



# Macon County Public Health

Emily Ritter  
Public Information  
1830 Lakeside Drive  
Franklin, NC 28734  
Voice: 828-349-2437  
eritter@maconnc.org

## Press Release

### Limited Supply of Masks and Other Personal Protective Equipment and Limiting Non-Essential Health Department Services

At this time supplies like masks and other personal protective equipment are limited to the health department health workers that are responding to COVID-19 and for other communicable disease response. Unfortunately, we are not able to provide masks and other personal protective equipment to the general public currently. We appreciate the public cooperation, patience, and understanding.

Macon County Health Department will also begin to limit non-essential services to allow health department staff time to prepare for COVID-19 response.

In an effort to prepare for a response to a COVID-19 outbreak, the health department must conserve the personal protective equipment to ensure that there are enough supplies for those who are ill and those who are providing them care.

The public is encouraged to practice the following precautions:

- Wash your hands with soap and water regularly
- Avoid touching your mouth, nose, and eyes
- Cover coughs and sneezes with your arm or a tissue
- If you are sick, limit your contact with other and do not go to work

Macon County Public Health regularly updates our Facebook page with accurate and current information regarding COVID-19, we encourage the public to check our Facebook page for up-to-date information.

Symptoms for COVID-19 are fever, cough, and other lower respiratory illness (shortness of breath). If you believe that you may have COVID-19, please call the Health Department at 828-349-2081.

###

**For Immediate Release - March 12, 2020**

---