

April 2, 2020



PREBLE  
COUNTY

CHAMBER of COMMERCE

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# MEMBER NEWS

COVID-19 Crisis Edition 13

## Important resources available

**Guidance for PPE Equipment Use:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has provided guidance on "[Strategies to Optimize the Supply of Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) and Equipment](#)", including eye protection, isolation gowns, facemasks, N95 respirators, and ventilators. CDC has also provided this guidance for "[Frequently Asked Questions about Personal Protective Equipment](#)".

The Ohio Department of Health is recommending all staff in long-term care facilities wear a surgical/medical facemask while working to avoid asymptomatic transmission of COVID-19 to residents and other staff. This includes facilities not known to be affected by COVID-19.

In settings where facemasks are not available, healthcare personnel (HCP) might use homemade masks (e.g., bandana, scarf) for care of patients with COVID-19 as a last resort. However, homemade masks are not considered PPE, since their capability to protect HCP is unknown. Caution should be exercised when considering this option. Homemade masks should ideally be used in combination with a face shield that covers the entire front (that extends to the chin or below) and sides of the face.

You can download a document regarding the guidelines for PPE use and Reuse [HERE](#).

## Member updates and news to keep you informed

**From FASTLANE:** The U.S. Treasury Department and the IRS have announced that distribution of economic impact payments will begin in the next three weeks. Payments will be distributed automatically, with no action required for most people. More information is [available here](#).

**From Sheriff Mike Simpson:** Fear and uncertainty surrounding the coronavirus pandemic could give rise to an outbreak of scams. Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost and U.S. Attorneys Justin Herdman and David DeVillers have created a brochure to help raise awareness about this threat to help protect Ohioans from the bad actors who wish to cause them harm. **You can download a copy of the brochure [HERE](#).**

**Daylight Donuts** has closed for a week and is set to re-open on Wednesday, April 8.

**Good news from Preble County Park District:** The Preble County Park District (PCPD) has announced the hiring of Mindy M. Davidson as the park's new manager.



Mindy Davidson

Davidson has been a Preble County resident for over 20 years. Davidson has 17-plus years' experience in nonprofit management and 25 years total in business and corporate management. In Davidson's career, she has successfully procured over \$10 million -plus dollars in funding for nonprofits from events, donations, grants, etc.

Davidson received her Business Management education from Indiana University East and Ivy Tech in Richmond, Indiana. Davidson also expanded her education in foreign language (Spanish and sign language) at Sinclair College in Eaton.

Davidson will be responsible for all administrative and day-to-day business as well as budgetary, revenue and fiscal duties. She takes over for Chris Mears, the former Secretary/Treasurer of PCPD.

"We would like to thank Chris Mears for her over ten years of service to the PCPD. Mears will continue as the Treasurer to the Friends of Preble County Park District, whose mission is to support and promote the PCPD. We are happy to have Mindy Davidson at the Preble County Park District and we look forward to the future success of our parks, The Allen and Adeline Garber Nature Center in Lewisburg and The Devil's Backbone in Camden," PCPD trustees said.

The Preble County Park District's office is located at the Allen and Adeline Garber Nature Center, 9691 Ohio 503 North, outside Lewisburg.



**Garber Nature Center's Park Trails are still open to the public. Trustees have posted notices to use CDC Social Distancing guidelines.**

## News from the Statehouse

### DeWine establishes OMA to Fight COVID-19; order signed for quicker testing turnaround

In his daily update on Wednesday, April 1, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine announced the establishment of the Ohio Manufacturing Alliance to Fight COVID-19, and other measures.

The OMA, a collaborative public-private partnership will coordinate efforts to provide healthcare workers and first responders with the personal protective equipment (PPE).

“This new alliance will work to more quickly mobilize every manufacturer capable of helping us make PPE and win the fight against our lethal enemy,” said Governor DeWine. “This effort is important because it not only enables us to meet the immediate challenges, but it will also strengthen our PPE supply chains permanently so we are not dependent on other countries moving forward.”

The alliance includes: Ohio Manufacturers’ Association, Ohio Hospital Association, Ohio Manufacturing Extension Partnership, Manufacturing Advocacy and Growth Network, nursing home organizations, JobsOhio, Ohio Department of Administrative Services, Ohio Development Services Agency, and the Ohio Department of Health. The alliance is working to identify and match the critical needs of Ohio’s healthcare system with companies willing and able to repurpose production to meet those needs.

Manufacturers that can help should visit [RepurposingProject.com](http://RepurposingProject.com) for more information. Those involved with this project will be compensated.

**Testing order:** Ohio Department of Health Director Amy Acton, MD, MPH, signed an order to quicken the turnaround time of COVID-19 testing.

All Ohio hospitals that do not currently conduct their own testing must now send their specimens to one of the following laboratories: The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center; Cleveland Clinic; University Hospitals in Cleveland; MetroHealth. Other labs with testing capacity may be added to this list in the future.

“These labs have a massive capacity that isn’t being fully utilized right now, and these labs can turn around results more quickly than what private labs have been doing,” said Governor DeWine. “Getting test results more quickly provides peace of mind to patients and their families and gives us the best data possible so we can make decisions about where to allocate resources.”

The Ohio Department of Health will continue to analyze tests for the most critical patients, including hospitalized and symptomatic healthcare workers.

The order also directs hospitals to immediately begin utilizing new rapid tests as soon as they become available in an organized framework utilizing freestanding emergency departments, urgent care centers, free-standing ambulatory surgery centers that are not in use due to postponement of elective surgeries, and hospital multi-use healthcare facilities that house a lab service.

**SNAP Click and Connect:** To help ensure Ohio’s most vulnerable citizens have access to food while limiting potential exposure to COVID-19, Governor DeWine announced a new partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service and grocery stores to develop a “click and collect” option for groceries.

Those receiving SNAP benefits will be able to shop online, pick up their groceries in their cars, and swipe their EBT cards from their vehicles without entering the store. If a store does not have a mobile point-of-sale device, a SNAP recipient can continue to order online, but pick up the groceries and pay inside the grocery store. This option reduces the time SNAP recipients are in the grocery store and reduces the risk of community spread.

**FEMA disaster declaration:** The Major Presidential Disaster Declaration approved by President Trump on Tuesday provides grants from FEMA to state and local governments for costs associated with emergency protective measures, such as emergency operations center operations, fire and police services, emergency medical care, sheltering, etc.

This declaration shifts some the funding burden from state and local governments to the federal government, with the federal government picking up 75 percent of certain COVID-19 costs, including: Emergency Operation Center costs; state agency purchases in response to COVID; disinfection of eligible public facilities; PPE; temporary medical facilities and enhanced hospital capacity.

The declaration also allows direct federal assistance to local governments, such as support from the Ohio National Guard and US Army Corps of Engineers.

**Foreclosure prevention:** Governor DeWine signed an executive order today that seeks to provide some assistance for small businesses with mortgage and rent payments. The order asks lenders and landlords across Ohio to work with their small businesses and suspend payments for at least 90 days in an effort to avoid foreclosures.

**Current Ohio Data:** As of yesterday, ODH was reporting 2,547 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ohio and 65 deaths. A total of 679 people had been hospitalized, including 222 admissions to intensive care units. In-depth data can be accessed by visiting [coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov).

Find links to additional resources and all our daily COVID-19 Preble County updates at [WWW.PREBLECOUNTYOHIO.COM](http://WWW.PREBLECOUNTYOHIO.COM)



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