

Protect Communicable Disease Covid19 Handwashing
Pandemic
Outreach PublicHealth Prevent
Distancing Promote
Isolation Communicable
Monitoring Preparedness
Health Distancing
Covid19 Quarantine Protect
Preparedness Education Prevent
Covid19 Disease Masks
PublicHealth Pandemic
Handwashing Education Monitoring
Outreach Coronavirus
Masks Outreach
Education Promote
Vaccine Quarantine
Quarantine Prevent
Vaccine Handwashing
Isolation Coronavirus Health
Isolation Communicable Masks

Tioga County Public Health

2020

Annual Report



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Health & Human Services Committee

William Standinger III, Chair

Tracy Monell

Dennis Mullen

Loretta Sullivan

Thank you to everyone who helped support Tioga County Public Health throughout 2020!

Tioga County Public Health Staff



Adam Ace
Kathryn Alliger
Rachael Baker
Laura Bennett
Lynn Bennett
Barbara Bilbrey

Abigail Canzler
Ashley Coney
Jason Davis
Meagan Ferguson
Mark Griep
Janice Heyman

Kylie Holochak
Rani Kapur-Pado
Al Knapp
Todd Kopalek
Jessica Lovell
Jordan Marsh

Lisa McCafferty
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Susan Medina
Eric Sarnicola
Dan Scherrer

Lisa Schumacher
Katie Searles
Kim Thomas
Heather Vroman
Katie Wait
Nicole Whitmore

Stay tuned for more great things to come from TCPH in 2021!

Want To Know More? Here's how you can get in touch!



607-687-8600



Tioga County Public Health Department



www.ph.tiogacountyny.com



Note From Our Director

“A huge shout out of appreciation, of thanks, is due to all of you for soldiering through one heck of a year, you met it head on!”

- Lisa McCafferty, R.S., MPH

Public Health is the air we breathe; the water we drink; the food we eat.. and our impact on the planet and its future.
Prevent, Promote, Protect....

WELCOME NEW STAFF

Katie Alliger - Public Health Nurse

Maggie McGoff - Temporary Public Health Educator

STAFF FAREWELLS

Lynn Bennett - Accounting Associate III

Barbara Bilbrey - Supervising Public Health Nurse

Sue Medina - Public Health Deputy Director

Public Health Services

Animal Bite Investigations

CarFit Program for Seniors

Children with Special Health Care Needs

Child Find Program

Child Passenger Safety

Disease Surveillance

Drinking Water Monitoring

Early Intervention

Fluoride Varnish Program

Food Safety

Food Service Inspection

Health Education

Healthy Neighborhoods Program

Illness Complaint Investigations

Lead Poisoning Prevention

Mobile Dental Services

Opioid Overdose Prevention

Outreach to New Moms

Potable Water Supply

Public Health Preparedness

Rabies Clinics

Special Education Pre-School Program

Septic Permits & Design

School-Based Dental Clinic

Tick & Lyme Disease Education

Vaccines for Children & Adults

Weights & Measures Testing

AND MORE!



2020 Public Health Highlights:

- Richford Water Survey results came back from sample collection in 2019, and showed higher nitrate levels in the Hamlet of Richford; hosted a workshop for community members with various speakers including Daniel Scherrer who spoke on the importance of water testing and how to correct the current results.
- In the midst of the pandemic we held outdoor rabies clinics, and were able to vaccinate over 500 animals in 2020.
- To be able to supply services to children in Early Intervention during the pandemic, our service coordinators held virtual intake visits and evaluations and utilized online programs for getting documentation to parents.
- Distributed continuous COVID-19 messaging to our community by way of press releases, media interviews, newspaper advertisements and articles, Facebook posts, updates to our Public Health website, and Billboards. Messaging has included COVID-19 guidance on “stopping the spread,” testing, re-opening, and vaccinating.
- We have received many compliments from our community members who we have helped through the pandemic. One person in particular stated that: “our team did an amazing job through every step of the tracking/tracing process and everyone was very pleasant to speak with.”
- Worked with school districts on their re-opening plans, assigned Public Health staff members to be school liaisons to be able to contact directly in regards to COVID activity in districts.
- Through May of 2020, Public Health reduced expenditures by \$433K due to COVID-19 pausing many of our programs.
- Environmental Health proactively worked with many local businesses on their reopening plans during the pandemic, including Tioga Downs.
- We reopened Tioga Smiles Dental Van September 1st and received high marks and compliments during an inspection from Healthplex for being a great program.
- We successfully set up various rapid COVID-19 testing locations in Waverly and Owego.
- Our team did (and continues doing) an awesome job, working tirelessly, everyday, with continued positive outlook as we dealt with anger, sobs, deaths, misinformation, and various demands.

