

UPDATE: COVID-19 Information for Saratoga County May 8, 2020

Ballston Spa, NY — The Saratoga County Department of Public Health Services today announced that there are 387 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Saratoga County and 7 of those individuals are hospitalized at this time.

Data Dashboard enhanced

The dashboard now includes more comprehensive information and charts on positive cases. A link to the data dashboard can be found at the top of the Saratoga County Department of Public Health Services' COVID-19 website, located [here](#).

Efforts to reopen

The state has released its plan for reopening. It includes metrics that regions must meet before reopening can begin. The metrics can be found [here](#).

Saratoga County is taking action to address the Governor's phased plan to reopen New York. We have established a task force to increase testing within our county, acquire an appropriate level of contact tracers and collaborate with the seven other Capital Region counties. The Capital Region will be working towards the common goal of meeting the Governor's criteria for allowing businesses to open up; however, it is important to note that we have not met the CDC recommendation at this time to start phase one, which states that once a region experiences a 14 -day decline in the hospitalization rate, they can begin a phased reopening.

Poster contest for students still open

Saratoga County Sheriff Michael Zurlo's poster contest for students in grades K-12 in Saratoga County is still open. The theme is 'What Saratoga County First Responders Mean To Me.'

Students of all ages from Saratoga County are invited to participate in designing a poster illustrating what a Saratoga County first responder means to them. Artists should consider incorporating one of the following:

- Saratoga County Sheriff's Office
- Saratoga County Public Health
- Emergency Medical Services
- Fire Departments

Posters must be received by Monday, May 18, 2020.

Twelve winners will be selected from the submissions and invited to participate in an awards ceremony at an upcoming Saratoga County Board of Supervisors meeting.

All posters submitted will be placed on display in the public area of the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office, 6010 County Farm Road, Ballston Spa and throughout the Saratoga County Municipal Building. The twelve winning posters will be placed on display in the Supervisors Boardroom located in the County Municipal Building, 40 McMaster Street, Ballston Spa.

Those who wish to enter the contest can mail their completed poster (on any size paper) to the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office 6010 County Farm Road, Ballston Spa, New York 12020 or e-mail their submission to sheriff@saratogacountyny.gov.

They are also encouraged to share their artwork via Facebook and Instagram, tagging the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office **@SaratogaSheriff**.

Students or their parents should include the artist's first and last name, age, grade and school. Submissions should include an email or phone number. Saratoga County Sheriff's Office staff members will choose the best entry.

The contest provides a creative and fun way for students to depict positive influences that first responders are leaving on the community working to stop the spread of COVID-19. By designing posters, students help to highlight the important work of our emergency responders in Saratoga County.