



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Public Information Office

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COVID-19 Update 2 Deaths and 23 New Cases Reported, Remember to Wear, Wait and Wash

FAYETTEVILLE – Two Cumberland County residents have died from complications associated with the coronavirus and 23 new COVID-19 cases have been reported, according to the Department of Public Health. Cumberland County’s case count is now 391 with 11 deaths.

“We extend our deepest sympathies to the families and friends who are grieving the loss of their loved ones,” said Health Director Dr. Jennifer Green. The patients who died, one in their 80s and the other in their 90s, had underlying medical conditions.

This afternoon, Sheriff Ennis Wright announced in a [media release](#) that an inmate at the Cumberland County Detention Center had tested positive for COVID-19. On [May 8](#), the Sheriff’s Office reported that four detention officers had tested positive. In a congregate living setting, an outbreak is defined as two or more cases. The N.C. Department of Health and Human Services has listed the Cumberland County Detention Center on its [report](#) of outbreaks in congregate living settings.

Wear. Wait. Wash.

As North Carolina eases some COVID-19 restrictions, the Public Health Department is asking people to remember three things to slow the spread of COVID-19 and flatten the curve. If you leave home, practice your Ws: Wear, Wait, Wash:

- **Wear** a cloth face covering if you will be with other people.
- **Wait** 6 feet apart. Avoid close contact.
- **Wash** your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer.

“When we leave our homes, we are exposing ourselves to many factors,” Green said. “Practicing your Ws: Wear, Wait, Wash will help keep us protected and keep the viral spread low.”

County Operational Changes

County offices are now available by email and telephone Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. -5 p.m. and [residents may now return library materials to the book drops at all Cumberland County Public Libraries](#). A list of operational changes due to COVID-19 is available at co.cumberland.nc.us/COVID19closures.

The County has not set a date for re-opening County buildings to the public.

Staying Updated

Cumberland County has made it easy for you to stay updated on the latest information about COVID-19. You can visit our [COVID-19 webpage](#), which has a list of COVID-19-related [closures and service changes](#). The county is also sharing important information on its [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts.

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