Looking Back at 2018, 2019 & 2020

NOTABLE NUMBERS:



Dental Screenings
2018: 2119 **2019:** 1850
2020: 631



Disease Investigations
2018: 821 **2019:** 876
2020: 616



Animal Bite Investigations
2018: 222 **2019:** 197
2020: 143



Early Intervention Referrals
2018: 209 **2019:** 223
2020: 132



Newborn Baby Outreach
2018: 397 **2019:** 389
2020: 58



Animals Rabies Vaccinated
2018: 1269 **2019:** 1016
2020: 854



Facebook Likes
2018: 768 **2019:** 347
2020: 2927



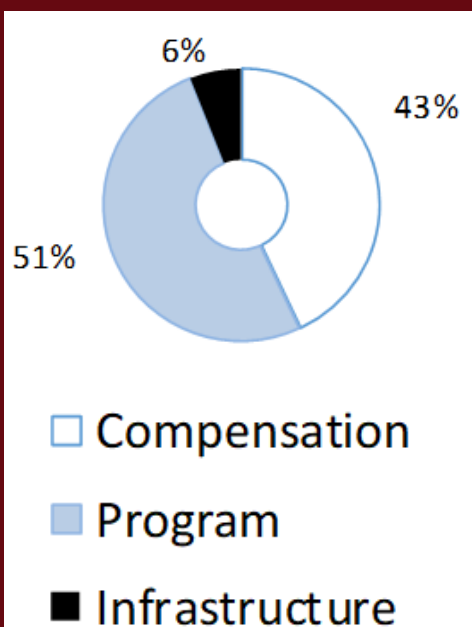
Facebook Posts
2018: 289 **2019:** 297
2020: 639



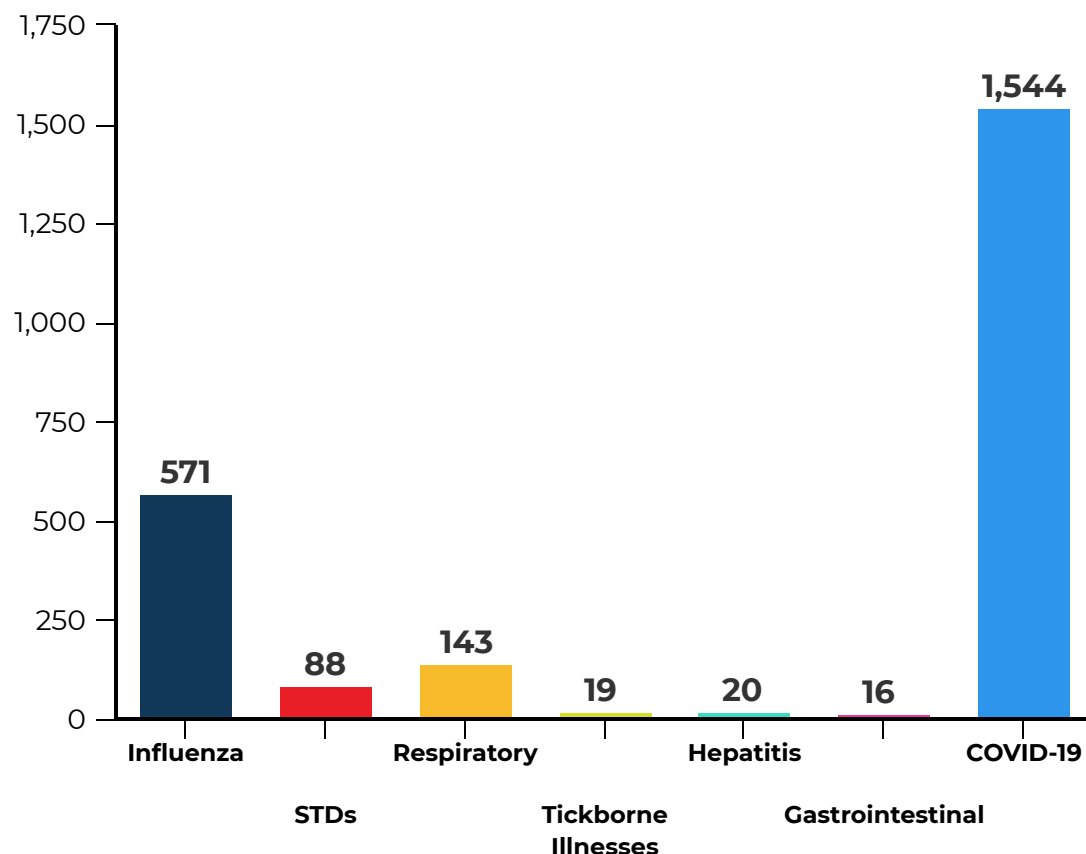
Media Interviews
2018: 17 **2019:** 28
2020: 23

