



To Protect, Promote and Prioritize the Health of Our Entire
Community

For Immediate Release: October 28, 2020

Mask up Properly for Halloween

While masks and Halloween go hand in hand any year, the Douglas County Health Department (DCHD) wants to be sure you take safety into extra consideration this year when choosing your mask.

A costume mask is not an effective substitute for a surgical or cloth facemask. The only exception being masks made of two or more layers of breathable fabric that cover the nose and mouth without leaving gaps around your face.

Please do not wear a costume mask over a cloth mask as it can make it hard to breathe. Instead, try a Halloween themed cloth mask. You can even get creative and make a costume or outfit that complements your mask.

On Wednesday, October 28, DCHD reported 275 new cases of COVID-19 that were received over the past day, ending at midnight. This makes 22,069 total cases in Douglas County since the outbreak began in March.

The Health Department received three new death certificates during the past day related to COVID-19. We sadly have lost a man in his 40s and a man and a woman, each over 70 years of age. The number of deaths in the county connected to the pandemic has increased to 226. DCHD has confirmed 15,135 county residents have recovered from the illness.

As of this morning, metro area hospitals had 240 medical and surgical beds available for an 84% occupancy rate with 61 Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds available for an 80% occupancy rate. There were 204 individuals hospitalized who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, 69 of which are receiving adult ICU level care. There are also 25 more persons of interest (generally waiting for test results). Twenty-one individuals who were confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19 were on ventilators.

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