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Contact:
Dr. James Gaskell, Health Commissioner, 740-592-4431 ext 5903, jgaskell@athenspublichealth.org
Ruth Dudding, Public Information Officer, 740-592-4431 ext 5912, rdudding@athenspublichealth.org

For Immediate Release

Stay Safe Ohio Order facial covering requirements.

According to the new Stay Safe Ohio Order all employees are required to wear face coverings, if it is medically possible. Strong recommendations have been made to the general public to wear a face covering when out but is not required. Some stores may require customers to wear face coverings when inside in their business; a choice left for each business to determine. For more information about how to safely put on and take off a face cover, watch the educational video on the health department website, https://www.athenspublichealth.org/get_more_help/COVID-19.php.

The CDC suggests that cloth face covers should:
- fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- include multiple layers of fabric
- allow for breathing without restriction
- be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape

Face coverings can be created simply with clean cloth materials, such as an old t-shirt, tea towels, or cotton fabric scraps. Ear loops can be created with pieces of elastic, hair ties, or other strips of fabric. There are simple no-sew patterns for creating a face covering at home on the CDC website, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html. A face cover is not recommended for children under 2 years of age.

USE. TRUSTED. SOURCES. The potential for misinformation and rumors during times of high-profile global events/public health threats is high. Verify information before sharing.

The Ohio Department of Health call center is open for specific questions about COVID-19, 1-833-4 ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634). The Ohio Department of Health updates the states numbers everyday at 2pm. For Athens-specific questions regarding COVID-19, contact the Athens City-County Health Department at 740-592-4431 or visit the Athens City-County Health Department website www.athenspublichealth.org and Facebook page, twitter@acchd_oh, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, www.cdc.gov, and the Ohio Department of Health Coronavirus page, www.coronavirus.ohio.gov.

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