

Currently, the Illinois Department of Public Health is reporting a total of 523,840 cases, including 10,434 deaths, in 102 counties in Illinois. The preliminary seven-day statewide positivity for cases as a percent of total tests from November 3 – November 10 is 12.4%. The preliminary seven-day statewide test positivity from November 4, 2020 – November 10, 2020 is 13.6%.

To help decrease the positivity rate, IDPH recommends the following.

### **Work from Home if Possible**

For the next three weeks, work with your employer to plan to work from home unless it is necessary for you to be in the workplace. We ask employers to make accommodation for this. Our goal is to reduce transmission as we head into the holidays so businesses and schools can remain open.

### **Participate in Essential Activities Only**

For the next three weeks, stay home as much as possible, leaving only for necessary and essential activities, such as work that must be performed outside the home, COVID-19 testing, visiting the pharmacy, and buying groceries.

### **Limit Travel and Gatherings**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other health experts tell us that gatherings and travel in and out of communities present a high risk of spreading the infection. In our current situation, with a rising prevalence of the virus, attending even small gatherings that mix households, or travelling to areas that are experiencing high rates of positivity, is not advised and is potentially dangerous. Please, travel only if necessary.

### **Walking on Riverwoods Streets**

When out walking, remember to keep your distance from people not from your household. On a related note, now that it is getting darker earlier, be sure to wear reflective clothing when walking at night. Most of our streets are dark with no sidewalks.

The Police Department has been asked which side of the street is best to walk on. From the National Center for Safe Routes to School, "If no sidewalks exist on the road, it is recommended to walk facing oncoming traffic on the same side of the road as the oncoming traffic. If traffic approaches you from behind while you are walking, you have only your ears to rely on to know it is coming. If it is coming from in front of you, you have both your eyes and your ears to help you know to move off to the side (or even jump into the ditch)."