

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 4:10 p.m., May 15, 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.

COVID-19 Case Report

The Department of Public Health reports the following:

Persons being quarantined	498
Persons released from quarantine	1,686
Number of tests pending at the Missouri State Laboratory*	3
Number of positive tests	688
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:

- Today's briefing from the St. Louis Metropolitan Pandemic Task Force - <https://www.facebook.com/StLouisMetropolitanPandemicTaskForce/videos/278220063211575/> .

For more updates and links to COVID-19 news releases, visit our [Latest News web page](#).

Additional Information:

Guidelines for Opening and Operating Community Pools and Aquatic Facilities

Memorial Day traditionally signals the start to pool season in our area. For those entities choosing to open a community pool or public aquatic facility this month, the Department of Public Health offers guidelines for employees and guests designed to increase everyone's health and safety:

- Follow [CDC considerations](#) for safe facility operations.
- Enforce social distancing guidelines that recommend at least a 6 foot distance both in and out of the water.
- Do not allow deck furniture to be rearranged or grouped in areas with less than 6 feet of space in-between.
- Consider reducing bather loads/facility occupancy to account for social distancing.
- Clean and disinfect doors, gates, furniture, railings, restrooms and other commonly touched surfaces regularly.
- Clean, disinfect and regularly test water systems.
- Encourage hygiene and respiratory etiquette for individuals in and out of the water.
- Post signage encouraging social distancing, hand washing and other recommended practices.
- Follow guidance outlined by the [St. Charles County Aquatic Facility Code](#) and other community regulations.

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COVID-19 POOL SAFETY TIPS

- Follow CDC social distancing recommendations.
- Sanitize and test water multiple times a day.
- Sanitize entries, exits and surrounding hard surfaces.

For additional St. Charles County COVID-19 videos, please visit our [website](#).

COVID-19 Guidelines for St. Charles County Residents and Employers

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 may be viewed at sccmo.org/COVIDResidentGuidelines.

The department issued additional guidelines for St. Charles County employers, with industry specific recommendations for food service providers, professional services, retail stores, places of worship, offices, public transportation, schools and childcare facilities, pools and aquatic centers and more. These may be viewed at sccmo.org/COVIDEmployerGuidelines.

For questions, please call the St. Charles County COVID-19 Informational Hotline that is answered from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m., Mon-Fri, or 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Sat-Sun, at 636-949-1899.

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.

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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