For Immediate Release

Athens County reports a second COVID-related death.

On Monday, August 10th, 2020, a second COVID-related death was confirmed in Athens County. While cases in Athens County have declined over the last month, the recent death is a strong reminder of the potential dangers of the disease. People with underlying medical conditions are at a higher risk of developing complications from COVID-19. We encourage everyone to continue to wear a facial covering in public and maintain a physical distance of at least 6 feet, to reduce the risk of transmitting COVID-19. The diligent effort to prioritize safe public health practices in Athens County is making a difference. We need everyone’s help to prevent further losses in our community.

On Friday, August 7th, a drive-thru COVID-19 testing event was held at Athens High School. There were 515 people from Athens County and surrounding areas tested by the Ohio National Guard with more than half of those tested under 29 years of age. At the time of this press release only 2 positive cases have been identified as part of the August 7th testing event. A second testing event will take place this Friday, August 14, 2020, from 1-6 at Athens High School in The Plains. The test is free and available to anyone. Registration materials are available on the Athens City-County Health Department website, athenspublichealth.org, or can be filled out at the event.

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

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