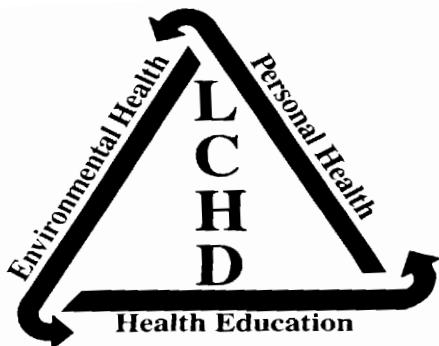


# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: January 6, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Leslie Dougherty (ex 74314) or Jenny Barrie (ex. 74315)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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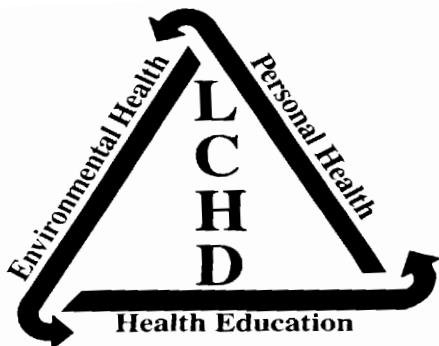
## **"January is Cervical Cancer Month"**

OTTAWA, IL—In recognition of Cervical Cancer Awareness Month the LaSalle County Health Department is urging women over the age of 21 to be screened for cervical cancer. The goal is to eradicate cervical cancer in Illinois by women taking charge and getting screened. During 2020 an estimated 13,000 women in the United States will be diagnosed with cervical cancer, according to the American Cancer Society (ACS). It is extremely important that women receive Pap Smear tests because cervical cancer, when caught early, is nearly 100 percent curable.

The ACS reports that between 60 and 80 percent of American women with newly diagnosed invasive cervical cancer have not had a Pap Smear in the last five years and /or may have never had one. Cervical Cancer is one of the most common types of cancer worldwide and one of the most preventable and treatable when detected early. In addition to increasing awareness of cervical cancer there are some preventative steps that women can take. Studies have shown, regular exercise, a healthy diet, routine screenings and getting the cervical cancer vaccine to help prevent Human Papilloma Virus (HPV), decreases the risk for cervical cancer. Licensed HPV vaccines for females and males are available. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends 11 or 12 year old girls and boys begin the HPV vaccine series. The vaccination series must be completed by age 45. HPV vaccination is offered at LaSalle County Health Department immunization clinics which are held monthly. Those who are interested in scheduling an appointment or want more information can call the Health Department.

The LaSalle County Health Department also has a program available which can pay for Pap Smear tests for LaSalle or Grundy County women, ages 21-64 who have no insurance or who have high deductibles regardless of income. We invite and encourage anyone who needs more information on cervical cancer and the importance of Pap Smear tests, the IBCCP program, or the cervical cancer vaccines to contact the Health Department at 1-815-433-3366 or visit our website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)

# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: January 7, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **"January is National Radon Action Month"**

**Ottawa, IL** – The LaSalle County Health Department is encouraging residents to test the radon level in their home. Radon is a radioactive gas that occurs naturally in most soil. As radon travels through the soil, it can easily move through small spaces in a foundation and enter a building, where it becomes trapped and accumulates in the air.

Radon has no taste, smell, or color. Testing is the only way to find out if there is a dangerous level of radon in your home. The best time to test for radon is during cold weather when windows and doors are closed.

Most radon exposures occur in the home. When people breathe in radon, it damages the lungs, which can cause lung cancer. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer after cigarette smoking. Radon can be found throughout Illinois and levels can vary from one home to another, even in the same neighborhood. As many as 1,160 Illinois citizens are at risk of developing radon-related lung cancer each year according to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA).

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established the radon action level at 4 picocuries per liter of air (4 pCi/L). At or above this level, it is recommended that corrective measures be taken to reduce indoor radon levels. Radon mitigation is the only effective way to reduce levels and decrease the risk of lung cancer. The most common radon reduction system involves the installation of a vent pipe and fan, which draws air from underneath a building and displaces it outside. The cost of a system varies depending on the reduction method chosen and building size. Radon is a preventable health threat through testing and mitigation.

According to the IEMA, approximately one in two homes tested in Illinois (45 percent of homes) have radon at or above the EPA action level of 4 pCi/L. In addition, the average Illinois indoor air radon concentration is 5.1 pCi/L. "With the presence of radon in this geographic area, we encourage residents to take advantage of this opportunity and test their homes for radon," said Chris Pozzi, Director of Environmental Health at LaSalle County Health Department.

Homeowners can test their homes with a simple kit. Testing is easy and convenient, taking 3-7 days. Tests should be done on the lowest level of the home that is frequently occupied. Tests should not be done in kitchens, bathrooms, laundry rooms, or utility rooms.

LaSalle County Health Department, through a grant from the IEMA, has free radon test kits available to residents of LaSalle County. Test kits can be picked up at the health department during regular business hours (Mon.-Fri., 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) at 717 E. Etna Road in Ottawa. A staff member will assist you with the instructions on using the test kit, as well as provide information regarding radon, radon measurement, and radon mitigation. Additionally, should your radon test results show a high level of radon in your home, the health department can provide you with a list of licensed radon measurement professionals and licensed radon mitigation professionals for follow-up. Call the LaSalle County Health Department at (815) 433-3366, for more information on radon test kits.

**Additional Resources:**

Visit <https://www.radon.com/instructions/> to view a testing kit instructional video.

Visit the link below to see the estimated radon risk for each county on this interactive map.

<https://www.epa.gov/radon/find-information-about-local-radon-zones-and-state-contact-information#radonmap>

For additional information, please visit:

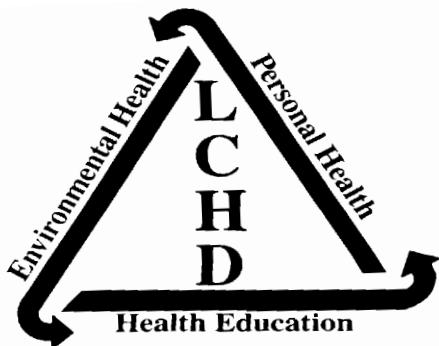
<https://www2.illinois.gov/iema/NRS/Radon/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://www.epa.gov/radon>.

# # #



# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: January 15, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **"The LaSalle County Naloxone Program 2019 Annual Report"**

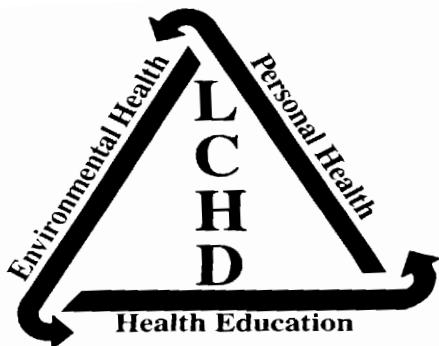
**Ottawa, IL** – A summary report of the progress made within the LaSalle County Naloxone Program for the 2019 calendar year is now available on the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). Our award winning program was initiated in 2015 from a training request to the Health Department by the LaSalle County Sheriff's Office. The request was referred to the LaSalle County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Coordinator, making the LaSalle County MRC the point organization. The unit developed an Opioid 101 course and gained approval from the Illinois Department of Human Services Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse as well as the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board in January 2016. Full implementation for the program occurred in February 2016.

The LaSalle County Naloxone Program has exceeded expectations of those involved. It continues to train officers, work to change misconceptions about opioid addiction, improve relations with law enforcement and the Medical Reserve Corps, provide avenues for expansion, and, most importantly, save lives. The LaSalle County Medical Reserve Corps is a volunteer organization. MRC programs are community-based and operate as a way to organize and utilize volunteers, medical professionals and non-medical professionals, who want to donate their time and expertise to promote healthy living throughout the year and to prepare for and respond to emergencies. MRC volunteers supplement existing local emergency and public health resources. For information on becoming a MRC volunteer, please contact the MRC Coordinator at 815-433-3366 ext. 74316.

# # #



# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: February 28, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314) or  
Jenny Barrie (ext.74315)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## NEWS RELEASE

### **"Flu Shots Still Available"**

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

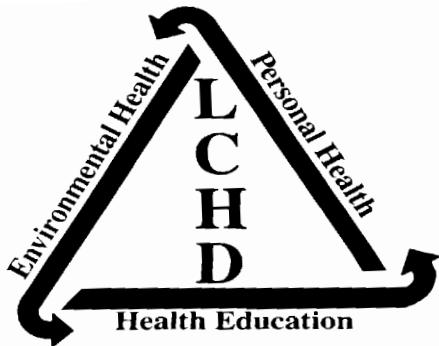
**OTTAWA, IL** – Flu season is upon us. The LaSalle County Health Department is still vaccinating against seasonal influenza (flu). Walk ins are welcome or you can call for an appointment. We also have Influenza HD (High Dose) available for anyone over 65. Human immune defenses become weaker with age. Aging decreases the body's ability to have a good immune response. A higher dose of protection in the vaccine is added to give older persons a better immune response. This additional protection is intended to create a stronger immune response which will make the vaccine more effective in the elderly.

All LaSalle County Health Department influenza vaccines are preservative free. The fee for the seasonal flu shot will be \$25. The fee for influenza HD will be \$50. Insurance billing will be provided for Medicare part B and Medicaid eligible clients and also for most health insurance companies. Vaccine for Children (VFC) program is available to cover children that qualify for free vaccine. **You must have your insurance card with you.** No Doctors order is required. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

To lessen your chances of developing the flu, adults and children need to practice good hygiene measures. Teach the importance of covering your mouth when coughing or sneezing, and educate children about hand to mucous membrane transmission. One of the best ways to protect yourself and your children is through frequent and thorough hand washing. People who are exhibiting "flu-like" symptoms should stay home from work, out of childcare and school to minimize transmission.

Remember the 3 C's: clean, cover, and contain. Clean – frequently wash your hands with soap and warm water. Cover – cover your cough and sneeze. Contain – contain your germs by staying home if you are sick. For more information on influenza you can call 1-815-433-3366 or you may visit our website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). Or like us on Facebook/Twitter.

# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: March 17, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext.74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **“LaSalle County Health Department Service Adjustments”**

Ottawa, IL – The LaSalle County Health Department is actively monitoring the COVID-19 situation and working to protect the public’s health. The health and safety of LaSalle County residents is our highest priority. For this reason our programs have been scaled back to allow our staff to adequately respond to the Public’s needs. Our Family Case Management program home visits will be suspended as of 3/16/2020 and will resume as guidance is received from IDPH. Our off-site WIC clinics are in the process of being cancelled and those sites will be closed as of 3/23/2020. Wic clients requiring an appointment will be called to reschedule their appointment at our main office at 717 Etna Road, Ottawa. During this COVID-19 situation we will be allowed to handle many WIC required needs by phone. The WIC closings include the Streator, Mendota and LaSalle WIC offices.

Those scheduled for immunization clinics will be contacted to reschedule within our daily immunization schedule with an appointment that meets your needs. This will reduce the risk of a largely attended clinic. Our annual larvacide training that was scheduled for March 25<sup>th</sup> has been postponed. We thank the public for their patience and understanding during this rapidly evolving situation. For more updates on COVID-19 visit our website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)

# # #





## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: March 19, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"LaSalle County Resident Tests Positive for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)"**

**Ottawa, IL** – A LaSalle County resident has tested positive at the IDPH laboratory for coronavirus disease (COVID-19). The case is a female in her teens without a history of travel to an affected area and no connection to a known case of COVID-19. The individual is recovering at home in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case.

"Be assured the LaSalle County Health Department is following all the guidelines set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and taking all the necessary precautions with this case. Our staff is working to identify, investigate, and actively monitor individuals who were in close contact with the patient," said Julie Kerestes, Public Health Administrator of LaSalle County Health Department. "We understand this development causes heightened concern; however, the health and safety of our residents is our highest priority."

Residents are encouraged to be vigilant and continue to take preventative actions to prevent the spread of illness. Everyone has a role to play in staying healthy and keeping others healthy. Remember the 3 C's – clean, cover, contain.

#### **Clean**

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

#### **Cover**

- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- If no tissue is available, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve, not your hands.

#### **Contain**

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Additional cases are expected and residents should take steps now to reduce the impact this will have on their daily lives. It is very important for the public to implement social distancing to limit the spread of this virus. Social distancing means putting distance between yourself and others, and staying home as much as possible. Be mindful of those who are at a greater risk for contracting this virus, including older adults and those with certain health conditions.

**Social distancing:**

- **Stay home when you are sick**
- **Avoid mass gathering and large crowds (avoid social gatherings of more than 10 people)**
- **Limit the amount of time spent in the community (all non-essential activities need to be avoided)**
- **If you must pick up prescriptions or groceries, use caution and keep a 6ft distance from others.**
- **Work from home as much as possible**

All of these measures will help reduce the number of people who become sick at any given time and the possibility of exhausting our health care resources.

Most healthy people who get the virus will have mild symptoms. It is important we do not overwhelm our healthcare systems, as most people can recover at home.

- **If you think you have COVID-19 and your illness is mild, and you are not older or with an underlying health condition of concern, you do not need to see your doctor and you do not need to get tested.**
- **This is because getting tested will not change how your doctor will take care of you. If you do not feel better in three to four days, call your provider.**
- **If you have a respiratory illness, stay home for 7 days after your symptoms started and for 3 days after your fever has stopped without the use of fever-reducing drugs, and your cough or sore throat symptoms have improved (whichever is longer)**
  - **Limit your contact with others in your household**
  - **Rest and stay hydrated**
  - **Wash your hands frequently**
  - **Clean all common surfaces often**

For those whose symptoms become worse (shortness of breath), CALL your healthcare provider. They will direct you to where you should be evaluated and decide if testing is needed.

Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

# # #



[www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)



## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: March 22, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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**"Public Health Officials Announce Additional Case of COVID-19; Total 2 Cases in LaSalle County"**

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**Ottawa, IL** – LaSalle County Health Department (LCDH) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County. The case is a male in his 40's with no history of travel or contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19. The individual is recovering at home in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case.

Public health officials are in the beginning stages of the investigation and are working diligently to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

LaSalle County Health Department Administrator, Julie Kerestes said, "We want to remind LaSalle County residents that both confirmed cases are considered to be community acquired, which makes it clear that community spread of the virus is present throughout the county. We continue to work with our local and state partners in a collaborative response effort to COVID-19. The LaSalle County Health Department remains dedicated to protecting the health and safety of our residents and doing what we can to prevent further spread of the virus."

The Health Department expects to see additional cases and residents need to assume that they have been exposed to COVID-19. Every single LaSalle County resident can help by staying home, limiting the number of people you are in contact with, maintaining a 6-foot distance from others, and washing your hands. If someone develops symptoms of cough and fever, they should stay home and isolate themselves from others. Should symptoms worsen, they should contact their healthcare providers immediately.

On Saturday, March 21, 2020, Governor Pritzker's "Stay at Home Executive Order" went into effect until April 7, 2020. The order prohibits things like visiting the homes of friends and holding gatherings of any size. The order closes all non-essential establishments, including most retail, recreation, and entertainment businesses. It does not prohibit essential activities like going to the grocery store, taking your pet for a walk, or receiving medical care. Be mindful of those who are at a greater risk for contracting this virus, including older adults and those with certain health conditions. All of these measures will help reduce the number of people who become sick at any given time and the possibility of exhausting our health care resources. Stay home and stay healthy!

-more-

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](#). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

# # #



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[www.twitter.com/LaSalleCoHealth](http://www.twitter.com/LaSalleCoHealth)

[www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)



## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: March 24, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 3 Cases in LaSalle County**

LaSalle County Health Department (LCDH) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County. The case is a female in her 30's and had traveled to a known area of high exposure and confirmed cases. The individual is recovering at home in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Testing for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) at the State Lab is limited and protocols are in place to prioritize those tested. Currently, the State Public Health laboratories are only testing hospitalized patients and clusters in a congregate setting that serves more vulnerable populations such as a supportive care facility, assisted living facility, group home, homeless shelter, or correctional setting.

Testing guidelines have changed frequently throughout this situation. There could be pending results tested under previous guidelines. Testing is requested by healthcare providers at hospitals and then authorized by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and/or the local health department. If the individual is not approved for testing, healthcare providers can request testing through a commercial lab. There is limited commercial testing available locally. Negative testing conducted through commercial labs is not required to be reported to local health departments, however, we will still be notified of any positive cases from IDPH State Lab or commercial labs.

The Health Department expects to see additional cases and residents need to assume that they have been exposed to COVID-19. Every single LaSalle County resident can help by staying home, limiting the number of people you are in contact with, maintaining a 6-foot distance from others, and washing your hands. If someone develops symptoms of cough and fever, they should stay home and isolate themselves from others. Should symptoms worsen, they should contact their healthcare providers immediately.

On Saturday, March 21, 2020, Governor Pritzker's "Stay at Home Executive Order" went into effect until April 7, 2020. The order prohibits things like visiting the homes of friends and holding gatherings of any size. The order closes all non-essential establishments, including most retail, recreation, and entertainment businesses. It does not prohibit essential activities like going to the grocery store, taking your pet for a walk, or receiving medical care. Be mindful of those who are at a greater risk for contracting this virus, including older adults and those with certain health conditions. All of these measures will help reduce the number of people who become sick at any given time and the possibility of exhausting our health care resources. Stay home and stay healthy!

-More-

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities or by visiting the Health Department's website at www.lasallecounty.org. For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov.

# # #



[www.facebook.com/LaSalleCountyHealth](http://www.facebook.com/LaSalleCountyHealth)



[www.twitter.com/LaSalleCoHealth](http://www.twitter.com/LaSalleCoHealth)

[www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)



## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: March 27, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 4 Cases in LaSalle County**

LaSalle County Health Department (LCDH) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County. The case is a male in his 80's. The individual is hospitalized in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

The Health Department expects to see additional cases and residents need to assume that they have been exposed to COVID-19. Every single LaSalle County resident can help by staying home, limiting the number of people you are in contact with, maintaining a 6-foot distance from others, and washing your hands. If someone develops symptoms of cough and fever, they should stay home and isolate themselves from others. Should symptoms worsen, they should contact their healthcare providers immediately.

On Saturday, March 21, 2020, Governor Pritzker's "Stay at Home Executive Order" went into effect until April 7, 2020. The order prohibits things like visiting the homes of friends and holding gatherings of any size. The order closes all non-essential establishments, including most retail, recreation, and entertainment businesses. It does not prohibit essential activities like going to the grocery store, taking your pet for a walk, or receiving medical care. Be mindful of those who are at a greater risk for contracting this virus, including older adults and those with certain health conditions. All of these measures will help reduce the number of people who become sick at any given time and the possibility of exhausting our health care resources. Stay home and stay healthy!

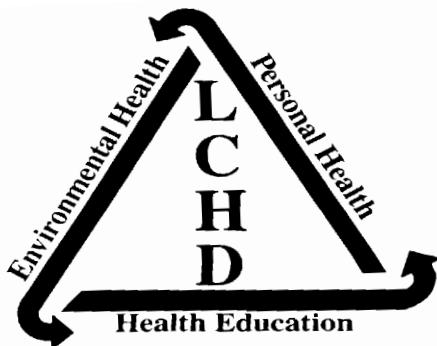
The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

# # #



[www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)

# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: March 28, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **"Public Health Officials Announce First COVID-19 Death"**

The LaSalle County Health Department was notified of the first novel coronavirus (COVID-19)-related death in LaSalle County, Illinois. The individual, a male in his 80's, had earlier tested positive for COVID-19.

"We are deeply saddened to hear of the loss of one of our LaSalle County residents to this illness. Our hearts go out to the family and friends who are mourning the loss of their loved one and we send our sincerest condolences," LaSalle County Health Department Administrator Julie Kerestes said in a statement.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

# # #



[www.facebook.com/LaSalleCountyHealth](http://www.facebook.com/LaSalleCountyHealth)

[www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)



[www.twitter.com/LaSalleCoHealth](http://www.twitter.com/LaSalleCoHealth)



## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: March 30, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 5 Cases in LaSalle County**

LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County. The case is a male in his 60's. The individual was hospitalized, but is now home in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

The county's first two cases announced in mid-March, a female in her teens and a man in his 40s, have recovered and have been released from isolation. In addition, all close contacts with these two cases who had been placed under a quarantine order by LaSalle County Health Department have also been released.

The Health Department expects to see additional cases and residents need to assume that they have been exposed to COVID-19. Every single LaSalle County resident can help by staying home, limiting the number of people you are in contact with, maintaining a 6-foot distance from others, and washing your hands. If someone develops symptoms of cough and fever, they should stay home and isolate themselves from others. Should symptoms worsen, they should contact their healthcare providers immediately.

On Saturday, March 21, 2020, Governor Pritzker's "Stay at Home Executive Order" went into effect until April 7, 2020. The order prohibits things like visiting the homes of friends and holding gatherings of any size. The order closes all non-essential establishments, including most retail, recreation, and entertainment businesses. It does not prohibit essential activities like going to the grocery store, taking your pet for a walk, or receiving medical care. Be mindful of those who are at a greater risk for contracting this virus, including older adults and those with certain health conditions. All of these measures will help reduce the number of people who become sick at any given time and the possibility of exhausting our health care resources. Stay home and stay healthy!

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

# # #





## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: March 31, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 6 Cases in LaSalle County**

LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County. The case is a female in her 30's. The individual is recovering at home in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

The Health Department expects to see additional cases and residents need to assume that they have been exposed to COVID-19. Every single LaSalle County resident can help by staying home, limiting the number of people you are in contact with, maintaining a 6-foot distance from others, and washing your hands. If someone develops symptoms of cough and fever, they should stay home and isolate themselves from others. Should symptoms worsen, they should contact their healthcare providers immediately.

On Saturday, March 21, 2020, Governor Pritzker's "Stay at Home Executive Order" went into effect and has been extended until April 30th, 2020. The order prohibits things like visiting the homes of friends and holding gatherings of any size. The order closes all non-essential establishments, including most retail, recreation, and entertainment businesses. It does not prohibit essential activities like going to the grocery store, taking your pet for a walk, or receiving medical care. Be mindful of those who are at a greater risk for contracting this virus, including older adults and those with certain health conditions. All of these measures will help reduce the number of people who become sick at any given time and the possibility of exhausting our health care resources. Stay home and stay healthy!

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

# # #



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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 4, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 7 Cases in LaSalle County**

LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County. The case is a male in his 40's. The individual is hospitalized in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

The Health Department expects to see additional cases and residents need to assume that they have been exposed to COVID-19. As LaSalle County continues to see the number of confirmed cases increase, it is important to note these cases are not a true representation of how many people in the county actually have COVID-19. Because so many cases are mild to moderate and require no medical attention, we do not have the data showing the percentage of our population who has COVID-19 or who has had COVID-19. Unfortunately, we still do not have enough tests to test everyone and must continue to prioritize our testing. Current prioritization guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health recommends and focuses on the testing of high-risk individuals, including those who are hospitalized and clusters in a congregate setting that serves more vulnerable populations such as a supportive care facility, assisted living facility, group home, homeless shelter, or correctional setting.

Every single LaSalle County resident can help by staying home, limiting the number of people you are in contact with, maintaining a 6-foot distance from others, and washing your hands. If someone develops symptoms of cough and fever, they should stay home and isolate themselves from others. Should symptoms worsen, they should contact their healthcare providers immediately.

On Saturday, March 21, 2020, Governor Pritzker's "Stay at Home Executive Order" went into effect and has been extended until April 30th, 2020. The order prohibits things like visiting the homes of friends and holding gatherings of any size. The order closes all non-essential establishments, including most retail, recreation, and entertainment businesses. It does not prohibit essential activities like going to the grocery store, taking your pet for a walk, or receiving medical care. Be mindful of those who are at a greater risk for contracting this virus, including older adults and those with certain health conditions. All of these measures will help reduce the number of people who become sick at any given time and the possibility of exhausting our health care resources. Stay home and stay healthy!

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation.

Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](#). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 5, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 10 Cases in LaSalle County**

LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed three additional COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County. The additional cases include:

- male in his 30's who is recovering at home in isolation
- male in his 40's who is hospitalized in isolation
- female in her 40's, further information is being gathered regarding the status of the individual

Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Drive-thru COVID-19 testing is now available for eligible Illinoisans at multiple Private Sector and State-Run Community Based Testing Sites. These community-based testing sites are able to test up to 250 eligible people per day.

#### **Private Sector Community Based Testing Sites (CBTS):**

- ❖ Wal-Mart, 137 E North Ave, Northlake IL  
Hours of operation: 10-4
- ❖ Wal-Mart, 2424 W Jefferson, Joliet IL  
Hours of operations: 10-4
- ❖ Walgreens, 695 W Boughton Rd, Bolingbrook IL  
Hours of operation: 10-4

#### **State Run Community Based Testing Sites (CBTS):**

- ❖ **Harwood Heights Site**  
(Former EPA Emissions Testing Facility)  
6959 W Forest Preserve Drive, Chicago, IL  
Hours of operations: 9-5
- ❖ **McLean County Fairgrounds**  
1106 Interstate Dr. Bloomington, IL  
Hours of operations: 9-5

**The testing criteria are as follows:**

- Healthcare workers \*with\* respiratory symptoms and a temperature of 100.4 or greater
- First responders \*with\* respiratory symptoms and a temperature of 100.4 or greater
- Seniors (65+) \*with\* respiratory symptoms and a temperature of 100.4 or greater
- Patients with underlying medical conditions \*with\* respiratory symptoms and a temperature of 100.4 or greater

*Please NOTE: Individuals who have taken fever-reducing medicine within six hours before arrival at the testing site will not be eligible to be tested.*

Individuals who meet the screening criteria and wish to undergo COVID-19 screening should arrive at the CBTS in a personal vehicle and be prepared to present: a photo ID; healthcare facility employee or first responder ID/badge (if applicable); and a health insurance card. Those who meet the screening criteria will be tested regardless of whether they have insurance.

Those persons screened at the CBTS locations will be notified of their results in approximately seven days by telephone. The number will appear as a call from 1-833-447-0001 (Caller ID: Results Center). If there is no answer, the call center will not leave a message due to privacy considerations. However, two follow up calls will be attempted. **LaSalle County Health Department strongly urges any resident tested at a drive-thru clinic to self-isolate at home until you have received your test results.**

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

- **Stay home except for essential business, regardless of whether a person is experiencing symptoms.**
- Practice social distancing, making sure to stay 6' from others when in public.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you're sick at home, do your best to self-isolate from others living in the home.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- If you have experienced a cough, difficulty breathing, or a fever, stay home. If your symptoms worsen, call your healthcare provider **before** leaving your house so that you may be evaluated and provided further direction.

