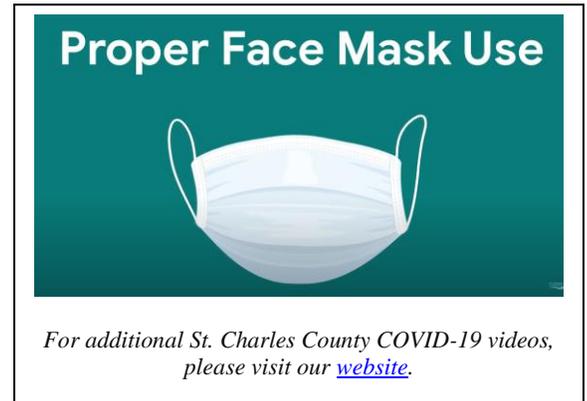# St. Charles County COVID-19 *UPDATE*

PLEASE NOTE: Effective May 9, 2020, the COVID Update will be shared on Mon, Wed and Fri.

(as of 4:25 p.m., May 11, 2020)

St. Charles County Government and the Department of Public Health staff are working closely with local, regional, state and federal partners to investigate COVID-19, monitor individuals who may have been exposed to the virus and implement procedures to reduce the spread of illness. Consult St. Charles County's COVID-19 website for information on the disease pandemic and the county's response activities.

For additional St. Charles County COVID-19 videos, please visit our website.

COVID-19 Case Report

The Department of Public Health reports the following:

Persons being quarantined	553
Persons released from quarantine	1,538
Number of tests pending at the Missouri State Laboratory*	3
Number of positive tests	673
COVID-19 deaths	50

*Tests are being performed at both the Missouri State Laboratory and through private testing laboratories. The number of pending tests is reported to the Department of Public Health by the Missouri State Laboratory only; private labs do not report pending tests to the health department.

Today's News:

- On Saturday, the Department of Public Health was notified of the 47th reported COVID-19 death involving a St. Charles County resident — a female in her 70s.
- Today, the Department of Public Health was notified of three additional reported COVID-19 deaths involving St. Charles County residents, bringing the county total to 50.
  - A female in her 70s.
  - A female in her 90s.
  - A female in her 80s.
- Effective (May 9, 2020, the St. Charles County COVID-19 Information Hotline will be answered from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sat-Sun, and from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mon-Fri.
- Today's briefing from the St. Louis Metropolitan Pandemic Task Force - https://www.facebook.com/StLouisMetropolitanPandemicTaskForce/videos/552881388994432/.

For more updates and links to COVID-19 news releases, visit our Latest News web page.

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<u>Additional Information:</u>

COVID-19 Guidelines for St. Charles County Residents
To accompany County Executive Steve Ehlmann's directive to follow Missouri's "Show Me Strong Recovery" plan for reopening during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of Public Health offers recommendations for residents to increase health and safety measures. These guidelines may be viewed at https://www.sccmo.org/2123/COVID-19-Guidelines-for-Residents.

Putting on/Taking Off Masks
Face masks can help prevent the spread of COVID-19, but only if you wear and care for it correctly. The type of mask you choose isn't nearly as important as when, where and how you wear it. Since you can't immediately tell who does and does not have the virus by looking at them, you should wear a mask in public spaces.

Correctly putting on and taking off the mask involves a few simple, but crucial steps:
1. Wash hands with soap and water before putting on the mask. Avoid touching the center part of the mask.
2. Make certain the mask covers from the bridge of your nose to below your chin.
3. Pull the ties so the mask fits snugly against your face but allows for comfortable breathing and clear vision.
4. If your mask has pleats, it's most comfortable to have the folded sides face downward.
5. Take off your mask the same way you put it on – by not touching the fabric. Don't take it off until you're out of the public space and wash your hands immediately after removing the mask.

COVID-19 Guidelines for St. Charles County Employers
St. Charles County Executive Steve Ehlmann announced that the county would follow the state's "Show Me Strong Recovery" Plan that went into effect on May 4, 2020. The Department of Public Health included additional guidelines to increase health and safety measures for all St. Charles County employers. These guidelines may be viewed at https://www.sccmo.org/COVIDEmployerGuidelines.

Contact Tracing
Contact tracing is the process of identifying people who may have been exposed to a contagious disease like COVID-19 and investigating those people, and those who they may have contacted, to stop the spread of that illness.

Contact tracers work with individuals to make a list of people with whom they may have interacted while they were potentially contagious. Contact tracers then contact the people on the list, provide them guidance on next steps and begin asking questions. They may ask where a person works, where they have visited, where they obtained food or other supplies, and with whom they may have met. If that person has interacted with others, the process starts again.

Community Resources Available
To help St. Charles County residents and businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic, a web page offers links and phone numbers for organizations offering assistance.. St. Charles County also operates its COVID-19 Information Hotline (636-949-1899) that is answered from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mon-Fri and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sat-Sun.

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