



PRESS RELEASE

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COVID-19 Update

- Currently, there are no cases in any of the 16 counties of the West Central Health District.
- Local health department locations are not testing for COVID-19.
- Local health department locations are not the Georgia Public Health Laboratory, which is located in Atlanta.

The West Central Health District has established a toll-free number for COVID-19 information.

1-855-962-0955

The overall risk of COVID-19 to the general public remains low, although **elderly people and individuals with chronic medical conditions may be have increased risk for COVID-19**. The best prevention measures for any respiratory virus are:

- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

If you have recently traveled to areas where there are ongoing outbreaks of COVID-19 and develop fever with cough and shortness of breath within 14 days of your travel, or if you have had contact with someone who is suspected to have COVID-19, *stay home and call your health care provider for evaluation and testing*. If residents have no provider or have no insurance, please contact your local health department for guidance.

Be sure to call before going to a doctor's office, emergency room, or urgent care center and tell them about your recent travel and your symptoms. Physicians can assess their patients using the CDC criteria and their contracted laboratory.

For more information www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html.

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Serving these West Central Georgia Counties: Chattahoochee, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Harris, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taylor, and Webster