Be mindful of those who are at a greater risk for contracting this virus, including older adults and those with certain health conditions. All of these measures will help reduce the number of people who become sick at any given time and the possibility of exhausting our health care resources. Stay home and stay healthy!

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation.

Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](#). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 5, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 11 Cases in LaSalle County**

LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County. The case is a female in her 20's. The individual is recovering at home in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Drive-thru COVID-19 testing is now available for eligible Illinoisans at multiple Private Sector and State-Run Community Based Testing Sites. These community-based testing sites are able to test up to 250 eligible people per day.

#### **Private Sector Community Based Testing Sites (CBTS):**

- ❖ Wal-Mart, 137 E North Ave, Northlake IL  
Hours of operation: 10-4
- ❖ Wal-Mart, 2424 W Jefferson, Joliet IL  
Hours of operations: 10-4
- ❖ Walgreens, 695 W Boughton Rd, Bolingbrook IL  
Hours of operation: 10-4

#### **State Run Community Based Testing Sites (CBTS):**

- ❖ **Harwood Heights Site**  
(Former EPA Emissions Testing Facility)  
6959 W Forest Preserve Drive, Chicago, IL  
Hours of operations: 9-5
- ❖ **McLean County Fairgrounds**  
1106 Interstate Dr. Bloomington, IL  
Hours of operations: 9-5

There are specific screening criteria individuals must meet to receive testing. **In order to receive testing, persons must be symptomatic and meet the following screening criteria:**

- **Healthcare facility workers with symptoms**
- **First responders with symptoms**

-More-

- **Individuals over the age of 65 with symptoms**
- **Individuals with underlying health conditions with symptoms**

Individuals who meet the screening criteria and wish to undergo COVID-19 screening should arrive at the CBTS in a personal vehicle and be prepared to present: a photo ID; healthcare facility employee or first responder ID/badge (if applicable); and a health insurance card. Those who meet the screening criteria will be tested regardless of whether they have insurance.

Those persons screened at the CBTS locations will be notified of their results in approximately seven days by telephone. The number will appear as a call from 1-833-447-0001 (Caller ID: Results Center). If there is no answer, the call center will not leave a message due to privacy considerations. However, two follow up calls will be attempted. **LaSalle County Health Department strongly urges any resident tested at a drive-thru clinic to self-isolate at home until you have received your test results.**

Current prioritization guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health recommends and focuses on the testing of high-risk individuals, including those who are hospitalized and clusters in a congregate setting that serves more vulnerable populations such as a supportive care facility, assisted living facility, group home, homeless shelter, or correctional setting. In addition, the guidelines recently expanded to include symptomatic front-line workers such as health care workers, public safety workers (EMS, law enforcement, firefighters), and employees in residential congregate settings serving vulnerable populations.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

- **Stay home except for essential business, regardless of whether a person is experiencing symptoms.**
- Practice social distancing, making sure to stay 6' from others when in public.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you're sick at home, do your best to self-isolate from others living in the home.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- If you have experienced a cough, difficulty breathing, or a fever, stay home. If your symptoms worsen, call your healthcare provider **before** leaving your house so that you may be evaluated and provided further direction.

Be mindful of those who are at a greater risk for contracting this virus, including older adults and those with certain health conditions. All of these measures will help reduce the number of people who become sick at any given time and the possibility of exhausting our health care resources. Stay home and stay healthy!

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov). # # #



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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 6, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 13 Cases in LaSalle County"**

LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed two additional COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County. Both cases are males in their 40's. The individuals are in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

- **Stay home except for essential business, regardless of whether a person is experiencing symptoms.**
- Practice social distancing, making sure to stay 6' from others when in public.
- Wear cloth face coverings when going to places where social distancing can be difficult to maintain.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you're sick at home, do your best to self-isolate from others living in the home.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- If you have experienced a cough, difficulty breathing, or a fever, stay home. If your symptoms worsen, call your healthcare provider **before** leaving your house so that you may be evaluated and provided further direction.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 7, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 15 Cases in LaSalle County"**

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LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed two additional COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County. Both cases are males in their 40's. The individuals are in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

The county's third case, announced at the end of March, a female in her 30's, has recovered and has been released from isolation.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

- **Stay home except for essential business, regardless of whether a person is experiencing symptoms.**
- Practice social distancing, making sure to stay 6' from others when in public.
- Wear cloth face coverings when going to places where social distancing can be difficult to maintain.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you're sick at home, do your best to self-isolate from others living in the home.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- If you have experienced a cough, difficulty breathing, or a fever, stay home. If your symptoms worsen, call your healthcare provider **before** leaving your house so that you may be evaluated and provided further direction.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov). # # #

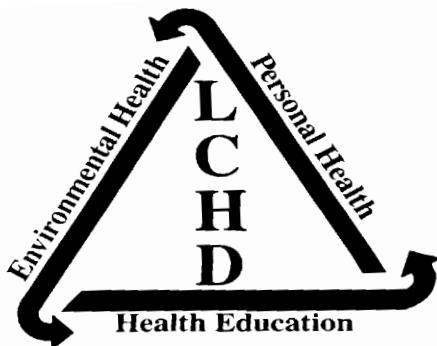


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# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: April 8, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **"Social Distancing during Holidays"**

COVID-19 is spreading throughout LaSalle County, for this reason practicing social distancing is very important in the coming weeks ahead. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

With religious commemorations right around the corner it is important to stay committed to social distancing and avoid in-person gatherings. Many religious groups in LaSalle County have found ways to offer ongoing support and fellowship through innovative alternatives to mass gatherings.

While the way we celebrate traditions may be different this year, know that you are not alone. This is a challenging time, and while we all come from different backgrounds, faiths and walks of life, we are uniquely bonded by this shared experience. Please be sure to take advantage of ways to stay safe in your worship through the following:

- Check your place of worship's website, Facebook, and other online platforms for virtual services.
- Celebrate with family via video chat. EX. Google Hangouts, Go To Meeting, Zoom
- Cook traditional foods at home to enjoy the familiar tastes and smells of the holiday.
- Consider a smaller celebration with your immediate family now, and hold a larger celebration when the pandemic is over.
- If you are setting up remote worship, make sure to communicate with your community on how to get connected.

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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To: All Media  
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717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 17 Cases in LaSalle County"**

LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed two additional COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County. A male in his 40's and a female in her 30's. The individuals are in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 9, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 Remain at 17 Total for LaSalle County"**

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The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has no additional confirmed cases to report today.

Three additional cases have recovered and been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 6.

Julie Kerestes, Administrator of LaSalle County Health Department, encourages residents to continue to do their part in staying home and protecting our most vulnerable populations. "Social distancing and staying home will make an impact – thank you to those who continue to do their part."

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 10, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366

For

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### Immediate Release

#### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 20 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed three additional COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County. The additional cases include a male in his 40's and two males in their 70's. The individuals are in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 12, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 22 Cases in LaSalle County"**

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The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed two additional COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County. The additional cases include a female in her 60's and a female in her 20's. The individuals are in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 13, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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**"Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 Remain at 22 Total for LaSalle County; 1 Additional Case Recovered"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has no additional confirmed cases to report today.

One additional case has recovered and has been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 7.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 14, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 23 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County bringing our total to 23 cases. The additional case is a male in his 50's. The individual is in isolation.

One additional case has recovered and has been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 8.

Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities or by visiting the Health Department's website at www.lasallecounty.org. For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov.

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 15, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 24 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County bringing the total to 24 cases. The additional case is a female in her 40's. The individual is in isolation.

Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 16, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 26 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed two additional COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 26 cases. The additional cases are a female in her 60's and a male in his 40's. The individuals are in isolation.

Two additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 10.

Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 17, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 28 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed two additional COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 28 cases. The additional cases are a male in his 40's and a female in her 20's. The individuals are in isolation.

Two additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 12.

Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 19, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 29 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County bringing the total to 29 cases. The additional case is a male in his 70's. The individual is in isolation.

One additional case has recovered and has been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 13.

Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

- **Stay home except for essential business, regardless of whether a person is experiencing symptoms.**
- Practice social distancing, making sure to stay 6' from others when in public.
- Wear cloth face coverings when going to places where social distancing can be difficult to maintain.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you're sick at home, do your best to self-isolate from others living in the home.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- If you have experienced a cough, difficulty breathing, or a fever, stay home. If your symptoms worsen, call your healthcare provider **before** leaving your house so that you may be evaluated and provided further direction.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 20, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 32 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional 3 COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 32 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 30's.
- a female in her teens
- a female in her 60's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

- **Stay home except for essential business, regardless of whether a person is experiencing symptoms.**
- Practice social distancing, making sure to stay 6' from others when in public.
- Wear cloth face coverings when going to places where social distancing can be difficult to maintain.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you're sick at home, do your best to self-isolate from others living in the home.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- If you have experienced a cough, difficulty breathing, or a fever, stay home. If your symptoms worsen, call your healthcare provider **before** leaving your house so that you may be evaluated and provided further direction.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 21, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 33 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County bringing the total to 33 cases. The additional case is a male in his 70's. The case is in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

- **Stay home except for essential business, regardless of whether a person is experiencing symptoms.**
- Practice social distancing, making sure to stay 6' from others when in public.
- Wear cloth face coverings when going to places where social distancing can be difficult to maintain.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you're sick at home, do your best to self-isolate from others living in the home.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- If you have experienced a cough, difficulty breathing, or a fever, stay home. If your symptoms worsen, call your healthcare provider **before** leaving your house so that you may be evaluated and provided further direction.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 33 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County bringing the total to 33 cases. The additional case is a male in his 70's. The case is in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads, the focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

- **Stay home except for essential business, regardless of whether a person is experiencing symptoms.**
- Practice social distancing, making sure to stay 6' from others when in public.
- Wear cloth face coverings when going to places where social distancing can be difficult to maintain.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you're sick at home, do your best to self-isolate from others living in the home.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- If you have experienced a cough, difficulty breathing, or a fever, stay home. If your symptoms worsen, call your healthcare provider **before** leaving your house so that you may be evaluated and provided further direction.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 22, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 39 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional 6 COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 39 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 20's
- a male in his 40's
- 2 males in their 50's
- a male in his 80's
- a female in her 60's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

- **Stay home except for essential business, regardless of whether a person is experiencing symptoms.**
- Practice social distancing, making sure to stay 6' from others when in public.
- Wear cloth face coverings when going to places where social distancing can be difficult to maintain.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you're sick at home, do your best to self-isolate from others living in the home.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- If you have experienced a cough, difficulty breathing, or a fever, stay home. If your symptoms worsen, call your healthcare provider **before** leaving your house so that you may be evaluated and provided further direction.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 23, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 41 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed two additional COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 41 cases. The additional cases are both females in their 50's. The cases are in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Four additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 17.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

- **Stay home except for essential business, regardless of whether a person is experiencing symptoms.**
- Practice social distancing, making sure to stay 6' from others when in public.
- Wear cloth face coverings when going to places where social distancing can be difficult to maintain.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you're sick at home, do your best to self-isolate from others living in the home.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- If you have experienced a cough, difficulty breathing, or a fever, stay home. If your symptoms worsen, call your healthcare provider **before** leaving your house so that you may be evaluated and provided further direction.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 24, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 43 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed two additional COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 43 cases. The additional cases are a male in his 60's and a female in her 20's. The cases are in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

One additional case has recovered and has been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 18.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 25, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 44 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County bringing the total to 44 cases. The additional case is a female in her 40's. The case is in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 27, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 48 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional four COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 48 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 30's
- (2) males in their 50's
- a female in her 20's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Three additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 21.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](#). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 28, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 50 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional two COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 50 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 20's
- a male in his 80's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 21.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 30, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 53 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional three COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 53 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 70's
- a female in her 30's
- a female in her 50's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

One additional case has recovered and has been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 22.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 1, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 55 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional two COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 55 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 70's
- a female in her 20's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Four additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 26.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 2, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 67 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional twelve COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 67 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her 20's
- a male in his 30's
- a female in her 30's
- (3) males in their 40's
- a male in his 50's
- a male in his 60's
- a female in her 70's
- a male in his 80's
- (2) females in their 80's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Four additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 30.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 4, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 69 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional three COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 69 cases. During our case investigation it was determined that a previous case reported as a LaSalle County resident on Saturday was found to reside outside our jurisdiction and has since been transferred to the appropriate County. The additional cases are:

- a female in her 40's
- (2) males in their 60's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](#). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 5, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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**"Public Health Officials Announce Second COVID-19 Death;  
New Cases of COVID-19 Confirmed; Total 71 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) was notified of the second novel coronavirus (COVID-19)-related death in LaSalle County, Illinois. The individual, a female in her 80's, had earlier tested positive for COVID-19.

"We are deeply saddened to hear of the additional loss of one of our LaSalle County residents to this illness. Our hearts go out to the family and friends who are mourning the loss of their loved one and we send our sincerest condolences," LaSalle County Health Department Administrator Julie Kerestes said in a statement.

The department has also confirmed an additional two COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 71 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 60's
- a female in her 70's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Eleven additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 41.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 6, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 84 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional thirteen COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 84 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 20's
- a male in his 50's
- (2) males in their 60's
- (4) females in their 60's
- A male in his 80's
- (2) females in their 80's
- (2) females in their 90's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 7, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 91 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional seven COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 91 cases. The additional cases are:

- (2) females in their 40's
- (2) females in their 60's
- a male in his 60's
- a female in her 80's
- a male in his 80's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 8, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce Two Additional COVID-19 Deaths; New Cases of COVID-19 Confirmed; Total 93 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) was notified of the third and fourth novel coronavirus (COVID-19)-related deaths in LaSalle County, Illinois. The individuals, a female in her 40's, and a female in her 60's, had earlier tested positive for COVID-19.

