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| ohio department of public safety - safety, service, protection |

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| OHIO **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES** |

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| Ohio Emergency Medical ServicesRobert L. Wagoner, Interim Executive Director[www.ems.ohio.gov](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MDcuMTk4NjU3NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwOi8vd3d3LmVtcy5vaGlvLmdvdiJ9.UYhCf9MKLzUilZ47r6k-ucd0ToDrR6d8lrTn_zHlPQg/br/77123974727-l) |

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| **Coronavirus Disease 2019** | health |

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| **PPE Guidance for Firefighters, EMS** |

Conservation of medical-grade Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) is paramount during this COVID-19 pandemic. According to the CDC guidance, “CDC continues to study the spread and effects of the novel coronavirus across the United States. We now know from [recent studies](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MDcuMTk4NjU3NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5jZGMuZ292L2Nvcm9uYXZpcnVzLzIwMTktbmNvdi9wcmV2ZW50LWdldHRpbmctc2ljay9jbG90aC1mYWNlLWNvdmVyLmh0bWwjc3R1ZGllcyJ9.28TjLWyMbvl-PSGReRXZawzXFLtX_ln3vv7bytwezVk/br/77123974727-l) that a significant portion of individuals with coronavirus lack symptoms and that even those who eventually develop symptoms can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms. This means that the virus can spread between people interacting in close proximity—for example, speaking, coughing, or sneezing—even if those people are not exhibiting symptoms.“In light of this new evidence, CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies) especially in areas of significant community-based transmission,”  recent CDC guidance states.Based on this recent CDC guidance, the Ohio Department of Health recommends first responders, when stationed in the firehouse while working implement social distancing measures and use cloth or homemade masks (if they feel it necessary), preserving N-95 masks and other PPE for appropriate use when out on response calls requiring close patient contact.For additional information, visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MDcuMTk4NjU3NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2Nvcm9uYXZpcnVzLm9oaW8uZ292L3dwcy9wb3J0YWwvZ292L2NvdmlkLTE5L2hvbWUifQ.yxs29B_D9xWB62geMXHXiaoVk5GylPcpUKGPVeE1klY/br/77123974727-l).For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).If you or a loved one are experiencing anxiety related to the coronavirus pandemic, help is available. Call the Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 (1-800-846-8517 TTY); connect with a trained counselor through the Ohio Crisis Text Line by texting the keyword “4HOPE” to 741 741; or call the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services help line at 1-877-275-6364 to find resources in your community.

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| For more information, visit: [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDMsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MDcuMTk4NjU3NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2Nvcm9uYXZpcnVzLm9oaW8uZ292L3dwcy9wb3J0YWwvZ292L2NvdmlkLTE5L2hvbWUifQ.MnZXcRKkyAeuNJqAcO9uh_Wv6xM2sx1Mb-HcAEs_ddQ/br/77123974727-l) |

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| Ohio Department of Public Safety[www.publicsafety.ohio.gov](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDQsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA0MDcuMTk4NjU3NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwOi8vd3d3LnB1YmxpY3NhZmV0eS5vaGlvLmdvdi8ifQ.KgYlnjavFrWj2YDwx1Emox6OYm6zGku7uP_Tdev5z1s/br/77123974727-l) |

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| Mike DeWine, GovernorThomas J. Stickrath, Director |

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