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Press Release

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Public Health

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT URGES CONTINUED COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

As we are roughly seven months into the COVID-19 pandemic, the threat continues as no citizen is safe as the virus knows no boundaries. So far in Logan County, nearly 500 residents have tested positive as new positive cases continue to be routinely reported. In Illinois, nearly six million specimens have been tested with just over 300,000 reported positive, and over 8,800 deaths have been reported that are related to COVID-19.

The Logan County Department of Public Health (LCDPH) would like to remind everyone of the importance of continuing to play it safe during this pandemic. If you are in a public place or business, wear a mask. If you are dining at a restaurant, wearing a mask is not necessary when eating or drinking; however, you are required to wear a mask if you are away from your table or speaking with a food service worker. Businesses must ensure staff and customers wear masks by having and enforcing a policy which makes this a requirement. Parents should have their children wear a mask when out playing in groups. Also, be sure to social distance and wash hands frequently while avoiding touching your face. Although hand sanitizer is not a substitute for proper hand washing, it never hurts to keep a pocket-sized hand sanitizer available for convenient use as a precaution to help protect against the virus.

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LCDPH nurses and contact tracers are working hard to identify and assist people who have tested positive and their contacts to help keep the virus from spreading. Although LCDPH is doing its part to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the community must also continue to do the same by taking proper preventative action. LCDPH urges the community to continue to understand the significance of and the threat COVID-19 poses as we fight our way through this pandemic.

For the latest local COVID-19 data, testing days, locations and times, you can log onto the LCDPH website at <u>WWW.LCDPH.ORG</u> or go to their Facebook page. For additional health department information, you can also go to their website or call 217-735-2317.