"It is with a heavy heart that we announce the additional loss of two of our LaSalle County residents to this illness. Our thoughts and deepest condolences go out to the family and friends who are mourning the loss of their loved ones." LaSalle County Health Department Administrator Julie Kerestes said in a statement.

The department has also confirmed an additional two COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 93 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 50's
- a female in her 70's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

An additional case has recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 42.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

# # #





## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 9, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 102 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional nine COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 102 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her 30's
- (2) females in their 40's
- a female in her 60's
- a male in his 60's
- a female in her 70's
- a male in his 70's
- a female in her 80's
- a male in his 90's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

An additional case has recovered and has been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 43.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 10, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 105 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional three COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 105 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her teens
- a female in her 20's
- a female in her 60's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 11, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 106 Cases in LaSalle County"**

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The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional two COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 106 cases. During our case investigation it was determined that a previous case reported as a LaSalle County resident on Sunday was found to reside outside our jurisdiction and has since been transferred to the appropriate County\*. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 30's
- a female in her 50's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

An additional case has recovered and has been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 44.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

# # #

**(\*Note – Total Confirmed Case Count has been adjusted to account for case transfer to appropriate county)**



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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 12, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 107 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County bringing the total to 107 cases. The additional case is a male in his 30's.

The case remains in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with this case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Two additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 46.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](#). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 13, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 111 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional four COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 111 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 20's
- a male in his 50's
- a female in her 60's
- a male in his 60's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Two additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 48.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 14, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 114 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional three COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 114 cases. The additional cases are:

- (2) females in their teens
- a male in his 40's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

One additional case has recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 49.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](#). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 15, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce Three Additional COVID-19 Deaths; New Cases of COVID-19 Confirmed; Total 118 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) was notified of three additional novel coronavirus (COVID-19)-related deaths in LaSalle County, Illinois. The individuals, two females in their 60's, and a female in her 80's, had earlier tested positive for COVID-19.

"It is with deep sorrow that we announce the loss of three of our LaSalle County residents to this illness. Our thoughts and deepest condolences go out to the family and friends who are mourning the loss of their loved ones." LaSalle County Health Department Administrator Julie Kerestes said in a statement.

The department has also confirmed an additional four COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 118 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her 20's
- a female in her 30's
- a male in his 30's
- a female in her 70's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Two additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 51.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](#). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 16, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 119 Cases in LaSalle County"**

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The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional two COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 119 cases. During our case investigation it was determined that a previous case reported as a LaSalle County resident on Thursday was found to reside outside our jurisdiction and has since been transferred to the appropriate County\*. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 40's
- a male in his 50's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Four additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 55.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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**(\*Note – Total Confirmed Case Count has been adjusted to account for case transfer to appropriate county)**



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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 18, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 121 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional two COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 121 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 20's
- a female in her 20's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

One additional case has recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 56.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](#). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 19, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 125 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional four COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 125 cases. The additional cases are:

- (2) females in their 40's
- a male in his 50's
- a female in her 70's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

One additional case has recovered and has been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 57.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 20, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 130 Cases in LaSalle County"**

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The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional five COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 130 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her 20's
- a male in his 30's
- a female in her 40's
- a male in his 50's
- a male in his 70's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Three additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 60.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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To: All Media  
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Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

**"Public Health Officials Announce an Additional COVID-19 Death;  
No New Cases of COVID-19 Confirmed; Total 130 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) was notified of an additional novel coronavirus (COVID-19)-related death in LaSalle County, Illinois. The individual, a male in his 80's, had earlier tested positive for COVID-19. There have been a total of nine COVID-19 related deaths in LaSalle County.

"We are deeply saddened to hear of the additional loss of one of our LaSalle County residents to this illness. Our thoughts and deepest condolences go out to the family and friends who are mourning the loss of their loved ones." LaSalle County Health Department Administrator Julie Kerestes said in a statement.

There are no additional confirmed cases to report today. The total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases remains at 130 for LaSalle County.

Seven additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 67.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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**OTTAWA** – In observance of Lyme Disease Awareness month and the warmer weather our area has been experiencing, it's important to take precautions against tick bites and the illnesses they can carry. Illnesses like Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Lyme disease, tularemia, and ehrlichiosis can cause mild symptoms or severe infections. In LaSalle County, Lyme disease is the tick-related illness seen most commonly. There were 7 cases of Lyme disease confirmed in the county in 2019.

YEAR	NUMBER OF HUMAN CASES
2014	5
2015	6
2016	2
2017	2
2018	4
2019	7

Last summer, the Health Department participated as a partner in the I-TICK (Illinois Tick Inventory Collaboration Network) program that engages citizens across Illinois in helping gather data on ticks. Because ticks carry a number of diseases that affect people and animals, the data and ticks collected through this program help with surveillance to determine the risk of disease in our area and throughout Illinois. In addition, Health Department staff assisted the University of Illinois as they conducted tick drags which confirmed the presence of Lyme Disease in the county.

Lyme disease is caused by bacteria called *Borrelia burgdorferi* and is transmitted to humans through the bite of infected blacklegged ticks. The risk of exposure to ticks is greatest in the woods and in the edge area between lawns and woods; however, ticks can also be carried by animals onto lawns and gardens and into houses by pets. Campers, hikers, outdoor workers, and others may be exposed to infected ticks in wooded, brushy, and grassy places. People who spend time in heavily wooded areas where infected ticks are common are at higher risk for exposure.

"Tick exposure can occur year-round, but ticks are more active during warmer months (April- September). Frequent tick checks increase the likelihood of finding a tick before it can transmit disease. While antibiotics can treat illnesses due to bites, it's best to avoid tick exposure altogether by taking some simple precautions," says Chris Pozzi, Director of Environmental Health at LaSalle County Health Department.

-More-

Simple tips to avoid tick exposure include:

- Wear light-colored, protective clothing—long-sleeved shirts, long trousers, boots or sturdy shoes and a head covering. Tuck long pants into socks and boots.
- Apply insect repellent containing 10 percent to 30 percent DEET primarily to clothes.
- Use products that contain permethrin to treat clothing and gear, such as boots, pants, socks and sleeping tents. Or look for clothing pre-treated with permethrin.
- Walk in the center of trails so weeds do not brush against you.
- Check yourself, children, other family members and pets for ticks every two to three hours (especially ears, hair, neck, legs and between the toes).
- Check outdoor pets often for ticks. Ticks can “hitch a ride” on pets and into your home. Tick collars, sprays, shampoos, or monthly “top spot” medications help protect pets against ticks.

If you find a tick attached to your skin, there's no need to panic. Remove the tick as soon as possible to reduce your chances of getting an infection from the tick bite. The CDC recommends the following steps to remove a tick:

1. Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible.
2. Pull upward with steady, even pressure to remove the tick. Avoid twisting or jerking. If the mouthparts remain in the skin, leave them alone. In most cases, they will fall out in a few days.  
Don't use nail polish, petroleum jelly, or a hot match to make the tick detach.
3. Clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol or soap and water.

If you become ill with a fever and/or rash after being in an area where ticks may be, please contact your health care provider. The most common symptoms of tick-related illnesses can include fever, chills, aches, pains, and rash (not in all cases). Early recognition and treatment of the infection decreases the risk of serious complications.

For additional information, please contact the LaSalle County Health Department at 815-433-3366 or visit their website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). Also, please visit the Illinois Department of Public Health's (IDPH) interactive tick surveillance map created by their Vector Control staff. The map shows what ticks have been identified in Illinois by county, in addition to the diseases they were tested for and number of positive results.

<https://idph.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=976061db733441eb977ef5cf2facd5c4>

# # #



[www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)



## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 22, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

### **“Public Health Officials Announce a Death and New Cases of COVID-19; Total 133 Cases in LaSalle County”**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) was notified of an additional novel coronavirus (COVID-19)-related death in LaSalle County, Illinois. The individual, a male in his 70's, had earlier tested positive for COVID-19. There have been a total of ten COVID-19 related deaths in LaSalle County.

“It is with a heavy heart that we announce the additional loss of one of our LaSalle County residents to the COVID-19 virus. Our thoughts and deepest condolences go out to the family and friends who are mourning the loss of their loved ones.” LaSalle County Health Department Administrator Julie Kerestes said in a statement.

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional three COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 133 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 20's
- a female in her 40's
- a female in her 50's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Five additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 72.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

# # #



## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 23, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366

For

### Immediate Release

#### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 135 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional two COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 135 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 60's
- a male in his 90's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

One additional case has recovered and has been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 73.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 24, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366

For

### Immediate Release

#### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 140 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional five COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 140 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male who is a youth
- a female in her 30's
- a male in his 30's
- a female in her 50's
- a male in his 50's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 25, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366

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r  
immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce Additional COVID-19 Deaths; No New Cases of COVID-19 Confirmed; Total 140 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) was notified of three additional novel coronavirus (COVID-19)-related deaths in LaSalle County, Illinois. The individuals, two males in their 60's, and a female in her 90's, had earlier tested positive for COVID-19. There has been a total of thirteen COVID-19 related deaths in LaSalle County.

"The Department joins the rest of the community in mourning these losses, as well as all of the losses we've experienced over the past few months from this illness. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families in this trying time," LaSalle County Health Department Administrator Julie Kerestes said in a statement.

There are no additional confirmed cases or recoveries to report today. The total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases remains at 140 and 73 recovered individuals for LaSalle County.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 26, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 141 Cases in LaSalle County"**

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The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County bringing the total to 141 cases. The additional case is:

- a female in her 20's

The case remains in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Three additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 76.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 27, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 142 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County bringing the total to 142 cases. The additional case is:

- a male in his teens

The case remains in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 28, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 143 Cases in LaSalle County"**

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The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County bringing the total to 143 cases. The additional case is:

- a female in her 40's

The case remains in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding this case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Three additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 79.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 29, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 148 Cases in LaSalle County"**

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The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional five COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 148 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her 30's
- a male in his 30's
- a male in his 40's
- a female in her 50's
- a male in his 60's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Two additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 81.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](#). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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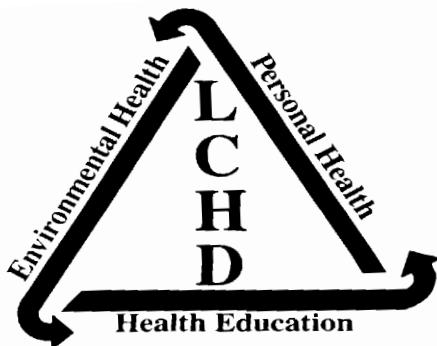


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# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: May 29, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **"World No Tobacco Day"**

**Ottawa, IL** – The LaSalle County Health Department would like to announce that Sunday, May 31st is World No Tobacco Day. The ultimate goal of this years campaign is to contribute to protecting present and future generations not only from the devastating health consequences due to tobacco, but also from the social, environmental and economic detriments of tobacco use and exposure to tobacco smoke.

The tobacco landscape is constantly changing. Tobacco control strategies must continue to adapt to protect people from the harms of tobacco use. Emerging products like e-cigarettes and heated tobacco products have created a challenge for fighting the global tobacco use epidemic.

E-cigarettes are electronic devices that produce an aerosol that is inhaled by the user. The aerosol usually contains nicotine and other harmful substances. The liquid used in these devices sometimes use flavors, such as fruit or candy flavors. Heated tobacco products are devices that heat tobacco to produce emissions that contain nicotine and other harmful chemicals that are inhaled by the user. These products sometimes include flavors.

The tobacco industry addicts more than 2,000 youth everyday and one in three of them will die prematurely because of tobacco. And while millions of people are dying, Big Tobacco is raking in billions and billions of dollars. The LaSalle County Health department would like to encourage everyone to join in on the campaign against smoking, which is the most preventable cause of death in the United States today. Over 400,000 deaths annually in the U.S. are directly related to smoking according to the ACS. One of every six deaths is attributed to the effects of smoking.

Now is the time to quit smoking. The Illinois Department of Public Health has a Tobacco Quitline that you can call for help. The number is 1-866 Quit-Yes that's 1-866-784-8937. For more information on how to quit smoking, or for some quit tips you can also call the Health Department 433-3366. You can also visit our website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). or like us on facebook and twitter.

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 30, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366

For

### Immediate Release

#### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 151 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional three COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 151 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her teens
- a male in his teens
- a male in his 20's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 31, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366

For

### Immediate Release

#### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 154 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional three COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 154 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 20's
- a male in his 20's
- a female in her 40's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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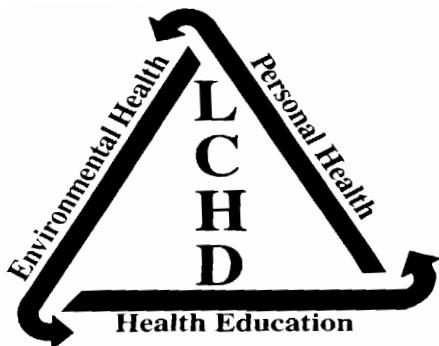
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# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: June 1, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **"Health Department Begins Dead Bird Surveillance"**

**Ottawa, IL** – While mosquitoes have not been shown to transmit COVID-19, they can transmit other diseases such as West Nile virus, St. Louis encephalitis virus, and La Crosse encephalitis virus. While spending time outdoors, please remember to wear an EPA-registered insect repellent to help prevent mosquito bites.