Please Note: Some numbers may be lower than previous years due to the pandemic.

Allocation of Expenses Year-to-Date Through December 2020



Communicable Diseases Reported in 2020



CONGRATULATIONS!

2020 Employees of the Quarter

2020 Employee of the First Quarter



Kylie Holochak

Kylie is the Senior Public Health Educator and Public Information Officer for the department. Kylie's recognition is well deserved, as she serves on multiple grants and programs. Kylie has worked for Tioga County Public Health for three years. During this time she has taken on many leadership roles. Kylie is the Opioid Overdose Prevention Program coordinator, Chair of the Tioga County

Allies in Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition, and the coordinator of the Child Passenger Safety Program. Kylie was promoted to Senior Public Health Educator in 2020. Kylie is passionate about Public Health and is always willing to lend a hand. She has created countless bill boards, bulletin boards, and educational materials.

She has also played a crucial role in protecting our community against COVID-19 by relaying information at press conferences, serving as a contact tracer, and triaging calls from community members. When she isn't at work, Kylie enjoys watching sports, visiting local gorges, and spending time snuggled up with her dogs! Kylie lives in Candor with her husband and four dogs.

2020 Employee of the Second Quarter



Abby Canzler

Abigail started working for Tioga County Public Health as an Office Specialist III on October 6, 2018. She was promoted to the position she now holds as Secretary to the Public Health Director on October 26, 2019. Abby is a true asset to Public Health. Not only is Abby professional, friendly, and humble, but she is also a very hard worker and productive.

Throughout the COVID-19 crisis, she has worked tirelessly on sending quarantine orders and often stays after hours and she does this with a positive attitude. She has played a crucial role in implementing, processing, and maintaining the orders. Abby has been recently engaged to her longtime boyfriend, Tristan and had recently bought a home that she shares with her fiancé, 2 dogs and 3 cats. Abby is an animal lover and enjoys spending time with her family and baking (and boy can she bake). Thank you Abby for all you do for Tioga County Public Health and we are grateful to have you working alongside of us.

2020 Employee of the Third Quarter



Jessica Lovell

Jessica joined the Tioga County Public Health team in November 2017 as a part-time Public Health Nurse with Early Intervention and Children's Services before moving down to nursing to work primarily in Disease Control. Jessica then became a full-time Public Health Nurse before becoming our Supervising Public Health Nurse in July 2020.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Jessica has really stepped up as a leader within our department. From early mornings, to late nights, and long weekends, Jessica puts in endless hours every week to make sure that everything is completed and everyone else is all set before wrapping up for the day herself. She has proven to be dedicated to our department and our community. Jessica lives with her husband, 3 kids, 3 cats, and 3 dogs in Newark Valley.

Congrats Jessica on being our Employee of the 3rd Quarter for 2020, and thank you for all your hard work and dedication to our team and community!

