



PUBLIC INFORMATION ADVISORY

COVID COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS PREMIERES ON APRIL 22

For Immediate Release: April 21, 2020

Rocky Mount, Virginia – Join Franklin County and Cable 12 this Wednesday, April 22nd at 12:30pm for the first in a series of informational sessions on the COVID-19 outbreak and what the public should know about local issues and efforts. The first guest on the new “COVID Community Conversations” show will be Nancy Bell, Population Health Manager & Public Information Officer for the West Piedmont Health District. This weekly series will feature various County, regional, and state officials providing up to the minute COVID-related information and taking questions from the public. Citizens can call in or submit their questions ahead of time to be answered on air. Franklin County is extremely appreciative to Cable 12 for their help in providing this important service to the community. Tune in each Wednesday at 12:30pm on Cable 12 or live stream on the Franklin County website at www.franklincountyva.gov.

To date, seventeen (17) cases of COVID-19 have been reported in Franklin County. The County reminds the public to continue social distancing and proper hygiene during this unprecedented time. One person can break a chain of COVID-19 infection. Help protect your family and community. The Virginia Department of Health encourages everyone to:

- Stay home as much as possible, except for essential travel;
- If you must go out in public, wear a cloth face covering;
- Stay home when you are sick;
- Avoid contact with sick people;
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing;
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth;
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces;
- If you are experiencing symptoms, call your doctor;
- Practice social distancing. Maintain at least six feet of space between yourself and other individuals when out in public; and
- Avoid close contact with crowds of any size and avoid any crowd of more than 10 people.

If you develop a fever, cough or difficulty breathing, stay home and call your health care provider. If it is a medical emergency, call 9-1-1. If you have questions about COVID-19 signs and symptoms, get answers from the Carilion Community Hotline. The hotline is available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 1-866-604-2873.