



NORTHEAST HEALTH DISTRICT

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Northeast Health District Announces First Death from COVID-19

Athens-Clarke County – The Northeast Health District is confirming the first death from COVID-19 in Clarke County. The individual, a 67 year old male, died in an Athens hospital and was a resident. In addition to testing positive for COVID-19, he had existing medical conditions.

Older adults and people who have severe underlying medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes are at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 and should always consult their healthcare provider if they are sick. Long-term care facilities, nursing homes, and congregate living settings for older people must strictly follow COVID-19 prevention measures to stop rapid spread of the virus.

All Georgians play a critical role in helping to slow the spread of COVID-19 by adhering to the following guidance:

- Practice social distancing by putting at least 6 feet between yourself and other people.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

For information about COVID-19, visit <https://dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus> or <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>. For daily updated COVID-19 case counts, visit <https://dph.georgia.gov/covid-19-daily-status-report>.

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