FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Public Warning-Cases of COVID-19 Confirmed Attendance at Large Events in Tuscola

The Douglas County Health Department (DCHD) is notifying the public of new cases of COVID-19 who have reported attendance at large events this past weekend in Tuscola, Illinois. One now Covid-positive person who had been directed to quarantine has since disclosed they ignored the directives and were in attendance as well.

With the Labor Day weekend quickly approaching, DCHD would like to remind the public that staying healthy is the best way to celebrate. Attending large, crowded gatherings in public venues (whether inside or outside) greatly increases your chance of being exposed to COVID-19. While you may be doing your best to follow the recommendations and guidelines, there is no guarantee the person next to you is doing the same.

Gatherings are limited to 50 under the current Order in Illinois due to the highly contagious nature of COVID-19. Please see the information below if you or anyone in your household has attended a large gathering.

If you have attended a large gathering/event:

1. Please monitor your health by monitoring yourself for symptoms. This is imperative to protecting your family, friends, and others from COVID-19.
2. If you have ANY of the symptoms below, or have had ANY contact with a known positive - STAY HOME and get tested 3-5 days AFTER the date you attended the large gathering or event. (See below for a link to area test sites.)
3. This virus has a long incubation period (up to 14 days) giving a wide window of opportunity for people carrying the virus (whether they know they are carriers or not) to infect others within 6 feet, for 15 minutes or more, whether inside or out.
4. About 40% of known carriers of the virus are asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic, therefore, MANY do not have symptoms.
5. Carriers may be most contagious in the 48 hours before they get symptoms, making transmission even more likely and more widespread.
Symptoms to watch for:

- Fever (100 or higher) Or Chills
- New Loss Of Smell Or Taste
- Sore Throat
- Congestion Or Runny Nose
- Cough
- Shortness Of Breath
- Tightness In Chest
- Difficulty Breathing
- Muscle Or Body Aches
- Headache
- Diarrhea
- Nausea/Vomiting
- Tiredness/Fatigue

For a list of test sites in and around Douglas County, please visit our website at: dchealthdept.org.

For State of Illinois COVID-19 data by County/Zip Code:
https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/covid19-statistics

http://dchealthdept.org/