



# KEEPING YOU SAFE & INFORMED

## COVID-19 RESPONSE 7-9-2020

### ***Stay connected***

As we continue to move forward in this pandemic, we have transitioned from response phases that included mitigation strategies to a recovery phase in which we are determining how to navigate our daily lives as we learn to live with COVID-19. We will continue to keep you safe and informed as we move through this pandemic together. Iowa DOT's COVID-19 pages are the best source of DOT specific information and 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***

- There is currently a total of 32,886 positive cases confirmed in the state of Iowa with a total of 739 deaths due to COVID-19. To date, 26,217 people who have tested positive have recovered and 350,476 individuals have been tested for the virus. This means 1 of every 9 Iowans has been tested. These numbers are as of 9 a.m. today.

### ***Here's what we are doing internally***

- Some managers and supervisors who have been teleworking began re-occupying facilities on Monday. If you are teleworking and plan to come back in the next few weeks, your manager or supervisor should be communicating with you on plans for dates, times, and safety protocols that will be expected when you come back to facilities. As a reminder you can find the "Living with COVID-19" guide [here](#). In addition, you can find a recording of one of the training sessions and the PowerPoint slide deck offered to managers and supervisors regarding safety protocols on the [COVID-19 homepage](#) under the "Living with COVID-19 Training" header. Anyone is welcome to access these materials.
- As we begin to reoccupy facilities, some have questioned if this is the right time to come back. We are in the recovery phase of the pandemic and now is the time to begin to learn to live with the virus. That means that we need to find ways to continue to carry on while taking steps to protect ourselves, our co-workers, and our families. That is why we are working hard to implement safety strategies, including giving employees who can telework the option to continue to do so. This helps them protect themselves and decreases the number of people in our locations, reducing the exposure risk for those who remain, or for those who chose to come back. In addition, we are monitoring data throughout the state and in our facilities, and are continuing to communicate with, and educate our employees on how we are dealing with COVID-19.
- Support services has been busy providing signage and cleaning materials in individual work areas and common spaces. They have also been working with supervisors to re-configure workspaces or install barriers as necessary to help keep our employees safe. Supervisors, please contact [DOT.Facilities@iowadot.us](mailto:DOT.Facilities@iowadot.us) if you need assistance with any of these items.

- All employees should be receiving a “Living with COVID-19” packet which includes reminders on important safety information contained in the “Living with COVID-19” guide. Employees who have remained in the facilities should have received those from their supervisors. Teleworking employees should receive those from their supervisors on their first day back. In addition, all employees who would like a mask will be provided with one from the DOT. Please work with your supervisor who can request masks for their teams through Support Services. As a reminder, you will be required to wear a mask as soon as you enter a DOT facility.
- One of the safety protocols we have enacted is that those entering DOT facilities must wash their hands when entering, exiting, and frequently throughout the day. We understand that there isn’t always a sink available immediately upon walking in the door. As a point of clarification, the expectation is that you enter and wash your hands (preferred) or use hand sanitizer as soon as you can once you are onsite.

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