

# Media Release



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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**To:** All Media

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**For Immediate Release**

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## Woodford County announces first COVID-19 case

**Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford Counties-** A resident of Woodford County has tested positive for coronavirus disease (COVID-19). The individual was tested at a UnityPoint Clinic in Central Illinois, and positive test results were received late Friday, March 13. Public health officials were notified immediately according to state and local public health protocols, and the individual is currently recovering at home and is in isolation.

Woodford County Health officials are working closely with Peoria and Tazewell Counties as well as Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) for investigating and notifying any individuals who may have had exposure to the individual who tested positive.

The care and safety of our residents our highest priority. All partners organizations involved remain fully prepared to respond to COVID-19 cases. Public health and hospital systems maintain highly trained infection control teams, specialized equipment and protocols consistent with the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The Peoria region is taking steps to increase its testing capacity and will share new information on testing as soon as it becomes available. Individuals who have questions or concerns about COVID-19 can contact the Illinois Department of Public Health Hotline at 1-800-889-3931.

Residents are encouraged to learn more about the steps you can take to protect yourself and your family from being exposed to the virus:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- 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 using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.
  - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
  - Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for [health](#)

workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a health care facility).

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

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