

## **UPDATE: COVID-19 Information for Saratoga County May 18, 2020**

Ballston Spa, NY — The Saratoga County Department of Public Health Services today announced the most current stats on COVID-19 in Saratoga County.

- Confirmed cases of COVID-19: 429
- Deaths: 15
- Recovered cases: 340
- Active cases: 74
- Hospitalizations: 6
- Total tested: 8,100

The Department confirmed the death of one more county resident from COVID-19 — a 75-year-old male from Halfmoon. The total number of resident deaths from COVID-19 now stands at 15. This was the first death reported since April 30.

### Facebook Live event

Officials from Saratoga County and community partners will be hosting a **Facebook Live event on Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.** to answer questions from residents related to COVID-19. The hour-long event will be hosted on the Saratoga County Office of Emergency Services Facebook page and feature:

- Aric Butts, RN, BSN – Registered Nurse, Saratoga Hospital
- Craig Hayner – Saratoga County Clerk
- Cathleen Medick, RN, BSN – Director of Patient Services, Saratoga County
- Dr. Michael Patton – Superintendent, Saratoga Springs City School District

Community members can submit questions in advance or view the stream [here](#).

### Efforts to reopen

The Capital Region is on the cusp of starting the reopening process. This will take place in phases, and not all businesses will be allowed to reopen immediately. A breakdown of the businesses that are included in each phase can be found [here](#).

While the county is looking forward to seeing our businesses open again, we cannot get there without everyone's help as we continue to flatten the curve.

It's important to remember that the number of positive cases keeps increasing, and we must continue to take precautionary steps to mitigate the spread.

- **Practice social distancing.** Stay home as much as possible, even if you feel well. COVID-19 spreads through speaking, coughing and sneezing. Wear a face mask as a barrier from respiratory droplets. Avoid unnecessary appointments. Social distancing includes:
  - Not shaking hands, hugging or kissing when greeting people;
  - Limiting visitors;
  - Maintaining at least a six-foot distance from others;
  - Avoiding gatherings; and
  - Working at home, whenever possible
- **Wash your hands frequently.** Cover your cough and sneezes. Use a tissue or your elbow. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- **Take caution with at-risk individuals.** Avoid visiting anyone who is most at risk, including the elderly and people with underlying health conditions. Call and offer to help with groceries and to pick up other needed items. Drop off without having a face-to-face contact.
- **Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.** COVID-19 can survive for a long time on surfaces where the droplets land, and can be picked up when you touch that surface and then touch your face. Use hand sanitizer immediately after touching common surfaces when out in public.

#### Data Dashboard enhanced

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