

From: Maurice Jones
Sent: Saturday, October 17, 2020 8:18 AM
To: Town Email Users
Subject: Manager's Weekly Message 10-17-20

Hello Everyone,

Unfortunately, the news out of Raleigh on the rise in positive coronavirus cases is concerning. Positive COVID-19 test results across the country are increasing, and Governor Roy Cooper and his Coronavirus Task Force confirmed this week that same trend is occurring here in North Carolina. Dr. Mandy Cohen, Secretary of the NC Department of Health and Human Services, said in the press conference that the chart to your right is an early warning sign that we are facing another surge in cases.

But, there is still time to correct our course:

"As cases rise in North Carolina and across the country, it's on all of us to double down our efforts to stop this virus. We've all made big sacrifices this year, but we can't let our guard down now." -Gov. Roy Cooper

"When you wear a mask, you are protecting the world." -Dr. Mandy Cohen

Studies show that as temperatures are falling people are gathering more indoors.

CDC Director Dr. Robert Redfield said this week, "In the public square, we're seeing a higher degree of vigilance and mitigation steps in many jurisdictions. **But what we're seeing as the increasing threat right now is actually acquisition of infection through small household gatherings.** Particularly with Thanksgiving coming up, we think it's really important to stress the vigilance of these continued mitigation steps in the household setting."

The Orange County Health Department also released a video yesterday that talks about the current state of the virus in NC and our community.

"This pandemic is real...we are seeing an increase in cases across the state and locally here in Orange County." -Health Director Quintana Stewart

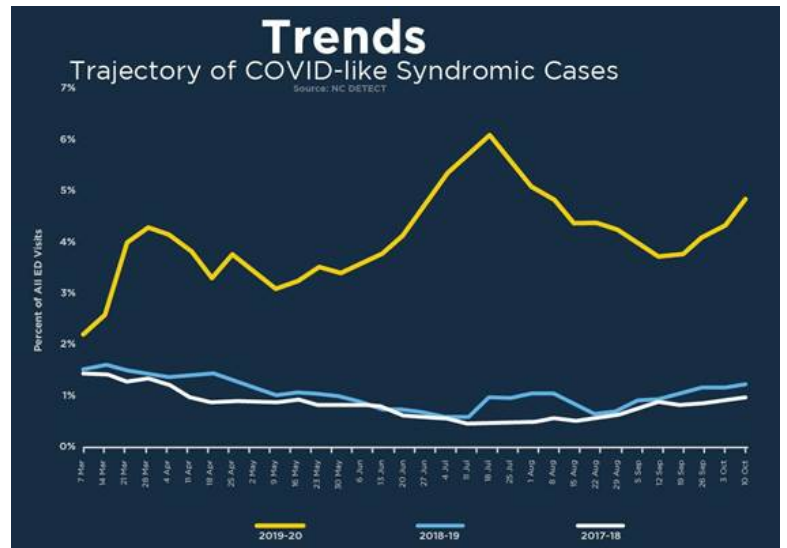
I invite you to watch the video at https://youtu.be/Eto1xUBd_jo.

Helpful News and Information

Here are a few stories by local and national outlets that you may find interesting or helpful.

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/14/health/us-coronavirus-wednesday/index.html>

(scroll down to "Household get-togethers are helping to drive rise in cases, CDC chief says")



At least 15 central NC firefighters recovering from COVID-19

<https://www.cbs17.com/news/local-news/at-least-15-local-firefighters-recovering-from-covid-19/>

Cancel Thanksgiving? Fauci warns Americans may need to ‘bite the bullet’

<https://www.cbs17.com/community/health/coronavirus/cancel-thanksgiving-fauci-warns-americans-may-need-to-bite-the-bullet/>

Help if needed.

If you need to talk with someone about personal problems and/or work-related problems that may impact your job performance, health, mental and emotional well-being, call 1-800-326-3864 or visit bhsonline.com.

We are all in this together.

Please do as Gov. Cooper said and double down on your efforts to protect yourself and those around you. Know your three Ws, and practice them daily. We will come out of this, and the more we do today to help the effort, the stronger we will be in the future.

Resources

- Submit employee questions and concerns to the Office of Risk Management at 919-969-5035, rallen@townofchapelhill.org
- Contact the Town’s Wellness Clinic: 919-968-2796, <https://chapelhillwellnessatwork.org/>
 - Please call first
 - Please note: the Town’s Wellness Clinic does not have the capability to test for coronavirus; the staff can recommend whether you should seek additional medical guidance
- Your Blue Cross and Blue Shield health plan provides video diagnosis options.

**If you leave home,
know your Ws!**



WEAR a cloth face covering.



WAIT 6 feet apart. Avoid close contact.



WASH your hands often or use hand sanitizer.

@NCDHHS

#StayStrongNC

Visit <https://member.carefirst.com/members/health-wellness/video-visit.page>.

- Contact the Ombuds at ombuds@townofchapelhill.org or 919-265-0806

Thank you for all you do, every day. Keep your head up and do your best to remain healthy.

All the Best,
Maurice

Maurice Jones
Town Manager
Town of Chapel Hill, NC
(919) 968-2743
www.townofchapelhill.org