



BERTIE COUNTY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 18, 2020

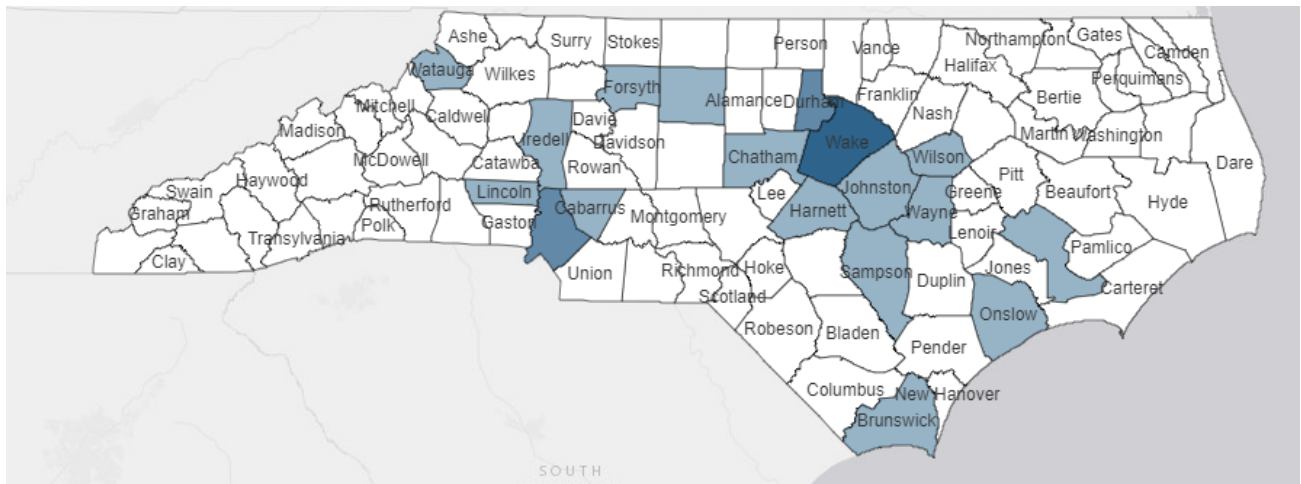
No deaths thus far in North Carolina due to COVID-19

Wake and Mecklenburg lead the way in active cases, precautionary State of Emergency declared in Bertie to better respond to arising needs due to the novel coronavirus

WINDSOR, N.C. – According to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, a total of 66 cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in North Carolina. No deaths from the virus have occurred thus far in our state.

At this time, Mecklenburg and Wake County have the highest number of confirmed cases with 11 and 17 patients respectively that are currently being quarantined and treated for COVID-19.

The counties of Watauga, Iredell, Lincoln, Cabarrus, Forsyth, Guilford, Chatham, Durham, Harnett, Johnston, Wilson, Wayne, Sampson, Onslow, Craven, and Brunswick all have reported that the virus is present in their communities.



Source: North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services, <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/covid-19-case-count-nc>

A County State of Emergency was declared here in Bertie County yesterday.

At this time, there are still no confirmed or potential cases of COVID-19, also know as the novel coronavirus, in Bertie County.

“This County State of Emergency simply assists us as an Emergency Management division to be in the best possible place to request any related funding, resources, and authority needed to best combat the threat that this virus imposes on public health,” Emergency Services Director, Mitch Cooper, said today.

Mr. Cooper noted that at this time, no curfew, or prohibition of alcohol or firearm sales is included in this State of Emergency.

Citizens are highly encouraged to conduct any needed county business online, by phone, or via drop box as much as possible. Please be aware of the following:

- **Taxes** may be paid:
 - **Online** - bertiecountytax.com
 - **By Phone (automated system)** – call 1.888.546.4220
 - **Via Marked Drop Box** – check/money orders only, County Administration Building, 106 Dundee Street, Windsor, NC
 - **Via Mail** - remit check/money order payment to: PO Box 527, Windsor, NC 27983
- **Water payments** may be paid:
 - **Online** - co.bertie.nc.us/departments/pw/paywater.html
 - **By Phone (automated system)** – call 1.800.272.9829
 - **Via Marked Drop Box** – check/money orders only, County Administration Building, 106 Dundee Street, Windsor, NC
 - **Via Mail** - remit check/money order payment to: PO Box 487, Windsor, NC 27983
- **Birth, death, marriage certificates** may be ordered and processed through the Register of Deeds Office:
 - **Online** - <https://www.getcertificatenow.com/Bertie>
 - **Via Phone** – call 252.794.5309
- **If citizens need Medicaid or food stamps applications, Bertie County Social Services can assist via phone and provide a packet for pick up if needed.** For these and all other program information, please contact Bertie County DSS at 794-5320.

A directory of County departments is available below:



COUNTY DIRECTORY

794-5300

ANIMAL CONTROL	794-5340
BERTIE-MARTIN REGIONAL JAIL	794-9283
BUILDING INSPECTIONS & PERMITS	794-5336
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION	794-5317
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES	794-5320
ELECTIONS	794-5306
MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE	794-5328
NON-EMERGENCY TRANSPORT	794-5334
PARKS & RECREATION	794-5363
REGISTER OF DEEDS	794-5309
SHERIFF'S OFFICE	794-5330
TRAFFIC TICKETS/CHILD SUPPORT	794-6800
TAX AND TAX MAPPING	794-5310
WATER.....	794-5350

Emergency? Dial 911

In a press release yesterday, NC Governor Roy Cooper announced that all restaurants were to discontinue use of dining rooms, and utilize take out, drive thru, and delivery service.

Governor Cooper stressed in Executive Order #118 also issued yesterday that North Carolinians should utilize local area restaurants for take out and delivery services as much as possible to help mitigate the impacts of lost dining room business, and that all gatherings should be limited to less than 10 people.

Coronaviruses like COVID-19 are most often spread through the air by coughing or sneezing, through close personal contact (including touching or shaking hands), or through touching your nose, mouth, or eyes before washing your hands. In order to help prevent the spread of all infectious diseases, including COVID-19, take the following common-sense precautions:

- Wash hands frequently with SOAP AND WATER for at least 20 seconds at a time.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are ill; if you or a loved one is suspected to have COVID-19, please self-quarantine immediately, and contact your local Emergency or Health Department in advance of traveling to those departments to minimize risk to others.

- If you or a loved one is **CONFIRMED** to have COVID-19, please have your entire household self-quarantine for a period of at least 14 days.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze to minimize risk to others. Then, dispose of the tissue properly.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are frequently touched such as computer monitors, keyboards, mouse/mouse pad, steering wheels, vehicle controls, remote controls, cell phones and cell phone cases, counter tops, etc.

Updates on COVID-19 are subject to change on an hourly basis. We ask that all citizens continue to maintain awareness about further updates from Bertie County and national media outlets.

For the most up to date information about the Coronavirus, please visit CDC.org, WHO.int, and NCDHHS.gov, as well as to “like” and follow all respective social media accounts, and the official Facebook page of Bertie County Government.

Media inquiries may be relayed to Emergency Services Director, Mitch Cooper, at 794-5302 or mitch.cooper@bertie.nc.gov.

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