

# Health Department Updates

Public Health Infrastructure and  
the Coronavirus Response

*March 2, 2020*



# Interim Health Officer Agreement

- ▶ **Stephanie Carey, MPH**
  - 15 years as Montgomery Township Health Officer
  - 18 years as Environmental Health Specialist (Franklin Township)
  - Specialties in Health Risk Communication and Emergency Preparedness (H1N1, Ebola, Anthrax)
- ▶ **MTHD is Public Health Service Provider to the Boroughs of Hopewell & Pennington**  
*Shared Schools, Shared Emergency Management, Shared Municipal Alliance*



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# Services Provided

- ▶ 90 day agreement (through 5/25/2020)
- ▶ Health Officer oversight of Health Department work and Health Officer Emergency Response
- ▶ Coordination with Mercer County Response, and with Boroughs' response
- ▶ A Workforce Evaluation and Agency Capacity report to provide alternatives on future service delivery (Public Health 3.0)
- ▶ *Not intended to provide routine operational response during this timeframe*



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# Public Health Practice Standards

Requires that each municipality shall have

- ▶ A full-time Licensed Health Officer
- ▶ In a Public Health emergency, the NJ Department of Health will speak only to the Health Officer!



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# COVID 19 Novel Coronavirus Preparedness and Response

- ▶ Actions to date:
- ▶ Initial Meeting with HVRSD and HVOEM
  - Sample community messaging for schools
  - Updating of respiratory protection program for first responders
  - Fit testing train-the-tester training for responder agencies
  - Recruiting of surge nursing capacity.

Next meeting March 3: *What does “social distancing” mean in schools, businesses, and neighborhoods*



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# STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



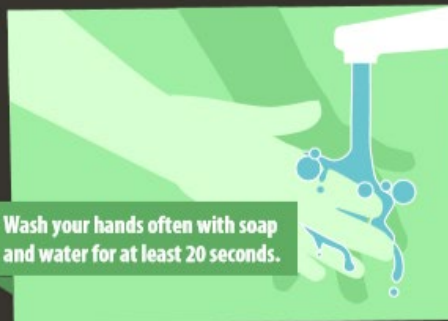
Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



For more information: [www.cdc.gov/COVID19](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)



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# “Prepare for a Snowstorm”

