

**NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Health officials confirm first two cases of COVID-19 in Nicollet County

ST. PETER, Minn. -- The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) today confirmed two positive cases of novel coronavirus, COVID-19, in Nicollet County, the county's first two confirmed cases of the respiratory illness.

These individuals will be asked to quarantine themselves for 14 days from their exposure and will be monitored for fever and respiratory symptoms. MDH is working with the infected persons identifying and contacting all potentially exposed individuals.

Nicollet County Health and Human Services will be responsible for coordinating essential services for those in isolation and quarantine due to COVID-19 exposure. These services include ensuring they have access to food and water, health care, and other necessities.

The health and safety of all our County residents is and will remain our top priority. Nicollet County Health and Human Services will continue to work closely with our community partners, including cities and townships, schools and colleges, and health care facilities and first responders to ensure a coordinated and thorough response in support of all our residents.

Minnesotans continue to have an important role in limiting the spread of COVID-19 throughout the state. That means staying home when you are sick and avoiding those who may be sick, along with covering your coughs and sneezes appropriately, avoiding touching your face, and, of course, washing your hands frequently.

More information about coronavirus can be found on [MDH's Coronavirus website](#). MDH has also set up a public hotline that will be open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The hotline number is [651-201-3920](tel:651-201-3920).

Please keep in mind that while Nicollet County Health and Human Services is responsible for public reporting of COVID-19 cases, we -- like other health care organizations -- are committed to the privacy of all patients and will comply with all applicable laws including HIPAA. Because of this, we are limited in the specific details we can release on this case.

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