The LaSalle County Health Department has begun collecting dead birds and will continue this process until October 15, 2020. Dead birds are important sentinels for early detection of West Nile virus activity. West Nile virus generally appears in birds and mosquitoes before it is transmitted to humans. Over the past eighteen years, West Nile virus activity has been documented throughout LaSalle County. If you find a dead bird, please contact the Health Department's Environmental Health Division at 815-433-3366. Listed below is the criteria the Health Department uses to determine if a bird is eligible to submit for testing:

1. The bird is dead, but the carcass is in good condition. Birds should be dead no more than about 48 hours prior to collection, and should not show signs of advanced decomposition (maggots, strong odor, dried or deflated eyes).
2. The bird shows no sign it died of causes other than disease. Birds with obvious injuries such as wounds or missing parts should not be submitted for testing. Likewise, crushed carcasses and birds found along roadways are not acceptable.
3. The bird must be one that is acceptable for testing. At this time the Health Department is only collecting **crows, blue jays, and robins**. To help identify the type of bird, please visit our website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org) for bird identification information.

As in past years, Health Department staff is getting ready to begin testing mosquitoes for West Nile virus. The mosquito collection and testing equipment was purchased with grant money. The Health Department also utilized the grant money to purchase a large quantity of mosquito larvicide, which is used to treat potential mosquito breeding sites. The larvicide is being distributed to licensed mosquito control applicators from local municipalities and villages throughout the county.

For additional information on West Nile virus, please contact the LaSalle County Health Department at 815-433-3366 or visit our website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org).

# # #





## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 2, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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**"Public Health Officials Announce Additional COVID-19 Deaths;  
No New Cases of COVID-19 Confirmed; Total 154 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) was notified of two additional novel coronavirus (COVID-19)-related deaths in LaSalle County, Illinois. The individuals, a male in his 70's and a male in his 90's, had earlier tested positive for COVID-19. There has been a total of fifteen COVID-19 related deaths in LaSalle County. The Health Department would like to extend their deepest condolences to the families.

Four additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 85.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 3, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 156 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional two COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 156 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her 30's
- a male in his 40's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 4, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce Additional COVID-19 Death; Three New Cases of COVID-19 Confirmed; Total 159 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) was notified of an additional novel coronavirus (COVID-19)-related death in LaSalle County, Illinois. The individual, a male in his 70's, had earlier tested positive for COVID-19. There has been a total of sixteen COVID-19 related deaths in LaSalle County. The Health Department would like to extend their deepest condolences to the family.

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional three COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 159 cases. The additional cases are:

- (3) males in their 40's

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](#). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 5, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 160 Cases in LaSalle County"**

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The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County bringing the total to 160 cases. The additional case is:

- a female in her 40's

The case remains in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Nine additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 94.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 7, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366

For

### Immediate Release

#### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 164 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional four COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 164 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her teens
- a male in his 20's
- a female in her 40's
- a male in his 50's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 8, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 166 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional two COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 166 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her 20's
- a male in his 50's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Six additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 100.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](#). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 9, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 169 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional three COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 169 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his teens
- a female in her 30's
- a male in his 30's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Two additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 102.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 10, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 171 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional two COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 171 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male youth
- a female in her 30's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

One additional case has recovered and has been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 103.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](#). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 11, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 175 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional four COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 175 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his teens
- a female in her 20's
- a male in his 20's
- a male in his 50's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Thirteen additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 116.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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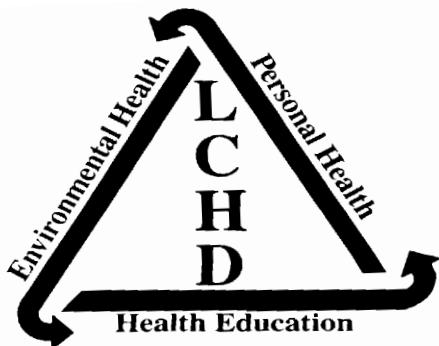
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# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: June 12, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **"LaSalle County Health Department Opens Drive-Thru COVID-19 Testing Site"**

**Ottawa, IL** – The LaSalle County Health Department is holding a drive-thru COVID-19 Community Based Testing Site (CBTS) which will open Wednesday, June 17, at the LaSalle County Emergency Management Agency Building (EMA) at 711 E Etna Rd, Ottawa. The site will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and will run by appointment only.

This testing site is open to all regardless of symptoms, no Doctor's order is required. There will be no fee for this test.

**Individuals are required to schedule an appointment by calling 815-433-3366 prior to arriving on site.** Instructions including wearing a mask, bringing a Photo ID, and directions for how to drive into the site will be provided at that time.

Patients utilizing drive-thru testing sites must be seated at a functioning window. Once you get in line at the CBTS, you will not be permitted to exit your car. For the safety of the testing personnel, drive-thru sites will not be able to accommodate walk-up individuals.

All individuals with symptoms are encouraged to seek testing. Symptoms Include: Fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

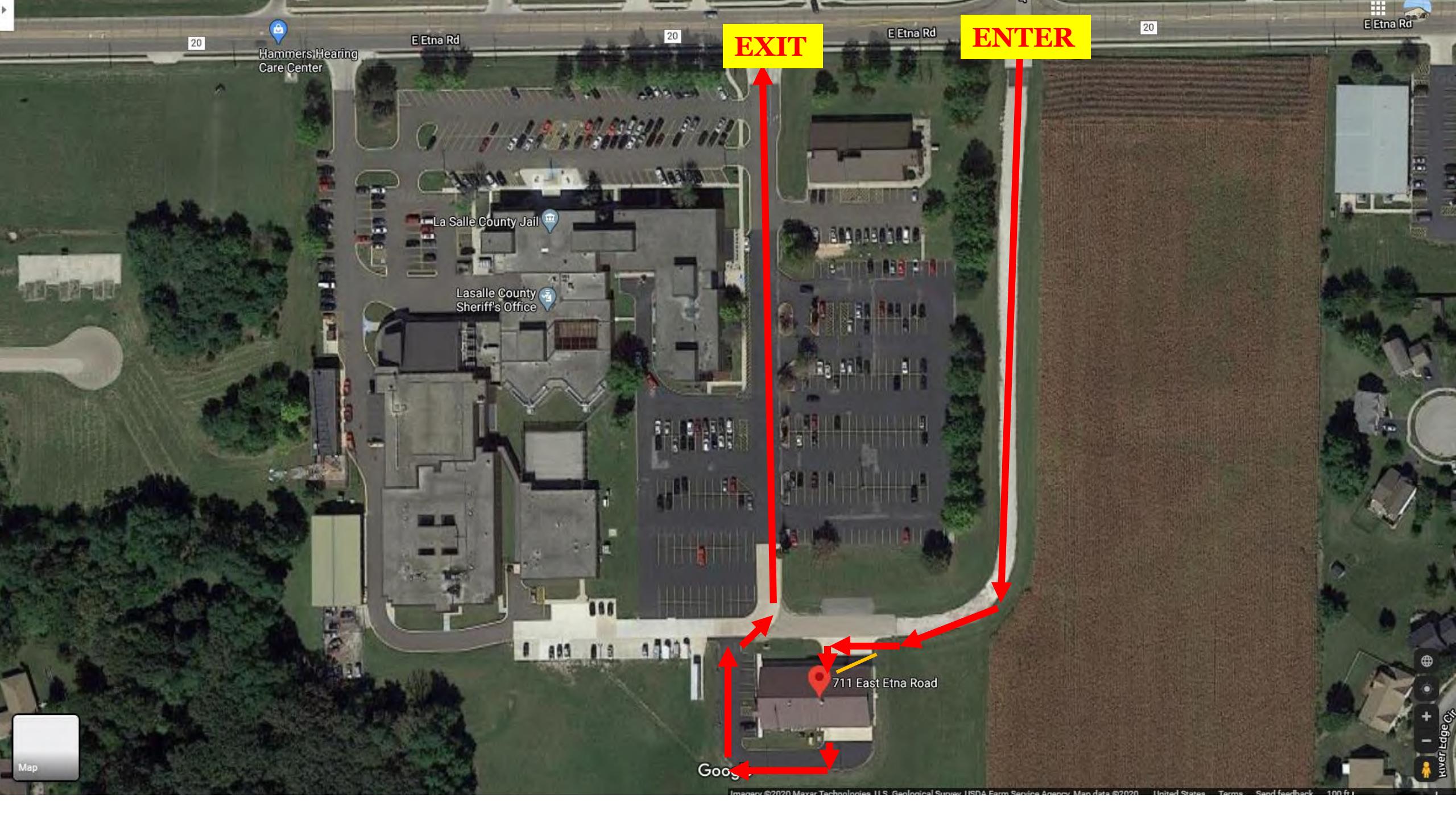
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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 12, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 177 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional two COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 177 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her 30's
- a female in her 60's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 14, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366

For

### Immediate Release

#### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 180 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional three COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 180 cases. The additional cases are:

- (2) males in their 20's
- A male in his 50's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 15, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 183 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional three COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 183 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his teens
- a male in his 30's
- a male in his 50's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Five additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 121.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 16, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

---

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 183 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County bringing the total to 183 cases. During our case investigation it was determined that a previous case reported as a LaSalle County resident was found to reside outside our jurisdiction and has since been transferred to the appropriate County\*. The additional case is a male in his 60's.

The case remains in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

# # #

**(\*Note – Total Confirmed Case Count has been adjusted to account for case transfer to appropriate county)**





## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 18, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 188 Cases in LaSalle County"**

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The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional five COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 188 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her teens
- a female in her 20's
- a female in her 40's
- a female in her 50's
- a male in his 50's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Two additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 133.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 21, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366

For

### Immediate Release

#### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 190 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional two COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 190 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his teens
- a male in his 40's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Two additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 139.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 23, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Case of COVID-19; Total 191 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County bringing the total to 191 cases. The additional case is:

- a female in her 20's

The case remains in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the case. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the case. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Three additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 144.

Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 24, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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**"Public Health Officials Announce Additional COVID-19 Death;  
Five New Cases of COVID-19 Confirmed; Total 196 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) was notified of an additional novel coronavirus (COVID-19)-related death in LaSalle County, Illinois. The individual, a male in his 70's, had earlier tested positive for COVID-19. There has been a total of seventeen COVID-19 related deaths in LaSalle County. The Health Department would like to extend their deepest condolences to the family.

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional five COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 196 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her teens
- a female in her 30's
- a male in his 30's
- a male in his 50's
- a male in his 70's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 25, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366

For

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### Immediate Release

#### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 200 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed four additional COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 200 cases. The additional cases are:

- (2) females in their 20's
- a female in her 60's
- a male in his 60's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

One additional case has recovered and has been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 145.

Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 26, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 203 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed three additional COVID-19 case in LaSalle County bringing the total to 203 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her 30's
- a female in her 60's
- a male in his 60's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Two additional cases has recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 147.

Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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[www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)



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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 27, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366

For

### Immediate Release

#### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Cases of COVID-19; Total 205 Cases in LaSalle County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed two additional COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 205 cases. The additional cases are:

- a female in her teens
- a female in her 20's

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding the cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Three additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 150.

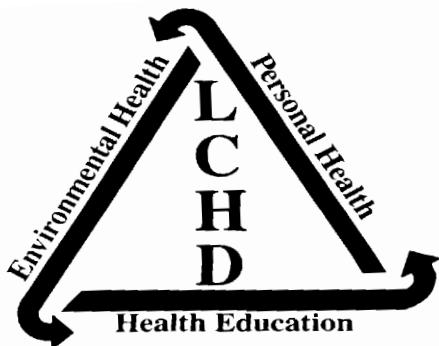
Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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[www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)

## MEDIA RELEASE



Date: July 16, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Leslie Dougherty (ex 74314) or Jenny Barrie (ex 74315)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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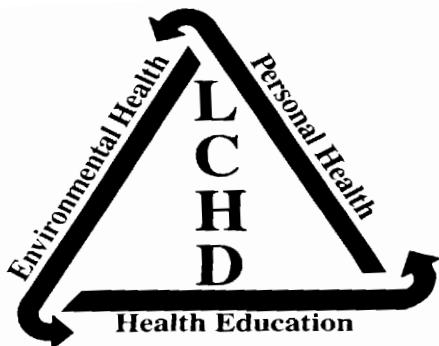
### **"Drive thru Clinic Temporarily Suspended"**

**Ottawa, IL**-The LaSalle County Health Department is temporarily suspending its drive thru testing site due to capacity issues with Lab Corp. We have been informed that Lab Corp is experiencing an extremely high demand of tests and has suspended our account until further notice. We will continue to monitor the public's need for testing and look for alternative labs to be utilized.

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# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: July 24, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **"County Level Risk Metrics – LaSalle County Moves to Orange Warning Level"**

The LaSalle County Health Department is alerting residents that as of Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup> 2020, our County-Level COVID-19 Risk Metrics have been moved to orange. Orange status indicates there are warning signs of increased COVID-19 risk in the county. These metrics are intended to be used for local level awareness for each county's progress during Phase 4 and will help local leaders, businesses, local health departments, and the public make informed decisions and promote healthy behaviors. Individuals, families, and community groups can use these metrics to help inform their choices about personal and family gatherings, as well as what activities they choose to do.

