



Barry-Eaton District Health Department

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For Immediate Release

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First COVID-19 Death in Eaton County

With great sadness, Barry-Eaton District Health Department reports that Eaton County has experienced the first death due to novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The individual was a 71-year-old man who died on Tuesday, 3/31/20, and was diagnosed with COVID-19 after death.

"We regret to inform the county of this loss, and extend our deepest condolences to the grieving family and friends," said Health Officer Colette Scrimger. "This is a sobering reminder of the importance of staying vigilant in our disease prevention actions. Not everyone who has the coronavirus will be sick, so physically distance yourself from others as if everyone has it. Take care to travel outside the home only when absolutely necessary, and diligently wash your hands."

Barry-Eaton District Health Department is grateful to everyone in the community who continues to follow social distancing, quarantine, and isolation guidelines to protect the health of the community.

To date, there have been 36 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Eaton County, and 4 in Barry County.

For more information, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>, <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus>, and barryeatonhealth.org/coronavirus.

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