



KEEPING YOU SAFE & INFORMED

COVID-19 RESPONSE 4-27-2020

Stay connected

Iowa DOT's COVID-19 pages are available at <https://iowadot.gov/covid-19> (outside the DOT network) or <http://dotnet/covid-19/> (inside the DOT network).

Here's what we know

- Since our last update on Friday there have been an additional 1,423 positive cases reported for a total of 5,868 positive cases confirmed. Iowa has had 20 additional deaths for a total of 127 in the state due to COVID-19. Don't forget to check out the state's [COVID-19 website](#) for the latest information.
- During today's COVID-19 briefing the Governor announced that in 77 counties restaurants, fitness centers, malls, libraries, race tracks and certain other retail establishments will be allowed to open in limited fashion with public health measures in place. Religious and spiritual gatherings will be permitted providing the hosts implement reasonable public health measures. You can find more details [here](#). Counties not included are Allamakee, Benton, Black Hawk, Bremer, Dallas, Des Moines, Dubuque, Fayette, Henry, Iowa, Jasper, Johnson, Linn, Louisa, Marshall, Muscatine, Polk, Poweshiek, Scott, Tama, Washington, and Woodbury.
- The first Testlowa testing site opened in Des Moines at Wells Fargo Arena parking lot this weekend. Around 240 tests were performed between Saturday and Sunday. Don't forget to fill out an assessment to determine if you may need to be tested for COVID-19 at [Testlowa.com](#).

Here's what we are doing internally

- In Local Systems, Tammy Bell has been using Microsoft Teams to prepare training videos for key functions in the bureau that are currently only done by one person. This is part of their efforts to ensure the continuity of key business processes in the event that some staff are out sick for an extended period of time.
- In the Districts, Jason Klemme and Nick Humpal have found creative and innovative ways to perform field exams. Normally these field visits involve several staff traveling to the project site together in a van. To minimize person-to-person contact, staff are using techniques such as sending one person out to take photos and then reviewing the photos, Google Earth imagery, and other project information together on-line using Teams. In addition, the Design Bureau is exploring the use of drones to capture video and still imagery for review during virtual field exams. These efforts have allowed work to continue that otherwise would have to be put on hold.
- Don't forget that another video featuring Iowa Department of Public Health director, Gerd Claubaugh answering employee questions regarding COVID-19 is now available [here](#) or on both DOT COVID-19 websites.

Here's what we are doing externally

- Today's Governor's declaration also extended regulatory relief in the areas of driver's license expirations; vehicle plates, registration, and titling, weight limits and hours of service have all been extended to May 27. You can find more information [here](#).
- Local Systems staff have also been using Teams to record and edit videos for several training sessions for local agency staff that are normally done in person. These efforts have allowed the Iowa DOT to continue to provide support to local governments uninterrupted.

We will continue to keep you informed on what the Iowa DOT is doing to respond. Please stay safe, stay home when possible, and remember to practice good hygiene and social distancing!