



KENT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



COUNTY OF KENT

WILLIAM WEBB, HEALTH OFFICER
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STATE OF MARYLAND

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For immediate release:

Today, health officials in conjunction with the Kent County Commissioners are announcing the first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Kent County. The male individual, in his 20s, traveled to places where other COVID-19 cases have been confirmed. Testing occurred on March 16, 2020 and the individual is now at home recovering. Since testing, this person has remained in self-isolation and reports an almost full recovery. William Webb, Kent County Health Officer reports that, "A contact tracing investigation is underway to determine exposure within the County, and we are working with the Maryland Department of Health to take the appropriate precautions". This individual is not a member of the Washington College community.

COVID-19 is thought to be able to spread like the cold or flu through coughing and sneezing, which creates respiratory droplets, close personal contact such as touching or shaking hands, or touching an object or surface with the virus on it. Symptoms can include fever, cough and shortness of breath. Call your healthcare provider if you are experiencing symptoms.

All Marylanders are advised to take precautions to slow the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Cover your mouth and nose while sneezing or coughing
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Avoid contact with sick people
- If you are sick, stay home and call your healthcare provider
- Practice social distancing — keep distance between yourself and others and avoid crowds

All Marylanders are also advised to practice social distancing:

- Avoid handshaking, hugging and other intimate types of greeting
- Avoid non-essential travel (your health care provider may have specific guidance for your situation)
- Work from home if possible for your work situation
- Avoid unnecessary errands — consider ways to have essential items, like food and other household supplies, brought to your house through online delivery services or through family or social networks

Stay informed. Be wary of myths, rumors and misinformation circulating online and elsewhere. Health information shared through social media is frequently inaccurate unless coming from an official, reliable source such as the CDC, MDH or local health departments. Visit <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/> or www.cdc.gov. Call 2-1-1 (24/7) for general COVID-19 information or the Kent County Health Department at 410-778-1350 from 8 AM to 6 PM Monday through Friday.