

Information regarding COVID-19; updated March 17, 2020

- **COVID hotline for the public: 844-442-2681**
- Many government offices are teleworking unless essential services need to be provided. Fayette County residents can contact **770-305-5400 or 770-305-5200** if you have questions about services.
- Governor Kemp **declared a Public Health State of Emergency on Saturday**. The Georgia General Assembly ratified it yesterday. The Governor declared a State of Emergency leading up to that which made available **2,000 National Guard troops to assist with the response**.
- Medical supplies and hospital beds are being monitored around the state.
- Many private companies are coming on board to help ramp up available testing.
- **Georgia is in the process of setting up one testing site in each of the 18 public health regions**. FEMA is paying to stand up these sites and the state public health people will be manning them.
- The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) is now testing 200 specimens a day. This is double from last week's capacity.
- **Governor issued an order to close all public schools through March 31**.
- The technical schools and higher education system are all going online through the end of the semester except for clinicals. Milestone testing and attendance requirements have been suspended.
- **Georgia numbers according to the Georgia Department of Public Health**: 121 cases on Monday (March 16); 146 on Tuesday (March 17); 23 counties affected on Monday; 27 on Tuesday.
- One TSA agent has tested positive and is quarantined. They have also notified and encouraged quarantine for other potential contacts.
- **If you see or hear of price gouging, report them to the Attorney General's office** <https://law.georgia.gov/>. Contact your doctor or local DPH for advice on testing.
- Priority for testing is for first responders, health care workers, the elderly and the medical fragile. People should call their doctor to decide if testing is needed.
- **Do not show up at emergency rooms or waiting rooms at health care providers. Call ahead and limit the exposure risks for others**.
- State of Georgia submitted a letter to the Small Business Association for the loan programs out of amended federal Emergency Appropriations Act.
- **How you can help:**
 - Get informed. Eliminate rumors.
 - Continue social distancing; Avoid large events
 - Hand washing; Don't shake hands, don't elbow bump
 - Help protect our elderly and chronically ill
 - Use good judgment