

Borough of Tinton Falls OEM COVID-19 Update (April 14, 2020)

The Tinton Falls Office of Emergency Management (TFOEM), in partnership with the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission (MCRHC), continues to monitor the COVID-19 outbreak. TFOEM has consistent communication with the Monmouth County Office of Emergency Management and the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management. TFOEM interacts with all Tinton Falls Emergency Services including Emergency Medical Services, Police Department and Fire Service, as well as; the Department of Public Works, School Administrators, faith-based communities and healthcare facilities within the Borough.

- The Monmouth County Regional Health Commission No. 1 (MCRHC) continues to report the number of positive cases of COVID-19. The latest number of people reported to have tested positive for COVID-19 in the Borough of Tinton Falls is ninety-four (94). The Borough has no further information to share due to privacy rights of our fellow residents. Our residents who have been reported to have tested positive are either self-isolated, self-quarantined or hospitalized. The MCRHC Communicable Disease Team continues to conduct intensive monitoring and ongoing public health investigation of every positive case. This investigation includes tracing of actions taken by the infected for days prior to first signs of symptoms.
- As per the Governor's Office: The Curve is starting to flatten. Physical distancing is a major contributing factor.
- The PNC Arts Center testing site will open at 8 a.m. 4/15/2020 with 500 tests available. The Bergen County testing site will again open 8 a.m. on Thursday with 500 tests available.
- There are other Public available testing sites available. 66 testing sites are available in NJ.
- Testing is available for those that are symptomatic only.
- The New Jersey all-encompassing website for COVID-19 information:  
<https://covid19.nj.gov/>
- From the New Jersey Department of Children and Families: Power of Attorney Guidance COVID-19 has created many challenges for residents across New Jersey. Families are rightfully concerned about the impact the Novel Coronavirus could have on them if one or both parents become sick. The New Jersey Department of Children and Families recognizes that these are uncomfortable, but necessary conversations :  
[https://www.nj.gov/dcf/news/COVID-19\\_POA.Guidance.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/dcf/news/COVID-19_POA.Guidance.pdf)
- Visit the [NJ Department of Human Services](https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/) at <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/> for assistance on COVID and:
  - Aging Services (tips for caregivers, nutrition services)
  - Child Care
  - Developmental Disabilities (residential screening, guidance for providers and families)
  - Mental Health and Addition Services (Opioid treatment programs, Crisis management services, anxiety and stress management)
  - Deaf and Hard of Hearing (Communication tips)
  - FamilyCare and Medicaid (Telehealth guidelines, testing related services, certificate of waiver for premiums)
  - Social Services (SNAP-Food assistance)
- NJMentalHealthCares is New Jersey's behavioral health information and referral service. Their staff of behavioral care specialists use their experience and understanding of the behavior health system to provide emotional support for issues related to COVID-19 and other mental concerns: <https://www.njmentalhealthcares.org/>
- The Assisted Living and Healthcare facilities have received Personal protective equipment allocated through the State Office of Emergency Management, distributed by the Monmouth County Office of Emergency Management and verified by the Tinton Falls Office of Emergency Management.
- If there are elderly or immune-compromised residents in Tinton Falls that are unable to arrange for grocery or medication deliveries, our faith-based communities within the municipality have provided service as needed. Contact [oem@tintonfalls.com](mailto:oem@tintonfalls.com) or call 732-542-3400 x555.
- Donations of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) are needed. If any residents have any PPE that they would like to donate to the Tinton Falls Emergency Services serving our community, your donation will be greatly appreciated. The needs include nitrile examination gloves, surgical or N95 masks, protective isolation gowns, protective face

shields, multi-function no-contact infrared thermometers, hand sanitizer and anti-bacterial wipes. Donations of these items are being accepted at the Tinton Falls Municipal Center located at 556 Tinton Avenue. Items may be placed at the front entrance inside the right entry vestibule.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has issued a series of steps that you can take to protect yourself. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.

The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) and through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled in

to the lungs.

Take steps to protect yourself:

- Follow **social distancing** practices: put **distance between yourself and other people**. This is especially important for [people who are at higher risk of getting very sick](#).
- **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, **use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol**. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth** with unwashed hands.
- **Avoid close contact** with people who are sick.
- **Stay home** if you are sick, except to get medical care. Learn [what to do if you are sick](#).
- **Cover your mouth and nose** with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.

Visit the CDC site here to learn more on how to protect yourself: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html>

It's important to remember that older adults and people who have severe underlying chronic medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes seem to be at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 illness. Please consult with your health care provider about additional steps you may be able to take to protect yourself.