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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

Confirmed cases are reported in Athens County.

Athens County has seen another bump in the number of COVID-19 cases early this week. While health care providers are testing more people, the particular increase in cases recently represents close contacts to a confirmed case. We expect to see more cases as businesses reopen and people return to work. Prevention measures such as wearing a mask, social distancing, washing hands, and cleaning high touch surfaces are embedded into all of the plans for reopening. We can expect these prevention measures will continue to be a part of our daily routines through at least the fall.

As businesses and activities resume, visitors and participants may be required to wear a facial covering, there may be changes to service hours, or there may be signs or other environmental cues such as floor markings that guide how services will be provided. Many businesses and community organizations have their reopen plans on their website. New guidance documents for fitness centers, non-contact sports, and schools can be found on the ODH website: coronavirus.ohio.gov. While many businesses and activities are reopening, several remain closed or postponed, such as, playgrounds, K-12 schools, and gatherings of more than 10 people. Thank you for your participation in following the guidelines set by local businesses in Athens County.

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 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 Athens City-County Health Department 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 Ohio Department of Health Coronavirus page, www.coronavirus.ohio.gov.

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