LaSalle County COVID-19 cases are on the rise. As of July 24<sup>th</sup>, we have had a total of 389 cases. Since July 5<sup>th</sup>, we have identified 165 cases, which is 42.4% of our total cases. In addition, per the county-level risk metrics provided by the Illinois Department of Public Health, emergency room visits for COVID-like illness (CLI) have more than doubled over the last few weeks. It is important our area understand how easily COVID-19 is actively spreading. LaSalle County is experiencing community spread of the virus, meaning that some people testing positive for COVID-19 are not able to pinpoint when or where they may have become infected. This is happening all over the county, not one particular area or town. In addition, there have been small clusters of cases among families and household contacts. Social and family gatherings, household sharing, and community spread have all contributed to the uptick in confirmed cases.

Another concerning trend, the high percentage of LaSalle County cases being identified in those 29 years and younger. LaSalle County Health Department Administrator Julie Kerestes wants to remind young people, "the COVID-19 pandemic is not over and it continues to be a serious public health threat. Young people can easily become infected with COVID-19, not experience symptoms and then pass the virus to others more at risk. Those who choose not to wear a mask or disregard the importance of social distancing are putting their parents, grandparents, co-workers, and community at risk."

The Health Department is encouraging everyone to do their part and continue to recognize the role they play in helping LaSalle County slow the spread of COVID-19. It is necessary for all county residents to wash their hands, watch their distance (staying at least 6 ft. away from other people), and wear a face

covering. Face coverings are effective in preventing the spread of COVID-19 and are one of the best prevention tools available to the public at this time.

In addition to continuing to provide daily COVID-19 updates, the Health Department will begin sharing a weekly coalition bulletin with the public. Since March, the LaSalle County Health Department has been preparing a weekly bulletin that has been distributed to our community healthcare partners and coalition members. The bulletin was intended to help partners stay apprised of the ever-changing public health and emergency preparedness issues in our area related to COVID-19. As the pandemic has continued to evolve, we have started to include statistical data for our area as well. Beginning Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, we will share this bulletin on our website and social media pages every Friday. If someone would like to receive the bulletin directly, they may sign up to have the bulletin sent to their email. Please visit our website or social media pages to access to link to be added to the distribution list.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the COVID-19 pandemic. For questions, please contact the Health Department at 815-433-3366 or visit the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org).

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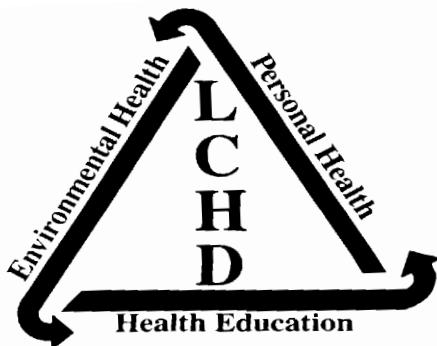
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[www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)

# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: July 27, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **"LaSalle County Health Department Re-Opens Drive-Thru COVID-19 Testing Site"**

**Ottawa, IL** – The LaSalle County Health Department will be re-opening their drive-thru COVID-19 Community Based Testing Site (CBTS). It will be held on Wednesday, July 29, at the LaSalle County Emergency Management Agency Building (EMA) at 711 E Etna Rd, Ottawa. The site will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and will run by appointment only.

This testing site is open to all regardless of symptoms, no Doctor's order is required. The test performed will be the nasopharyngeal COVID-19 test. Insurance will be billed. People who are awaiting COVID-19 test results should presume they have the virus and self-isolate until they receive the results in order to mitigate the spread of the virus.

**Individuals are required to schedule an appointment by calling 815-433-3366 prior to arriving on site.** Instructions including wearing a mask, bringing a Photo ID, and directions for how to drive into the site will be provided at that time.

Patients utilizing drive-thru testing sites must be seated at a functioning window. Once you get in line at the CBTS, you will not be permitted to exit your car. For the safety of the testing personnel, drive-thru sites will not be able to accommodate walk-up individuals.

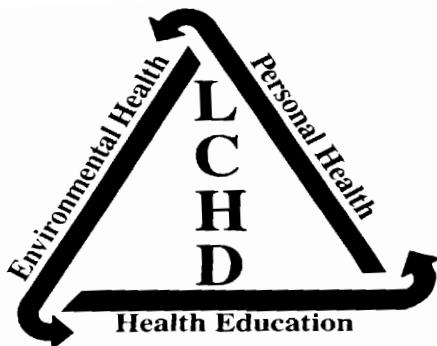
All individuals with symptoms are encouraged to seek testing. Symptoms Include: Fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

# # #



# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: September 3, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **“Mosquitoes Test Positive for West Nile virus”**

**Ottawa, IL** – The LaSalle County Health Department received confirmation that mosquitoes from Ottawa tested positive for West Nile virus. The mosquitoes were collected on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and Environmental Health staff conducted the confirmatory test on the mosquitoes at the Health Department. This is the first documented West Nile virus activity in LaSalle County this year.

According to Chris Pozzi, Director of Environmental Health, “This is the time of year we expect to see West Nile virus activity increase. It is important that people be conscientious about self-protection whenever they are outside during the evening hours. In hot, dry weather, mosquitoes that carry West Nile virus breed in stagnant water and multiply rapidly. The best way to protect yourself against illness is to wear insect repellent and to get rid of any stagnant water around your home to reduce the number of mosquitoes.”

West Nile virus is transmitted through the bite of a *Culex pipiens* mosquito, commonly called a house mosquito, which has picked up the virus by feeding on an infected bird. Common symptoms include fever, nausea, headache and muscle aches. Symptoms may last from a few days to a few weeks. However, four out of five people infected with West Nile virus will not show any symptoms. In rare cases, severe illness including meningitis or encephalitis, or even death, can occur. People older than 60 and individuals with weakened immune systems are at higher risk for severe illness from West Nile virus.

Monitoring for West Nile virus includes laboratory tests for mosquito batches, dead crows, blue

-More-

jays, and robins, as well as testing humans with West Nile virus-like symptoms. People who observe a sick or dying crow, blue jay, or robin should contact the health department, which will determine if the bird will be picked up for testing.

There are some simple precautions you can take to *Fight the Bite*. Precautions include practicing the three “R’s” – reduce, repel and report.

- **REDUCE** - make sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens. Repair or replace screens that have tears or other openings. Try to keep doors and windows shut. Eliminate, or refresh each week, all sources of standing water where mosquitoes can breed, including water in bird baths, ponds, flowerpots, pet bowls, clogged rain gutters, wading pools, old tires, and any other containers.
- **REPEL** - when outdoors, wear shoes and socks, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt, and apply insect repellent that contains DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or IR 3535, according to label instructions. Consult a physician before using repellents on infants.
- **REPORT** – report locations where you see water sitting stagnant for more than a week such as roadside ditches, flooded yards, old tires, stagnant pools, or other unattended water holding containers that may produce mosquitoes. The local health department or city government may be able to add larvicide to the water, which will kill any mosquito eggs.

A complete listing of West Nile virus statistics for LaSalle County is available on the Health Department’s web site at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). A state-wide listing is available at the Illinois Department of Public Health’s web site at <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/west-nile-virus/surveillance>.

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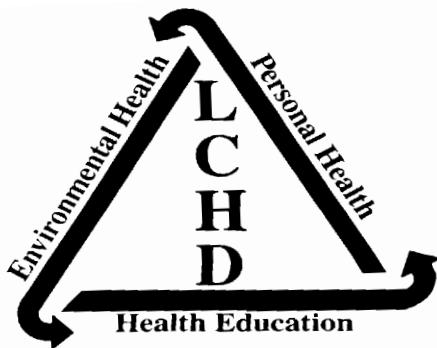


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# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: September 15, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314) or  
Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## NEWS RELEASE

### **"Drive-thru Seasonal Flu Clinic"**

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**OTTAWA, IL** – With flu season quickly approaching, the LaSalle County Health Department will be holding a drive-thru flu shot clinic on Saturday, September 19th. The drive-thru clinic will make it more convenient and safer due to COVID-19 restrictions still in effect. This Fall and Winter, getting a seasonal flu vaccine will be more important than ever for protecting your health and the health of those around you. The drive-thru clinic is open to the public, no appointment necessary. The clinic is scheduled from 10:00 am -1:00 pm Saturday and will be held at the LaSalle County Governmental Complex, located at 707 Etna Road, Ottawa, IL. Recipients of the flu vaccine are asked to wear a mask and a short-sleeved shirt. For easy access please sit with your preferred arm facing the window.

To keep the flow of the drive-thru clinic and to save time we are asking all participants to please pre-register. To pre-register please go to our website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). Pre-registration ends Friday at 3:30 pm. We offer insurance billing or cash only payment. Debit or credit cards **will not** be accepted. The fee for the seasonal flu shot will be \$25. The fee for influenza High Dose will be \$50. Most insurances will be accepted. **You must have your insurance card with you and a photo ID.** No Doctors order is required. We will be vaccinating only clients 19 years of age and older. Please call to schedule appointments for your child to receive their flu shots. No pneumonia vaccines available at this event. All LaSalle County Health Department influenza vaccines are preservative free.

To lessen your chances of developing the flu, adults and children need to practice good hygiene measures. Teach the importance of covering your mouth when coughing or sneezing, and educate children about hand to mucous membrane transmission. One of the best ways to protect yourself and your children is through frequent and thorough hand washing. People who are exhibiting "flu-like" symptoms should stay home from work, out of *childcare* and school to minimize transmission.

Remember the 3 C's: clean, cover, and contain. Clean – frequently wash your hands with soap and warm water. Cover – cover your cough and sneeze. Contain – contain your germs by staying home if you are sick. For more information on influenza you can call 1-815-433-3366 or you may visit our website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). Or like us on Facebook/Twitter.

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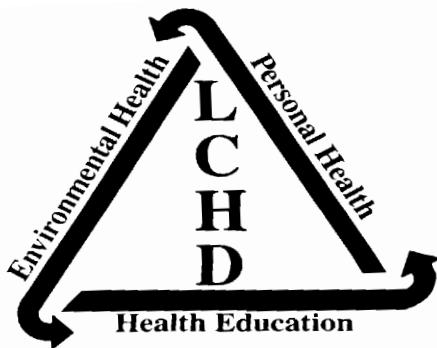


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[www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)

-more-

# MEDIA RELEASE



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To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314) or  
Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## NEWS RELEASE

### **"Drive-thru Seasonal Flu Clinic"**

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**OTTAWA, IL** – With flu season quickly approaching, the LaSalle County Health Department will be holding a drive-thru flu shot clinic on Saturday, September 19th. The drive-thru clinic will make it more convenient and safer due to COVID-19 restrictions still in effect. This Fall and Winter, getting a seasonal flu vaccine will be more important than ever for protecting your health and the health of those around you. The drive-thru clinic is open to the public, no appointment necessary. The clinic is scheduled from 10:00 am -1:00 pm Saturday and will be held at the LaSalle County Governmental Complex, located at 707 Etna Road, Ottawa, IL. Recipients of the flu vaccine are asked to wear a mask and a short-sleeved shirt. For easy access please sit with your preferred arm facing the window.

To keep the flow of the drive-thru clinic and to save time we are asking all participants to please pre-register. To pre-register please go to our website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). Pre-registration ends Friday at 3:30 pm. We offer insurance billing or cash only payment. Debit or credit cards **will not** be accepted. The fee for the seasonal flu shot will be \$25. The fee for influenza High Dose will be \$50. Most insurances will be accepted. **You must have your insurance card with you and a photo ID.** No Doctors order is required. We will be vaccinating only clients 19 years of age and older. Please call to schedule appointments for your child to receive their flu shots. No pneumonia vaccines available at this event. All LaSalle County Health Department influenza vaccines are preservative free.

To lessen your chances of developing the flu, adults and children need to practice good hygiene measures. Teach the importance of covering your mouth when coughing or sneezing, and educate children about hand to mucous membrane transmission. One of the best ways to protect yourself and your children is through frequent and thorough hand washing. People who are exhibiting "flu-like" symptoms should stay home from work, out of *childcare* and school to minimize transmission.

Remember the 3 C's: clean, cover, and contain. Clean – frequently wash your hands with soap and warm water. Cover – cover your cough and sneeze. Contain – contain your germs by staying home if you are sick. For more information on influenza you can call 1-815-433-3366 or you may visit our website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). Or like us on Facebook/Twitter.

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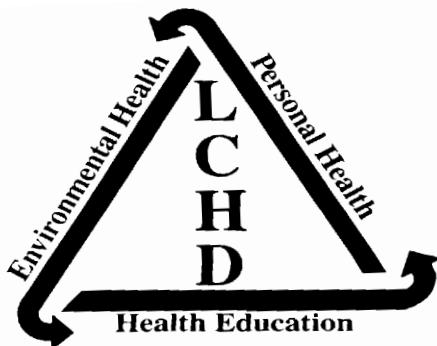


[www.twitter.com/LaSalleCoHealth](http://www.twitter.com/LaSalleCoHealth)

[www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)

-more-

# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: September 21, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **"Temporary Drive-Thru COVID-19 Testing Site Offered in Mendota"**

The LaSalle County Health Department is announcing a temporary drive-through COVID-19 testing site sponsored by the State of Illinois which will be held in Mendota. The site will be set-up on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> and Sunday September 27<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Mendota Civic Center, 1901 Tom Merwin Dr.

Some important details about the testing site:

- Simple nasal swabs will be used.
- You will be called with results within 4-7 days.
- No cost for testing.
- Bring your insurance card, but you can still be tested if you do not have insurance.
- Anyone can get tested! You do not have to have symptoms or be sick.

