



TAYLOR COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

March 16, 2020

As of this time, no active cases of the COVID-19 virus have been confirmed in Taylor County. However, Taylor County Judge Executive Barry Smith, upon recommendation of Taylor County Emergency Management has declared a **“State of Emergency” for Taylor County, Kentucky** effective immediately.

The primary reasons for this declaration are:

1. To obtain FEMA funding to assist in dealing with the COVID-19 crisis.
2. To open more avenues for our Health Care Providers and Emergency Service First Responders to obtain much needed medical supplies and resources to effectively handle the COVID-19 crisis.
3. To provide guidance and recommendations to community leaders and residents of Campbellsville and Taylor County to guard against, contain, and eliminate any spread of this contagious virus in our community.
4. To assure the citizens of our community that City, County, and State Officials, Lake Cumberland Health District, local Health Care Providers, Emergency Management, and Emergency Service Personnel are working closely together.
5. To stop the spread of this highly contagious virus if it should infect our community.

Guidance

If a positive case of the COVID-19 virus is confirmed in Taylor County, the lead agency in handling the matter will be Lake Cumberland Health District. It is the goal of health officials and Taylor County Emergency Management to be proactive in responding to this outbreak before we have a confirmed case.

COVID-19 is a new virus with no immunity or vaccine. The steps that health officials are recommending are steps to maximize social distancing to control the spread of this contagious virus. The best way to stop the spread is to eliminate gatherings, even if your county is not affected yet.

All local educational facilities have closed and gone to on-line classwork at the request of Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear. In addition, Governor Beshear has asked all faith-based organizations to cancel in-person services.

Therefore, Taylor County Emergency Management strongly recommends:

- all Taylor County Churches cancel in-person worship services and gatherings for a period of two weeks.
- the cancellation of ALL community meetings, gatherings and social activities.

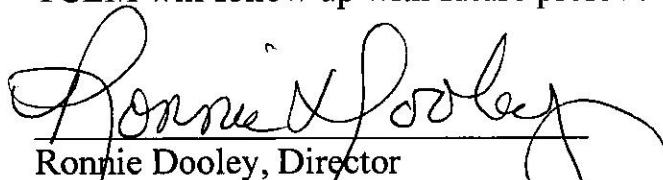
Individuals are encouraged to follow the Center for Disease Control's recommendations on hand washing, avoiding large crowds, and social distancing of six feet, especially from individuals who are ill.

Guidance on "How to Prepare for Your Family" for a COVID-19 outbreak in your community can be found on both the City of Campbellsville and Taylor County websites at: **campbellsville.us and taylorcounty.us**

As the COVID-19 rates continue to climb throughout Kentucky, it's imperative that we join together as a community and follow the recommendations of the Lake Cumberland Health District and Taylor County Emergency Management.

TCEM asks for the corporation of public leaders and the citizens of this community by complying with the recommendations set forth in this press release.

TCEM will follow up with future press release as warranted.


Ronnie Dooley, Director
Taylor County Emergency Management