



MONMOUTH COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH COMMISSION NO.1

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HEALTH OFFICER'S CORNER

Priority Message

July 29, 2021

Dear Health Commissioners/Township/Borough/Village Administrators and Managers

I hope you all remain well and safe at this reading and continue to enjoy our NJ Summer.

Communicable Diseases

COVID case activity in Monmouth and our towns has significantly increased since my last writing. The CDC has highlighted Monmouth County as an area of high COVID activity. The Governor and State Health Commissioner having confirmed most of NJ as having increased COVID activity, strongly recommend the masking of individuals again who are indoors in public spaces. We are back in high COVID Case Rate of 10.19 per 100,000 people. We are still in a Moderate COVID Activity Level Index (CALI), fortunately. We are concerned as the Delta variant has become the prominent COVID-19 variant at 74% in New Jersey.

I ask that all of you encourage people to get vaccinated against COVID, get tested if you have symptoms of COVID (even if fully vaccinated), wear masks if indoors in public spaces (even if fully vaccinated). I strongly recommend that all of the K-12 schools should return to masking for Summer School and for the Fall as well as businesses. We were hoping for a different outcome as we increase vaccinations but the level of COVID vaccine hesitancy and those not eligible to get vaccinated yet has contributed to some of the current surge. We do have vaccination clinics planned for August and September to help get more people vaccinated but we are moving again into challenging times where we need everyone's help in stopping the spread of COVID-19.

We continue to vaccinate the homebound by way of our agreement with the VNA of Central Jersey. We are currently reaching out to Long-Term Care facilities, Schools, Monmouth University, and restaurants. As a COVID vaccine provider, we are also scheduling people interested in getting the COVID vaccine at our office in Tinton Falls. Please call (732) 493-9520. I am confident that we can reduce the COVID-19 activity if we all work together.

We can win this battle!

Yours in Health
David A. Henry
Health Officer