 1-2 Public Health is conducting drive through specimen sample collections to test for COVID-19 cases at the Woodstock Public Health Office. This site is now listed as a Federal Collection Site. Individuals eligible for testing are listed below:
 - Individuals 60 years or older, that are symptomatic, will be eligible for testing. These individuals must go through their healthcare provider to receive a referral

- and their Person Under Investigation number.
- First responders and healthcare workers who are symptomatic and non-symptomatic. These individuals must go through their healthcare provider to receive a referral and their Person Under Investigation number.
- 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.
- There are more than 20 vaccines currently in development. One of these vaccines has recently went into human trials. Realistically, a vaccine will require approximately a year of trials and testing before it could be available to the public.
- Until a vaccine is ready, several experimental treatments are underway. Anecdotal evidence suggest that these treatments could be effective against COVID-19. The FDA is in the process of approving other drugs to use in the treatment of COVID-19.
- FEMA has developed a rumor control website.
 - <https://www.fema.gov/Coronavirus-Rumor-Control>
- Must Ministries in Canton is a drop off location for canned food items 7 days a week/8:00 AM-4:00 PM.
- Local walking and hiking trails remain open to the general public. Please utilize the following guidelines for 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.
 - 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 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
- Local State of Emergency to suspend county ordinances prohibiting the sale of unopened/uncorked bottles of beer and wine by consumptions on the premises license holders through April 30, 2020; and for other purposes.
- Canton and Woodstock Joint Executive Order regarding dining inside restaurants and beer/wine sales on take-out/to-go orders at restaurants.

LATEST CANCELLATIONS

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/>