

COVID-19 Information Bulletin #34

Date issued: July 9, 2020

Purpose of bulletin: To keep local stakeholders informed of the quickly-evolving novel coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and its implications for Wellington County, Dufferin County and the City of Guelph (WDG).

Due to the evolving nature of the situation, further updates may be forthcoming. For more information visit www.wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca

Surveillance

- Information about cases in WDG can be found on [our website](#) and information about institutional outbreaks can be found in the [Retirement and Long-Term Care Outbreak Bulletin](#).
- Information about local assessment centres and testing criteria is available on [our website](#).

New or Amended Guidance Documents and Directives

- **Updated:** [Government of Ontario's Agriculture Sector Guidance](#) [July 8]
- **Updated:** PHAC's [Interim Guidance: Death Care Services and Handling of Dead Bodies During the Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) Pandemic](#) [July 7]
- **Updated:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Guidance: Summer Day Camps](#) [July 9]
- **New:** WDGPH's [Summer Day Camp Q&A](#) [July 9]

Additional Resources

- **New:** WDGPH's [STOP COVID-19 Screening Poster](#)
- **New:** WDGPH's [STOP COVID-19 Screening Poster with WDG Assessment Centre Information](#)
- **Updated:** PHAC's [Advice for Essential Retailers During COVID-19 Pandemic](#) [July 8]

Ontario Extends Emergency Orders

The [Government of Ontario](#) has extended all emergency orders currently in force that were made under s.7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until July 22, 2020. Please be aware that there is the potential for the Ontario government to extend the orders past this date, if deemed necessary. Emergency orders include those allowing frontline care providers to redeploy staff to long-term care and retirement homes and other congregate care settings as well as enabling public health units to redeploy or hire staff to

support case management and contact tracing. A full list of emergency orders can be found [here](#).

Announcements and Changes to Services

- On July 8, the [Government of Ontario](#) introduced the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, proposed legislation that lays the foundation to restart jobs and development, strengthen communities and create opportunity for people in every region of the province.
- On July 8, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced the piloting of a new system that will make it easier for truck drivers to access COVID-19 testing through a partnership with DriverCheck.
- On July 7, the [Government of Canada](#) announced the gradual and safe reopening of up to 90 Service Canada Centres across the country.
- On July 6, the [Government of Canada](#) announced that seniors eligible for the Old Age Security (OAS) pension, the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), or Allowances will receive a one-time, tax-free payment this week to help with extra costs during the pandemic.

Ongoing COVID-19 Action

COVID-19 Testing

Please go to an [Assessment Centre](#) to get tested. Public Health **DOES NOT** provide testing. No referral is needed. **Bring your health card to the assessment centre** (if you have one). It is OK if it is expired. Presenting your health card allows you to:

- Check your test results online. Public Health only calls those who test positive.
- Be treated or prescribed medication for other respiratory conditions if needed and if this option is available at your assessment centre.
- Move through the testing process faster.

Further instruction will be provided by the clinician at the assessment centre based on individual assessment. Be prepared for increased wait times at the assessment centres.

Face Coverings Required for Commercial Businesses in WDG

Dr. Nicola Mercer, Medical Officer of Health, has issued an order under Section 22 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*.

What this means:

- A face covering is required for any customer, patron, employee or visitor when entering and while on the premises of any commercial establishment in the WDG region, effective 12:01 a.m. on June 12, 2020. The order will be in effect until rescinded.

For more details on the order and frequently asked questions, [visit our website](#) or contact our call centre at 519-822-2715 ext. 4020.

Individuals who may be exempted from this Order:

- Children under the age of two years.
- Children under the age of five years (either chronologically or developmentally) who refuse to wear a face covering and cannot be persuaded to do so by their caregiver.
- People whose ability to breathe is in any way inhibited by the face covering.
- People that have any other medical reason they cannot wear a face covering safely, such as, but not limited to, respiratory disease, cognitive difficulties or difficulties in hearing or processing information.

Learn more about the [wear and care of face coverings](#).



Guidelines for Reopening

Don't forget to check out the ever-evolving updates about reopening on our website.

Quick Links:

- [General Workplaces and Businesses](#)
- [Food Premises and Events](#)
- [Child Care Providers](#)
- [Summer Day Camps](#)
- [Personal Service Settings](#)
- [Recreational Water Facilities](#)
- [Water Quality for Reopening Buildings](#)
- [Sport and Recreation Settings](#)



Physical Distancing Floor Decals

- WDG Public Health has physical distancing floor decals available for community partners to use at their locations.
- If you would like decals, please contact Meghan Wiles via email at meghan.wiles@wdgpublichealth.ca

Health and Safety Sector-Specific Guidance

Sector-specific guidelines and posters to help protect workers and the public from COVID-19 are available from the Government of Ontario. These [guidance documents](#) are being posted and updated as they become available, so check back regularly.

Contact Information for Additional Support

WDGPH COVID-19 Call Centre

Call Centres are no longer open on Sundays

- **For health-related questions**, including symptoms, close contacts or travel:
 - Call 519-822-2715 ext. 7006
 - Available Monday – Saturday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

- **For non-health related questions**, including business or workplace concerns, social distancing/face covering questions or non-emergency reporting questions:
 - Call 519-822-2715 ext. 4020
 - Available Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Reliable Information Sources

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health: www.wdgpublichealth.ca

Ontario Ministry of Health: www.ontario.ca/coronavirus

Public Health Agency of Canada: www.canada.ca/coronavirus