

Thursday, May 21, 2020 Local Briefing Notes

Locally

Cherokee County has 1 active positive case, bringing our total to 9 since tracking began. Eight of the previous cases have since recovered and are no longer considered contagious. Cherokee County has a test rate of 14.7 per 1,000 residents.

Statewide

The state has been seeing about 200 new cases per day. The average age of positive cases is 43 years old and the majority of cases are males. The average age of hospitalized patients is 55 years old.

The state has tested 71,048 people, meeting their goal of having 2% of the state population tested by the end of May. They would like to have 4% tested by the end of June. The state testing rate last week was 19.75 per 1,000 residents.

Outbreak information since tracking began includes: 96 outbreaks across the state, 48 closed and 48 active. Currently there are 13 in long-term care facilities for 306 cases and 37 deaths, 1 associated with a Group Living Facility with 12 cases and 0 deaths, 2 associated with gatherings (keg and lake parties) for 16 cases and 0 deaths, 3 outbreaks at correctional facilities with 965 cases and 6 deaths, private company outbreaks are the bulk with 29 outbreaks with 2,397 total cases and 13 deaths.

The CDC has issued an alert related to an inflammatory syndrome recently seen in children and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment has sent information to local health departments.

KDHE is working through the CDC Guidance on school re-opening plans and will also work closely with the Department of Education and the Governor's Office.

National Weather Service – may be some severe weather across eastern Kansas tomorrow, depending on what sets up tonight. Over the weekend there are chances for possible severe storms, as well.

Regarding the selling of fireworks and Independence Day Celebrations, it was stated the selling of fireworks is not mentioned in the Ad Astra Plan and would be a local decision (as it always has been). Also, celebrations would need to follow gathering limitations.

The legislature is in session for their final day. They are doing a marathon of bills, some of which will likely impact the Kansas Emergency Preparedness Act, and as a result, the authority of the Governor to issue Executive Orders under that Act.

In addition, Attorney General Schmidt has published an opinion regarding the lawfulness of the current disaster declaration (extension) and enforcement of the same. I'm attaching AG Schmidt's opinion and you can read his release here:

John Hopkins University is reporting 1,555,537 confirmed total positive cases since tracking began. Included in that number are 93,558 deaths and 294,312 recovered cases.
Below is our local daily COVID-19 update.

Thanks!
Sheriff David Groves