2020 Employee of the Fourth Quarter

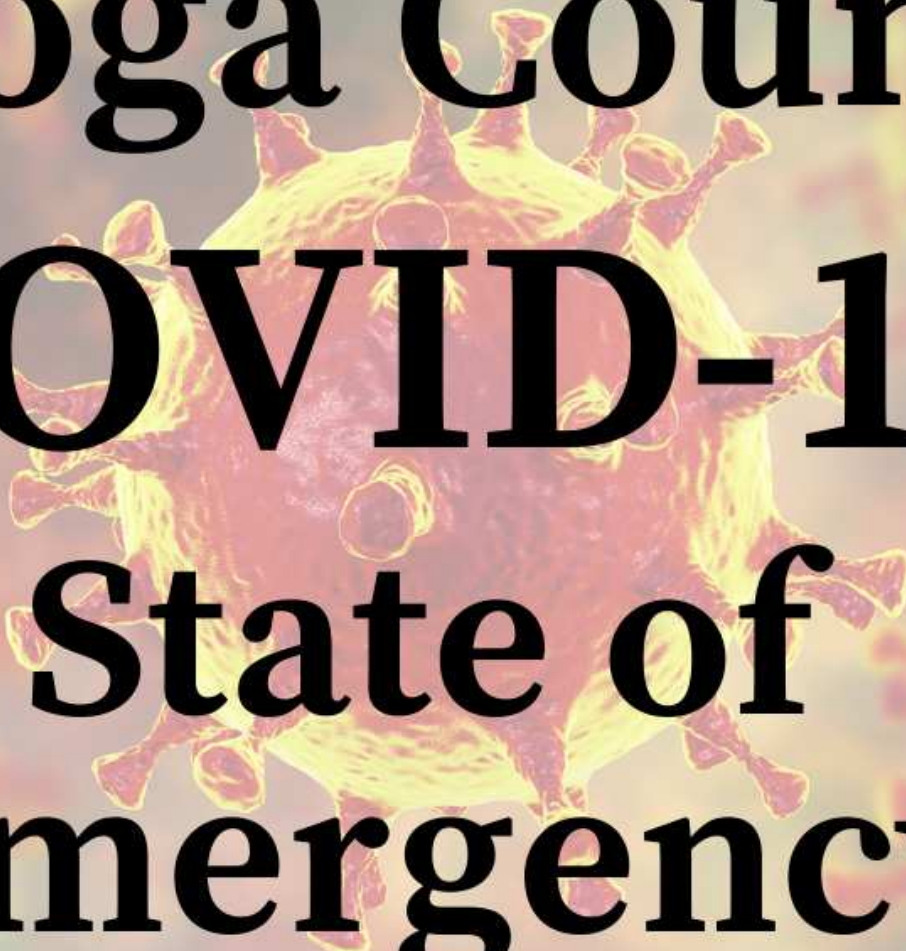


Jason Davis

Jason joined the Tioga County Public Health team as a Confidential Assistant in November 2019. Jason's day to day duties include processing payroll, completing purchase requisitions, and assisting with technology needs in the department. He is the "go to" person for many issues in our department and he is always willing to help with a smile on his face.

Whenever he is asked to help with something, he usually follows up within minutes to let you know that it has been taken care of. Jason remains calm and focused with all that needs to be dealt with. Jason joined our department shortly before the COVID-19 pandemic began and was quickly thrown into the mix of COVID duties in our department. He frequently helps with isolation and quarantine orders as well as compiles data reports throughout the week. He has mastered navigating the CommCare System, which is used across New York State to complete contact tracing. Jason often puts in extra hours without complaint to make sure all COVID duties are complete. Outside of work Jason enjoys spending time with his wife and two sons. Thank you Jason for all you do for Tioga County Public Health!

**A LOOK BACK ON
WHAT WE'VE DONE
THROUGHOUT THE
COVID-19 PANDEMIC**



**Tioga County
COVID-19
State of
Emergency**

2020 COVID-19 Timeline

January 2020

First confirmed case of COVID-19 in the United States

March 14, 2020

First confirmed case of COVID-19 in Tioga County
Tioga County declares State of Emergency

April 18, 2020

Tioga County reaches 50 confirmed cases of COVID-19

July 29, 2020

Tioga County reaches 25 deaths from COVID-19

October 21, 2020

Tioga County reaches 500 confirmed cases of COVID-19

November 19, 2020

Tioga County reaches 1,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19

December 31, 2020

On the last day of 2020, Tioga County reached 1,710 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 64 deaths

March 1, 2020

First confirmed case of COVID-19 in New York State

April 15, 2020

Tioga County confirms first death from COVID-19

May 1, 2020

Tioga County reaches 100 confirmed cases of COVID-19

August 11, 2020

Tioga County Legislature proclaims this date as Tioga County Public Health Employee Appreciation Day

November 17, 2020

Tioga County reaches 50 deaths from COVID-19

December 22, 2020

Tioga County reaches 1,500 confirmed cases of COVID-19

County declares state of emergency

Morning Times Staff

to the COVID-19 Pandemic as we err with an abundance of caution to keep our residents healthy. Through this State of Emergency, all School Districts will be closed to students until

and nearby... They are doing...