For questions, please call the LaSalle County Health Department at 815-433-3366.

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El estado de Illinois está patrocinando un sitio Manejando y Caminando de prueba comunidad en su área.

1901 Tom Merwin Drive  
Mendota, IL

Fecha(s): sábado y domingo, el 26 y 27 de septiembre

Horas: 9am-5pm (todos en fila a las 5pm recibirán la prueba)

Se usarán hisopos nasales simples.

Se le llamará con los resultados dentro de 4-7 días.

Sin costo para la prueba.

Traiga su tarjeta de seguro, pero aún puede hacerse la prueba si no tiene seguro.

¡Cualquiera puede hacerse la prueba!

No tiene que tener síntomas ni estar enfermo.



[DPH.ILLINOIS.GOV/COVID19](http://DPH.ILLINOIS.GOV/COVID19)



The State of Illinois is sponsoring a community Drive-through & Walk-up test site in your area.

1901 Tom Merwin Drive  
Mendota, IL

Date(s): Saturday & Sunday, 9/26-9/27

Testing hours: 9am-5pm (anyone in line at 5pm will be tested)

Simple nasal swabs will be used.

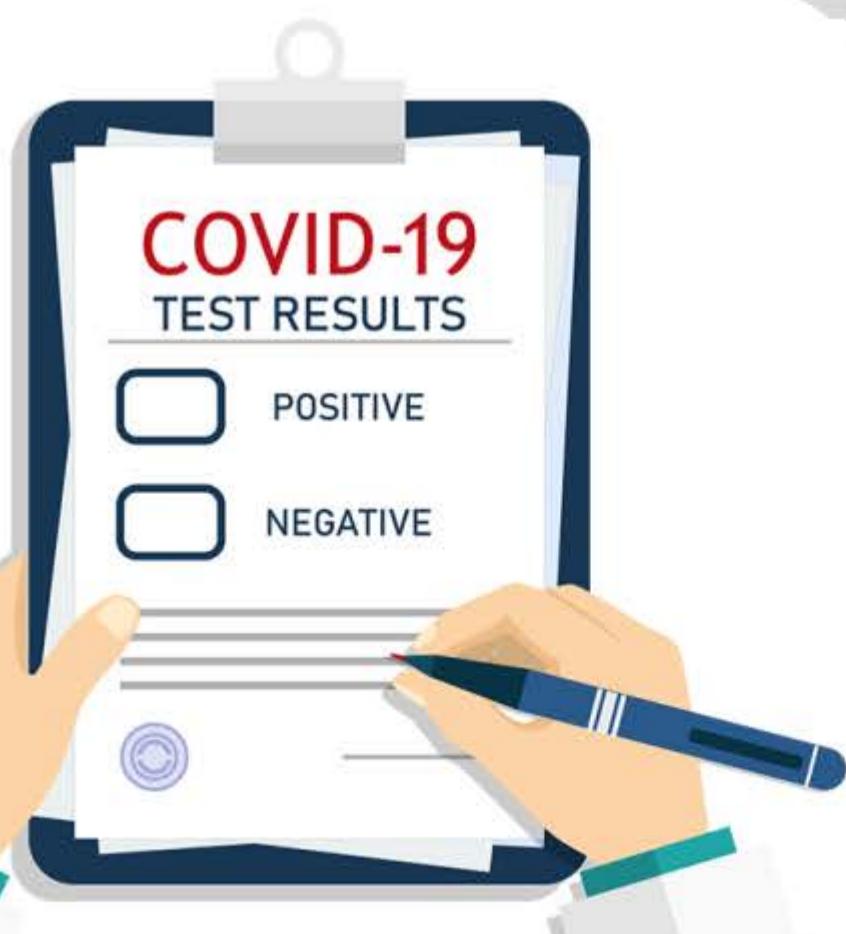
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No cost for testing.

Bring your insurance card, but you can still be tested if you don't have insurance.

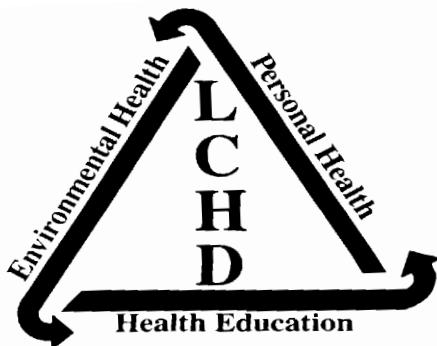
Anyone can get tested!

You don't have to have symptoms or be sick.



**DPH.ILLINOIS.GOV/COVID19**

## MEDIA RELEASE



Date: October 1, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Leslie Dougherty (ex 74314) or Jenny Barrie (ex 74315)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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“October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month”

OTTAWA, IL – October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Breast cancer is the most common cancer diagnosed in women other than skin cancer and is the second leading cause of cancer deaths for women. The good news is that most women can survive breast cancer if it's found and treated early.

A mammogram – the screening test for breast cancer – can help find breast cancer early when it's easier to treat. Low income women and women with no insurance die from breast and cervical cancer more often than other women. These high mortality rates are attributed in part to the fact that these women generally do not receive regular mammograms and Pap Smears. As a result, cancers are diagnosed at later stages when it is more difficult to treat and the chances for survival are less.

LaSalle County Health Department, through our Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program grant, can pay for mammograms and pap smears for women who qualify. You may qualify if you are a LaSalle or Grundy County resident between the ages of 21 -64 for breast and cervical cancer screenings. Through IBCCP, LaSalle County Health Department is working to increase breast and cervical cancer awareness and break that cycle of late stage treatment. IBCCP provides FREE mammograms and Pap Smears for those women who qualify and assistance with paying the deductible for those who are insured. Take advantage of this opportunity for early detection. You are important to your family.

For those women who do not qualify for the IBCCP program or have related charges not covered by the IBCCP grant there are a limited amount of community donated funds to assist with those services. Call (815) 433-3366 for further information on how to receive a free mammogram and pap test.

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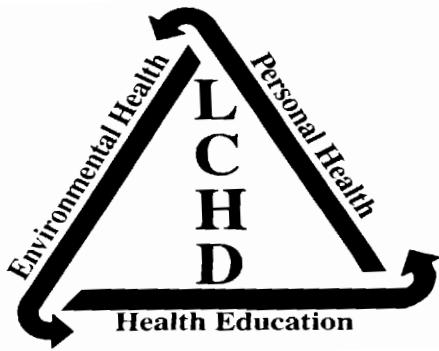
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[www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)

# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: October 13, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **"LaSalle County Health Department Drive-Thru COVID-19 Testing Site"**

**Ottawa, IL** – The LaSalle County Health Department wants to remind everyone that we offer drive-thru COVID-19 Community Based Testing (CBT). It will be held on Wednesdays, at the LaSalle County Emergency Management Agency Building (EMA) at 711 E Etna Rd, Ottawa. The site will run by appointment only call (815)433-3366.

This testing site is open to all regardless of symptoms, no Doctor's order is required. The test performed will be the less invasive anterior nasal swab COVID-19 test. Insurance will be billed. People who are awaiting COVID-19 test results should presume they have the virus and self-isolate until they receive the results in order to mitigate the spread of the virus.

**Individuals are required to schedule an appointment by calling 815-433-3366 prior to arriving on site.** Instructions including wearing a mask, bringing a Photo ID, and directions for how to drive into the site will be provided at that time.

Patients utilizing drive-thru testing sites must be seated at a functioning window. Once you get in line at the CBTS, you will not be permitted to exit your car. For the safety of the testing personnel, drive-thru sites will not be able to accommodate walk-up individuals.

All individuals with symptoms are encouraged to seek testing. Symptoms Include: Fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

# # #

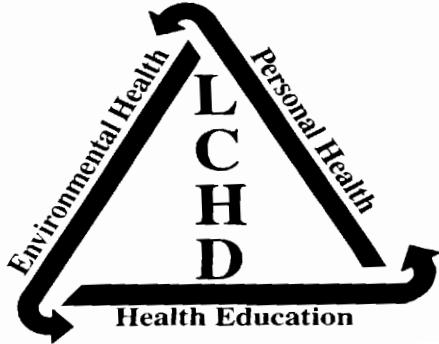


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# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: October 23, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **"County Level Risk Metrics – LaSalle County Moves Back to an Orange Warning Level"**

The LaSalle County Health Department is alerting residents that as of Friday, October 23, 2020, our County-Level COVID-19 Risk Metrics has been moved back to orange. As a reminder, orange status indicates there are warning signs of increased COVID-19 risk in the county. A warning level means that a county saw increases in two or more COVID-19 risk indicators.

LaSalle County has seen a concerning rise in our number of cases. In addition, per the county-level risk metrics provided by the Illinois Department of Public Health, the 7-day test positivity rate has risen above 8%. Until LaSalle County can get a handle on the number of new cases being identified each week and slow the community spread that is occurring, LaSalle County will continue to be at risk for remaining at the orange warning level.

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Running Total
Number Cases	6	50	98	67	261	778	504	550	2314
% of total cases	0.26	2.16	4.24	2.90	11.28	33.62	21.78	23.77	100%

The department's contact tracing efforts continue to show small clusters of cases among families and household contacts. Social and family gatherings, household sharing, workplace exposures, long-term care outbreaks and community spread have all contributed to the increase in cases. Getting together in groups, both small and large, without taking appropriate precautions such as social distancing and wearing face coverings is leading to increased transmission and will continue to lead us in the wrong direction. All residents are encouraged to wear a face covering, maintain 6 feet of social distance, wash hands frequently, avoid gatherings with people not in your household, and stay home when ill.

In addition, this year it is more important than ever to get a flu shot. Getting a flu vaccine can help you avoid co-infection with COVID-19 and flu. It takes the body several weeks after receiving the vaccine to build up antibodies that will help protect you from flu, so get it now to help protect you and others. Roll your #SleeveUp and get your flu shot.

The LaSalle County Health Department also recommends that anyone who has attended a large event or a social gathering where social distancing was not being practiced to monitor themselves for symptoms. We advise anyone who has had exposure to these types of situations to consider being tested for COVID-19, 5-7 days after the event or immediately if they begin to develop symptoms.

The county-level metrics are intended to be used for local level awareness for each county's progress during Phase 4 and will help local leaders, businesses, local health departments, and the public make informed decisions and promote healthy behaviors. The risk factors include several indicators that are monitored by the Illinois Department of Public Health in order to measure the health burden of COVID-19 in each county and aid in determining the county's ability to respond to the virus. The measures are updated on a weekly basis and are based on the timeframe of Sunday to Saturday of the week prior. The metrics are compared to a target value or expected trend. Each county is assessed to determine whether it is meeting or exceeding each indicator target. Using a color-coded system, counties will be able to determine whether they are meeting or not meeting set targets. Blue indicates that the county is experiencing overall stable COVID-19 metrics, while orange indicates there are warning signs of increased COVID-19 risk in the county.

The eight metrics used to measure COVID-19 rates at a county level are:

- **New cases per 100,000 people.** If there are more than 50 new cases per 100,000 people in the county, this triggers a warning.
- **Number of deaths.** This metric indicates a warning when the weekly number of deaths increases more than 20% for two consecutive weeks.
- **Weekly test positivity.** This metric indicates a warning when the 7-day test positivity rate rises above 8%.
- **ICU availability.** If there are fewer than 20% of intensive care units available in the region, this triggers a warning.
- **Weekly emergency department visits.** A warning is triggered when the weekly visits to Emergency Departments for COVID-19-like-illness increase by more than 20% for two consecutive weeks.
- **Weekly hospital admissions.** A warning is triggered when the weekly number of hospital admissions for COVID-19-like-illness increases by more than 20% for two consecutive weeks.
- **Tests performed.** This metric is used for context and increased awareness of testing resources, but is not a metric that is used to trigger a county warning. Test positivity at or under 8% indicates there is sufficient testing. If the test positivity exceeds 8%, then the number of tests is considered insufficient.
- **Clusters.** This metric looks at the percent of COVID-19 cases associated with clusters or outbreaks and is used to understand a large increase in cases. It is also an indicator of successful investigation of cases to a known source. This is not a metric that is used to trigger a county warning.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the COVID-19 pandemic. Anyone interested in receiving the Health Department's weekly coalition bulletin directly, may sign up to have the bulletin sent to their email. Please visit our website or social media pages to access to link to be added to the distribution list. For questions or to schedule a flu shot, please contact the Health Department at 815-433-3366. For additional information, visit the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org).

# # #



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## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: October 30, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

### **"Public Health Officials Announce New Rapid Testing Available at the Health Department"**

The LaSalle County Health Department would like to inform you that we have received rapid tests for COVID-19. We will begin utilizing these tests on Monday, November 2nd.

These rapid tests are meant to be used on:

- Excluded symptomatic children who are **not** a close contact to a confirmed case, to help get them back into school.
- Employees who need a negative test result to return to work.
- Anyone who is planning to travel or has traveled.

Testing will be done at the LaSalle County Health Department parking lot at 717 Etna Road, Ottawa, IL. The test performed will be an anterior nasal swab. The results will be given in 15 minutes. Testing will be performed Monday through Friday from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, and Saturdays 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (Election day hours are 9:00 am – 12:00 pm). Anyone in need of rapid testing needs to call the Health Department at (815) 433-3366 to pre-register.

