

April 29, 2020



CHAMBER of COMMERCE

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# MEMBER NEWS

COVID-19 Recovery Edition 32

## Member news & other resources

### Learn how the Chamber Energy Program can help you Friday, May 15



Our small business community has been hit hard by mandatory closures and safety measures required to slow the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). Many business owners are struggling to cover their bills and are asking for help and wondering what they can do.

Along with over 200 Chambers of Commerce in the State of Ohio, we offer the Chamber Energy Program to our members to help reduce their utility costs. On average, members are saving 15-20 percent.

Learn how to reduce your costs so you can immediately put money back into your business. Join other Preble County Chamber members from the comfort of your own home or office, via Zoom, to learn more about this program on Friday, May 15 at 11 a.m.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

**Ohio Emergency PPE Makers' Exchange:** The [Ohio Emergency PPE Makers' Exchange](#) has officially launched. The website is an online exchange where organizations that need Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and related equipment can find a selection offered by Ohio manufacturers.

This online exchange offers PPE and related equipment for health care workers, first responders and essential businesses. It is geared towards organizations that have low volume needs, such as nursing homes, police departments and essential employers. The website is located [HERE](#).

## From the Statehouse

**CUSTOMER FACE COVERINGS IN RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS:** Governor DeWine announced yesterday the state of Ohio will not require customers entering retail establishments wear face coverings. Wearing face coverings in public is still, however, strongly recommended.

"As Governor, it is my responsibility to make the tough decisions, but it is also my responsibility to listen and be respectful of the thoughts and ideas of our fellow Ohioans," said Governor DeWine. "Though it is not a mandate, wearing a face covering in retail locations is clearly in the best interest of all Ohioans. This gives added protection to others. When you wear a mask, you are protecting those around you from possibly getting sick."

Governor DeWine also noted individual business owners could still choose to develop a business policy requiring face coverings for customers to enter their facilities.

"It is because of Ohio citizens' individual actions thus far that we have collectively flattened the curve in Ohio. Ohioans have accomplished these things through social distancing, staying home, and wearing face coverings. These individual decisions have impacted the greater good for all Ohioans," said Governor DeWine. "These individual decisions are going to be even more important as we move forward. Now is the time to double down on these efforts. We have an obligation to protect our most vulnerable Ohioans and each other."

Face coverings would still be mandated for employees unless wearing a face covering is not advisable by a healthcare professional, goes against industry best practices, or is not permitted by federal or state laws and regulations.

**ADVISORY GROUPS ON RESTAURANTS AND BARBERSHOPS/SALONS:**

Governor DeWine announced he will form two separate advisory groups to develop best practices for reopening dine-in restaurants, barbershops, and salons. The goal of this group is to develop recommendations for these businesses that balance the need to protect the health of employees and customers as they reopen to the public.

**CURRENT OHIO DATA:** As of Tuesday, April 28, there are 16,769 confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 in Ohio and 799 confirmed and probable COVID-19 deaths. A total of 3,340 people have been hospitalized, including 1,004 admissions to intensive care units. In-depth data can be accessed by visiting [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov).

Find additional resources at

[WWW.PREBLECOUNTYOHIO.COM](http://WWW.PREBLECOUNTYOHIO.COM)