- Having the
- Monitoring quarantined individuals on a daily basis through phone calls.
- Communicating with local providers and hospitals.
- Coordinating

County department... Continuous

OWEGO — The Tioga County Public Health... the second... ty — one... confirmed. Working to determine individuals that may have had close contact with this person in days prior. At this time,

From Page A1... "This is response to the first positive case of COVID-19 being identified in Tioga County. At this time, there is only one known confirmed case, and our staff is continuing... over the age of 60 or that have... compromising conditions... susceptible to more serious symptoms and are encouraged to limit time out in public and practice extra precautions... "Anyone who has symptoms — runny... sore throat, headache, fever, cough, general ill feeling — should call

...irus Hotline at 848-364-3065, ...a County Public Health at 607-687-8623. Individuals that call the Tioga County Public Health number will get a response from Public Health staff as staff is available. We encourage our residents to visit our Facebook page (@Tioga County) for any updates. Please stay

...st hours after New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced Saturday morning that the coronavirus had entered Tioga County, all school districts in the county shut down until April 14. This includes all of the school districts in the Tioga County coverage area — Waverly, Spencer-Van Etten and Tioga Central school districts. "The Tioga County Department of Health and Office of Emergency Management has directed our school district to lose effective day through April 14," said Tioga Central Superintendent David Hamilton. "While this was a difficult decision, we recognize

...ion out to the community. March 22, Tioga County had 67 individuals

...atory... up...

... should call

...Tioga County

...As for student breakfasts and lunches, ...nts is going ...ine pick-up

...ome type of ...ing to work ...his out," he

...website has a special note to parents explaining how to talk to their children about the virus. "It is very important to remember that children look to adults for guidance on how to react to stressful events," read the statement posted on the website from

On March 14, 2020 Tioga County officially went under a Public Health State of Emergency as we saw our first cases of COVID-19. Most of our services and programs were put on hold as our entire department focused on tracking and supporting cases and contacts, keeping our community informed, as well as complying with the newly implemented Executive Orders and social distancing regulations. This is the first global Public Health emergency that most of our team has experienced, and we all were in it 100%, initially working 24/7, 7 days a week to be able to support our community members who had been quarantined.



We want to send a special Thank You to our staff for their dedication to Public Health and this community. They have put in endless hours throughout this pandemic answering phone calls, doing contact tracing and case investigations, and making sure needs were met for those in quarantine and isolation.

COVID-19 Related Numbers

(from March 14, 2020 through end of December 2020)

- 285 Days EOC Activated
- 1544 Total Confirmed Cases
- 5849 Individuals Tracked
- 64 Deaths
- 4323 Quarantine/Isolation Orders Issued
- 2518 Household Trips/Deliveries
- 15,257 Calls Taken
- 144 Complaints
- 598 Facebook Posts
- 2875 Facebook Likes
- 21 Media Interviews
- 46 Press Releases

**COUNTY OF TIOGA
EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS: The first case of COVID-19 in New York State was confirmed on March 1, 2020 and the State quickly became the epicenter of the pandemic; and

WHEREAS: Tioga County, in conjunction with the Tioga County Public Health Department, declared a State of Emergency effective March 14, 2020 in response to the first positive case of COVID-19 identified in Tioga County; and

WHEREAS: Tioga County Public Health Department has taken aggressive steps to curb the spread of this virus by keeping our citizens well-informed and educated on the safety protocols; and

WHEREAS: Tioga County Public Health has worked tirelessly serving the citizens of Tioga County since the onset of this virus by monitoring and managing caseloads, working with families exposed or diagnosed with COVID-19, and contact tracing; and

WHEREAS: The citizens of Tioga County benefit from the knowledge, expertise, commitment, and dedication of the Tioga County Public Health Department that is working seven days a week to keep them informed and safe; and

WHEREAS: Public Health efforts alone cannot accomplish the goal of maintaining a healthier community without the cooperation of community partnerships and individuals doing their part by practicing social distancing, good hygiene, and wearing masks when social distancing cannot be attained; and

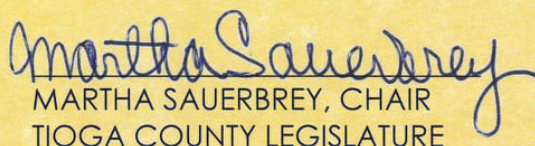
WHEREAS: Tioga County Legislature does publicly recognize, commend, and thank all the Tioga County Public Health Department employees for their swift responsiveness and tireless efforts to go above and beyond during the COVID-19 pandemic for the well-being of our citizens; therefore

