

Statement from the Morris County Judge's Office regarding COVID-19

3/19/2020

The Morris County Judge's office continues to closely monitor the situation related to the coronavirus outbreak. I have been in constant contact with state and local officials as well as our neighboring county judges. It is the county government's responsibility to protect public health and safety and preserve property from the effects of hazardous events, and I take that responsibility very seriously. Our county government plays a primary role in identifying and mitigating hazards, preparing for and responding to, and managing the recovery from emergency situations that affect our community. We will continue to do that to the best of our ability.

However, it is impossible for any level of government to do everything that is required to protect the lives and property of our population. Our citizens have the responsibility to prepare themselves and their families to cope with emergency situations and manage their affairs and property in ways that will aid the government in managing emergencies. We will assist our citizens in carrying out these responsibilities by providing public information and instructions prior to and during emergency situations. In that regard, I encourage you to take this current medical emergency seriously and to follow the recommendations of our President and our Governor, including the proclamations regarding social distancing. Wash your hands, stay at home, and do not congregate in large groups.

In addition, I encourage all Morris County citizens to act responsibly and with consideration of others when it comes to your shopping habits. We continue to be told by state and federal officials that there is no need to hoard or stockpile items. Please refrain from this type of behavior. I ask you to be considerate of your fellow citizens at this time. We will get through this together. Please stay informed, use common sense, and show respect toward one another.

Thank you,

Doug Reeder
Morris County Judge