In addition to rapid testing, we will continue to test close contacts of confirmed cases with the (PCR) COVID-19 test. The best time for people to be tested after an exposure with a confirmed case is 5-7 days from the exposure. Testing of close contacts will be done in our parking lot by appointment only. Another option for people who want to be tested is to call the Health Department for an appointment for our Wednesdays Drive-thru testing site. Testing through our drive-thru site is open to the public regardless of symptoms, but you must have an appointment to keep things running smoothly as not to hold up the line.

Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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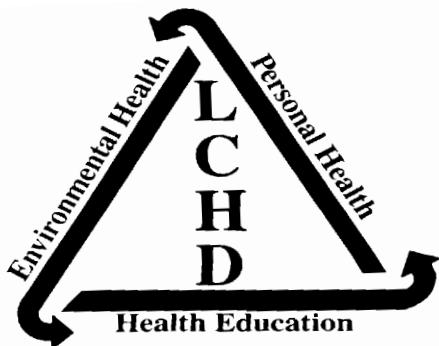
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# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: November 2, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **"Temporary Drive-Thru COVID-19 Testing Site Offered in Streator"**

The LaSalle County Health Department is announcing a temporary drive-through COVID-19 testing site sponsored by the State of Illinois which will be held in Streator. The site will be set-up on Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday November 8<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Streator City Park, 301 N. Vermillion St. (Hickory Street side of City Park, 200 Block Parking Lot).

Some important details about the testing site:

- Simple nasal swabs will be used.
- You will be called with results within 4-7 days.
- No cost for testing.
- Bring your insurance card, but you can still be tested if you do not have insurance.
- Anyone can get tested! You do not have to have symptoms or be sick.

For questions, please call the LaSalle County Health Department at 815-433-3366.

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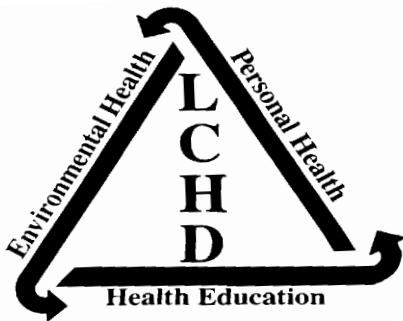
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[www.twitter.com/LaSalleCoHealth](https://www.twitter.com/LaSalleCoHealth)

[www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org)

# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: November 5, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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**"The LaSalle County Health Department is Asking for Patience and Cooperation as Number of New COVID-19 Cases Are on the Rise"**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) would like to inform the public that with the high amount of new cases being reported each day we are experiencing a large volume of phone calls into our department. We thank you for your patience and we are handling the influx as quickly as possible.

On average, it takes 24-72 hours from the time a person is tested for COVID-19 before they are entered into our database. Additionally, it may take another 48-72 hours or longer from the time the Health Department receives the individual's information to when they will be contacted by a contact tracer.

With the lag times we are experiencing, we are asking the public to follow good public health practices and to do the following if they are notified of a positive test result from their healthcare provider or lab:

- Isolate yourself at home away from others. If possible, stay away from others in the household by staying in a separate room/area and using a separate bathroom (if available).
- Start thinking of anyone you had close contact with 48 hours before your symptoms began or 48 hours from the day you were tested if you were not experiencing symptoms. A close contact is defined as being within 6ft. of a person for longer than 15 minutes.
- Notify your close contacts if possible. Try to obtain the best number for them to be reached at and please relay that to the contact tracers when they call.

Taking these immediate actions will help slow the spread and also help the contact tracing process go more smoothly.

Additionally, if you are notified by someone that you are a close contact:

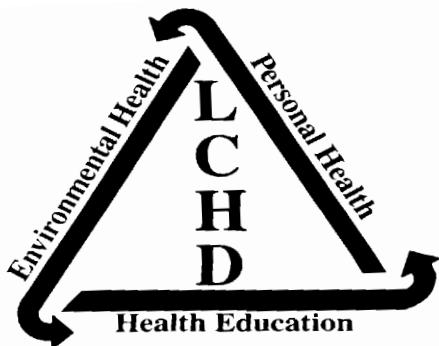
- Quarantine is recommended for 14 days.
- Monitor yourself for symptoms.
- The best time for an individual to be tested after an exposure to a positive case is 5-7 days from the date of their last exposure. If the individual tests negative, they still need to complete their entire quarantine. A negative test does not get a person out of quarantine.
- If symptoms develop earlier, the individual should be tested as soon as possible.
- There are no restrictions on household/family members of close contacts during their quarantine unless the close contact begins showing symptoms.

The LaSalle County Health Department reminds residents to follow the isolation and quarantine directions given. Individuals who are unwilling to cooperate risk spreading COVID-19 to others.

The LaSalle County Health Department urges all residents, for the health and safety of our community, to continue wearing face-coverings, practice social distancing, wash hands often, and please stay home when you are sick. For questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov) or call the LaSalle County Health Department at 815-433-0336. For additional information, visit the Health Department's website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). # # #



# MEDIA RELEASE



Date: December 7, 2020  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Leslie Dougherty (ext. 74314)  
Jenny Barrie (ext. 74315)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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## **"Temporary Drive-Thru COVID-19 Testing Site Offered in Peru"**

The LaSalle County Health Department is announcing a temporary drive-through COVID-19 testing site sponsored by the State of Illinois which will be held in Peru. The site will be set-up on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday December 13<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Illinois Valley Regional Airport, 4251 Ed Urban Dr.

Some important details about the testing site:

- Simple nasal swabs will be used.
- You will be called with results within 4-7 days.
- No cost for testing.
- Bring your insurance card, but you can still be tested if you do not have insurance.
- Anyone can get tested! You do not have to have symptoms or be sick.

For questions, please call the LaSalle County Health Department at 815-433-3366.

###



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[www.lasallecounty.org](https://www.lasallecounty.org)



# COVID-19

El estado de Illinois está patrocinando un sitio Manejando y Caminando de prueba comunidad en su área.

Illinois Valley Regional Airport  
4251 Ed Urban Dr., Peru, IL 61354

Fecha(s): Sábado 12 de diciembre de 2020 y domingo 13 de diciembre de 2020

Horas: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. (a medida que duren las existencias y el clima lo permita)

Se usarán hisopos nasales simples.

Se le llamará con los resultados dentro de 4-7 días.

Sin costo para la prueba.

Traiga su tarjeta de seguro, pero aún puede hacerse la prueba si no tiene seguro.

¡Cualquiera puede hacerse la prueba!

No tiene que tener síntomas ni estar enfermo.

**COVID-19**  
RESULTADOS

POSITIVO

NEGATIVO

**DPH.ILLINOIS.GOV/COVID19**



# COVID-19

The State of Illinois is sponsoring a community Drive-through & Walk-up test site in your area.

Illinois Valley Regional Airport  
4251 Ed Urban Dr., Peru, IL 61354

Date(s): Saturday, December 12, 2020 and Sunday, December 13, 2020

Testing hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. (as supplies last and weather permits)

Simple nasal swabs will be used.

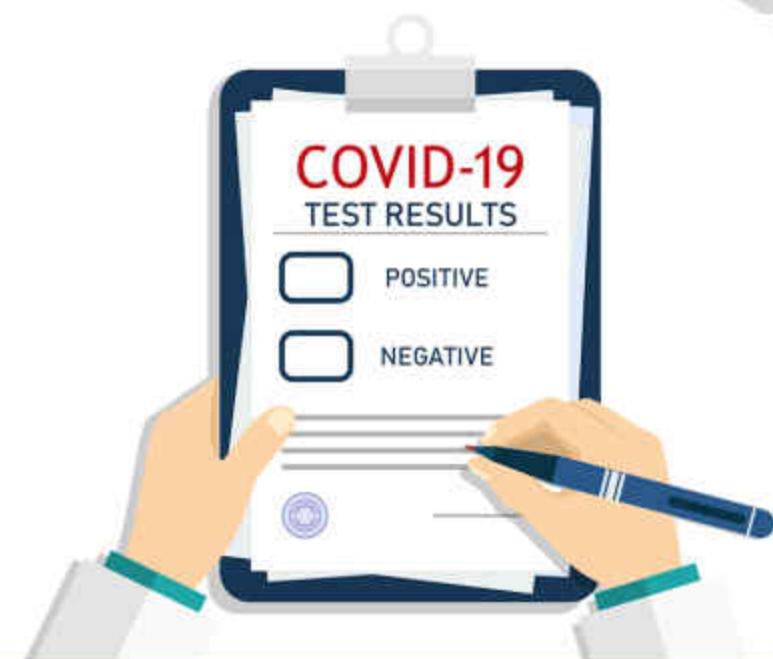
You will be called with results within 4-7 days.

No cost for testing.

Bring your insurance card, but you can still be tested if you don't have insurance.

Anyone can get tested!

You don't have to have symptoms or be sick.



[DPH.ILLINOIS.GOV/COVID19](http://DPH.ILLINOIS.GOV/COVID19)



## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: December 16, 2020

To: All Media

From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350

Contact: Jenny Barrie, LaSalle County Health Department  
Leslie Dougherty, LaSalle County Health Department  
Joan Fernandez, IVCH Community Relations and Marketing Director  
JoEllyn Gahan, OSF St. Elizabeth - OSF St. Paul – OSF Center for Health,  
Community Relations Coordinator

Phone: (815) 433-3366 LaSalle County Health Department  
(815) 780-4618 Illinois Valley Community Hospital  
(815) 539-1659 OSF St. Paul Mendota

### For Immediate Release

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#### **"The LaSalle County Health Department Collaborates with Local Agencies to Deliver First Shipment of Pfizer Vaccine to Hospitals in the County"**

The LaSalle County Health Department, in coordination with the LaSalle County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and the LaSalle County Sheriff's Office have received and delivered their first shipment of Pfizer vaccine to all three hospitals in the county. Hospitals will begin vaccinating their front-line workers over the next few days. "The vaccine will provide our front-line health care workers with the protection they need while caring for patients who have contracted the virus. We appreciate the partnership between our local hospitals, EMA, and Sheriff's Department. All have helped to ensure the timeliness and safety of the vaccine delivery into our county. While the vaccine is a step in the right direction, we need to continue our efforts to keep each other safe. The Health Department urges all residents, for the health and safety of our community, to continue wearing face-coverings, practice social distancing, wash hands often, and please stay home when you are sick," said Julie Kerestes, Public Health Administrator of LaSalle County Health Department.

"We have a plan in place to immediately start vaccinating our emergency department staff and other critical workers," said Jennifer Sines, IVCH pharmacy director. "This is a big first step in getting the COVID pandemic under control locally."

“OSF HealthCare is encouraged by the Food and Drug Administration’s approval of an emergency use authorization of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. We’re proud to work with the State of Illinois who is managing the distribution of the vaccine, in collaboration with the federal government, through local county health departments. A vaccine is our best shot to eradicate the virus, and we are looking forward to our initial allotment and will proudly offer the vaccine to our eligible frontline caregivers,” said Heather Bomstad, Vice President, Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer, OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center and OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center.

# # #





## MEDIA RELEASE

Date: December 29, 2020

To: All Media

From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350

Contact: Jenny Barrie, LaSalle County Health Department  
Leslie Dougherty, LaSalle County Health Department  
Joan Fernandez, IVCH Community Relations and Marketing Director  
JoEllyn Gahan, OSF St. Elizabeth - OSF St. Paul – OSF Center for Health,  
Community Relations Coordinator  
Bridget Dooley, Public Information Officer at The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs

Phone: (815) 433-3366 LaSalle County Health Department  
(815) 780-4618 Illinois Valley Community Hospital  
(815) 539-1659 OSF St. Paul Mendota  
(217) 299-8325 Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs

### For Immediate Release

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#### **"The LaSalle County Health Department Collaborates with Local Hospitals and the Illinois Veteran's Home at LaSalle to Distribute the Second Shipment of COVID-19 Vaccine"**

The LaSalle County Health Department received their second shipment of COVID-19 vaccine on Monday, December 28, 2020. The most recent shipment was 1900 doses of the Moderna vaccine. Illinois Valley Community Hospital (IVCH), OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center and OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center have agreed to continue to work collaboratively with the LaSalle County Health Department as vaccinations continue for healthcare workers in LaSalle County. Hospital system personnel and most EMS workers will be vaccinated through the hospital systems, and other healthcare providers not affiliated with a hospital will coordinate with the LaSalle County Health Department and will be provided information and direction on receiving the vaccination at one of our local hospitals.

"IVCH is happy to be working with the health department to make sure our healthcare workers are immunized with the COVID-19 vaccine," said Joan Fernandez, the hospital's community relations and marketing director. "We appreciate the health department's efforts in organizing the distribution of the vaccine to all LaSalle County hospitals."

In addition, vaccine was also provided to the Illinois Veteran's Home at LaSalle to begin the process of vaccinating staff and residents at the facility. This week, nursing home and long-term care facilities are scheduled to begin receiving their vaccinations through a federal contract between the federal government and participating pharmacies.

The COVID-19 vaccine will be administered in LaSalle County in accordance with the phases defined by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and as recommended by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). The LaSalle County Health Department understands the general public has questions about when it will be their turn to receive the vaccine. Please note, as vaccine availability increases, vaccination recommendations will expand to include more groups. The goal is for everyone to be able to easily get a COVID-19 vaccination as soon as large quantities of vaccine are available. As vaccine supply increases but remains limited, ACIP, and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) will expand the groups recommended for vaccination.

Currently, no "list" exists that members of the public need to be placed on at this point. Please be patient with us as we prepare for the biggest public health response in modern history. Watch for more information from the LaSalle County Health Department through our website: [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org), social media pages, and with our local media partners.

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