THE TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE does hereby proclaim and designate on behalf of Tioga County and its citizens August 11, 2020 as

TIOGA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DAY

in the County of Tioga, New York, and call upon all of its citizens to join with us in recognizing this Department's outstanding efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dated: August 11, 2020


MARTHA SAUERBREY, CHAIR
TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE



TIOGA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

SUSPENDED SERVICES

Until further notice, we will not be scheduling appointments for the following services:

- EARLY INTERVENTION
- CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY (CAR SEATS)
- HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS PROGRAM
- RABIES VACCINATION CLINICS

The Mobile Dental Unit will be open on Wednesdays for EMERGENCY APPOINTMENTS ONLY.

Thank you for your patience & understanding during this time.

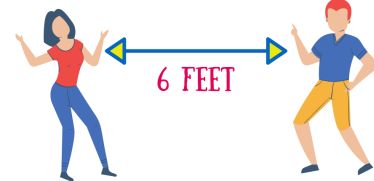


STOP THE SPREAD!

WASH YOUR HANDS!



PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING!



STAY AT HOME!



TIOGA COUNTY RESOURCES: PH.TIOGACOUNTYNY.COM
FACEBOOK @ TIOGA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH
NEW YORK STATE CORONAVIRUS HOTLINE: 888-364-3065



COVID-19 Rapid Testing in Tioga County NY

Waverly Village Hall - 32 Ithaca St, Waverly NY 14892

Wednesday, October 21 from 12:00pm - 6:00pm

Thursday, October 22 from 10:00am - 6:00pm

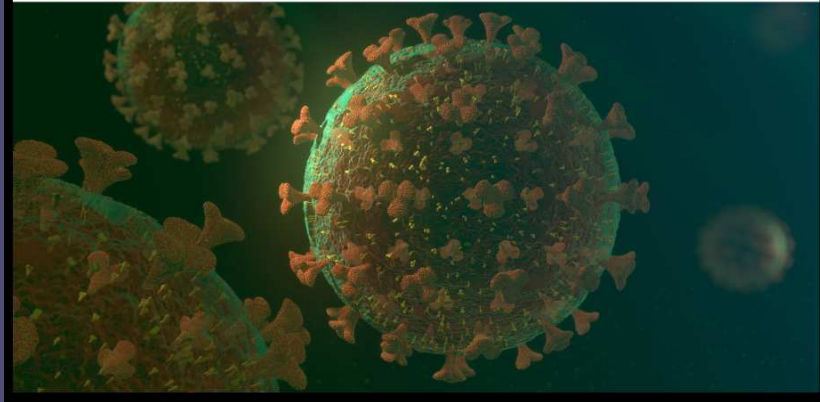
Sunday, October 23 from 10:00am - 6:00pm

Pre-Registration is Required!

Register at covid19.tiogacountyny.com OR
Facebook @ Tioga County Public Health



TIOGA COUNTY COVID-19 HOTSPOT IDENTIFIED



SELF-QUARANTINE FOR OUT OF STATE TRAVEL!



What is the current travel advisory?

Anyone returning from travel to states that have a significant degree of community-wide spread of COVID-19.

What states?

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Arizona
- Florida
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Texas
- Utah

This list may change

What should I do after returning?

Self-quarantine for the next 14 days to prevent potential spread of COVID-19. It is your responsibility to comply to protect public health and safety.

Will this self-quarantine be enforced?

"Random checks" will be done on out-of-state travelers who are supposed to be in quarantine.

What if I develop symptoms of COVID-19 after returning?

Contact your health care provider to see if you should be tested for COVID-19. If you have questions, please call us!

COVID-19 IS WIDESPREAD ACROSS TIOGA COUNTY AND OUR REGION & STATE

With a large increase of COVID-19 cases being seen in our area, it is important to remember that you could potentially come into contact with an individual that has COVID-19 when you're at work, while in public places, at gatherings of any size, while shopping, and while out in your community. Please use precautions when you're around anyone who does not live in your household.

Do Your Part to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19!

- Wear a Mask When Around Others
- Wash Your Hands Often
- Practice Social Distancing



Tioga County Public Health **2020 Annual Report**

Tioga County Public Health
P.O. Box 120
Owego, NY 13827

