



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Northern Illinois Rockford Region Public Information Officers
Media Contact: Katherine O’Toole, Media Liaison, 815-720-4213
April 4, 2020

This is a joint news release issued by the Northern Illinois Rockford Region Public Information Officers (NIR-PIO). NIR-PIO serves Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside, and Winnebago Counties.

REGIONAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS ANNOUNCE ALL NINE COUNTIES HAVE POSITIVE COVID-19 CASES

Northern Illinois Rockford Region – Today, the Boone County Health Department announced two positive cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Boone County.

- Boone County reports a resident in their 30s tested positive for COVID-19.
- Boone County reports a resident in their 50s tested positive for COVID-19.

All nine counties in the Northern Illinois Rockford Region have now reported positive cases of COVID-19. The case counts for today in the other Northern Illinois Rockford Region counties include Lee County (2), Carroll County (4), DeKalb County (22), Jo Daviess County (5), Ogle County (5), Stephenson County (3), Whiteside County (17) and Winnebago County (42). As of April 4, 2020 there are **102 positive cases** of COVID-19 in the Northern Illinois Rockford Region. There have been 3 deaths in the Northern Illinois Rockford Region, a resident of Carroll County, a resident of Winnebago County, and a resident of Whiteside County.

The local health departments in the region continue to work closely with IDPH to identify and notify those that may have been in close contact with the individuals who have tested positive. To slow the spread of COVID-19, it is important for everyone to take steps to prevent exposure. This is why staying home is so important. The local health departments in the Northern Illinois Rockford Region urge the community to be All In for Illinois.

Stay home and only leave your house for basic needs, including visiting the doctor or buying groceries, medicine, gasoline or similar supplies. When you do go out for basic needs, wear a cloth handmade mask or bandana. COVID-19 can spread 24 to 48 hours before people have symptoms. Covering your nose and mouth will help to reduce the risk of exposing others. Together we can slow the spread of COVID-19. Stay home, save lives. Find out more at enjoyillinois.com/allinillinois.

What The Public Can Do:

- STAY CALM: You are not alone in this, your community is here to support you. Talk to your friends and family and let them know if you are having concerns.
- STAY APART: Keep at least 6 feet away from others including while shopping. Avoid the lines by taking advantage of pick-up and delivery services for groceries and other goods.
- STAY PUT: Stay home, and only go out when essential (buying groceries, pick-up medicine, etc).

Be mindful of those who are at greater risk for contracting this virus, including older adults and those with underlying health conditions.

Call your healthcare provider:

If you experience fever, cough, and shortness of breath (flu like symptoms), stay home and call your healthcare provider before going to a healthcare facility. Inform them of your symptoms.

For more information:

Go to IDPH and CDC websites.

- <http://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931