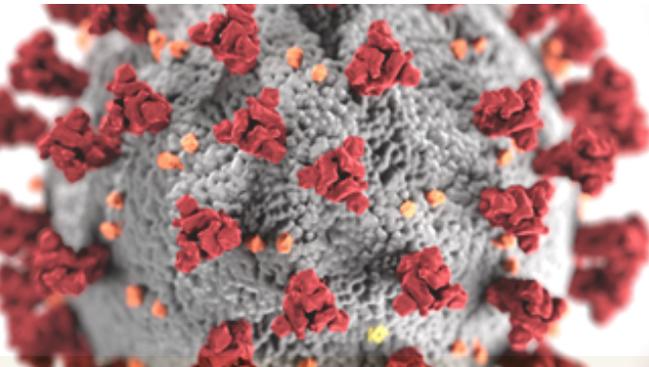




Prevent. Promote. Protect.

80 State Highway 310 - Canton NY - 315-386-2325



COVID-19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

PUBLIC HEALTH'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

St. Lawrence County is entering its 19th week of the COVID-19 response as the first case was reported on March 25th, 2020. As of July 29th, we have reported a total of 255 cases. For a review of the county's cases over time, please see the graph below. As shown, case numbers steadily increased throughout the month of April, averaging about 30 cases per week. The county saw its highest number of cases, so far, during the week of April 22nd, with a total of 49 new cases. The weeks following showed a steady decline in positive test results with less than 1 case per week at times. Currently, we have seen a spike and are actively working to contain the spread.

A rise in cases has occurred since the beginning of July; we saw 12 new cases the week of July 15th. Recent cases are most likely due to gatherings, travel back from other impacted states, and screening tests. This past month, we have seen 13 cases related to a gathering, 10 related to travel, and 8 due to screening for work, a procedure, or to see family.

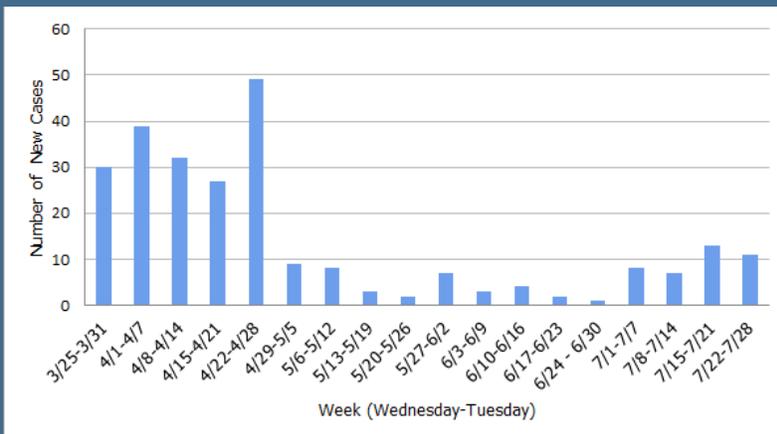
Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 are immediately placed under isolation after an interview. Their direct contacts (people exposed to a person who tests positive) are placed in quarantine. Isolation and quarantine both require people to separate from others in their household by using a separate bedroom and bathroom, eat meals on their own, and clean and disinfect regularly. The SLC Public Health Department monitors people daily to ensure all needs are met and no new symptoms develop or worsen.

COVID-19 cases are on the rise throughout the United States. NY is currently under a travel advisory for anyone returning from travel to states that have a significant degree of community-wide spread of COVID-19: 14 days of quarantine is required. Please check <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory> for a current list of states.

Please continue to wash your hands and use sanitizer regularly, practice social distancing, wear a mask, stay home when you are sick, and consider your travel plans in light of COVID-19 status.



SLC COVID-19 Cases Per Week



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DRILL RECAP

On February 5th, 2020 the Public Health Department completed its annual Emergency Preparedness (EP) Exercise. The EP exercise allows for practicing skills to prevent, respond to, and recover from various types of emergencies. The exercise focused on the ability to receive and transport medical supplies in an anthrax incident.

The exercise took place at the County Staging Site, which is an undisclosed location where medical assets are shipped from either the state or federal government. Medical assets can be any type of product needed during an emergency, such as antibiotics and vaccines, or personal protective equipment like masks and gloves.



Once medical assets are received, they are organized to be transported to points of distribution (POD) sites. The POD site is the location where community members would go during an emergency to receive the necessary medical asset (medication or personal protective equipment).

For the purpose of this drill, once the medical assets were inventoried in an online database, the assets were returned to the County Staging Site. SLC Public Health was able to create outstanding relationships with the partners they would be working closely with during a real emergency.

We would like to thank the following County departments for their support and participation in the execution of the EP exercise: St. Lawrence County Buildings and Grounds, Correctional Division, Weights and Measures, Information Technology, Sheriff's Department, Emergency Services, Board of Elections, Probation, and the St. Lawrence University Safety and Security Department.



COMMUNITY HEALTH AWARD RECEIVED!

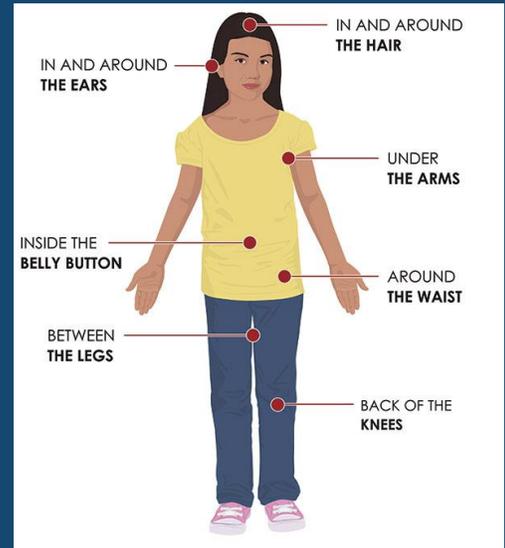
St. Lawrence County Public Health was one of eleven organizations selected to receive a Spring 2020 Community Health Award in the Utica/North Country Region. The \$4,000 award will be used to implement breastfeeding-friendly environments throughout multiple County Departments. Breastfeeding-friendly environments are needed to properly support the County's working mothers, their families, and community members who utilize County services. Funding will be used to furnish lactation rooms with items based on the requirements from NYS Labor Law Section 206-C Breastfeeding in the Workplace Accommodation.

TICK PREVENTION!

Ticks can spread disease. Although not all ticks can cause disease and not all bites will make you sick, it is important to learn how to prevent a bite and how to remove a tick. Keep in mind that some symptoms of a tick bite are similar to those of COVID-19.

PREVENT A TICK BITE:

- Wear light colored clothing to easily spot ticks.
- Use repellent containing 20-30% DEET. Spray on shoes, clothing and hats.
- Examine gear and pets.
- Shower after being outdoors.
- Do a full body tick check:



TICK REMOVAL:

1. Use a pair of pointed tweezers.
2. Grasp tick by the head or mouth right where it enters the skin.
3. Pull upward with steady, even pressure.
4. Wash the bite area with soap and water.

