

**Media Inquiries:**

(630) 221-7374  
media@dupagehealth.org

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Established in 1945, DuPage County Health Department promotes physical and emotional health; prevents illness injury and disability; protects health from environmental risk factors, and strives to assure the provision of accessible, quality service.

October 9, 2020

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Stay Safe Over Columbus Day Weekend

*COVID-19 is Still Spreading in DuPage County*

**DUPAGE COUNTY**—With the number of COVID-19 cases continuing to increase in DuPage County, the DuPage County Health Department wants you to know the virus is still spreading in our communities and continues to be a serious health threat.

As we head into the Columbus Day Weekend, the number of reported COVID-19 cases has risen significantly this week in DuPage County. Since last Sunday there have been 865 new cases identified and the total number of cases identified in DuPage County is approaching 19,000. Health officials are emphasizing the importance of preventive actions individuals can take to reduce the spread of the virus.

We all want to celebrate holidays and Fall activities, go out with family and friends, but COVID-19 is still here and it's important to continue following public health guidance to slow the spread of this virus.

The best way to prevent illness and infection is to avoid exposure to this virus. To slow the spread of COVID-19, you should stay home when possible, hold activities outdoors and in small groups, and practice the **3Ws**:

- **Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth** when you are in public and around people who do not live in your household;
- **Watch your distance** to maintain at least 6 feet from others as much as possible; and
- **Wash your hands** or use hand sanitizer often.

**-More-**

**STAY SAFE  
DUPAGE**



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It's more important than ever to stay home if you are sick, especially if you have COVID-19 symptoms. If you are sick, call your doctor and get tested. If you have a fever, contact your doctor for instructions before your visit. If you have COVID-19, you need to stay home at least 10 days and until you have been fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medication for at least 24 hours and your symptoms are improving.

The DuPage County Health Department remains committed to addressing the significant impact of COVID-19. Our collaborative efforts continue with healthcare and other community partners to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in DuPage County.

For more information on what you can do to stay safe, visit [www.dupagehealth.org/staysafedupage](http://www.dupagehealth.org/staysafedupage).

To learn more about COVID-19 activity in DuPage, visit the [www.dupagehealth.org/covid19data](http://www.dupagehealth.org/covid19data).

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