



CANANDAIGUA EMERGENCY SQUAD
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Matthew Sproul, Chief

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Canandaigua Emergency Squad is dedicated to the safety, health, and well-being of the communities that we serve. Over the past few weeks, there has been growing concern over COVID-19, a new virus that causes respiratory illness (like the flu) with symptoms such as a cough, fever, and in more severe cases, pneumonia.

Local leaders and businesses have taken the initiative to halt mass gatherings as well as social gatherings. Schools and colleges have adapted to online education platforms, and many events have been canceled to create social distancing.

Canandaigua Emergency Squad will remain operations as usual with some modifications. Until further notice, we will not be holding any CPR/AED/First Aid classes to keep attendees and instructors safe. Our local 911 center has initiated new screening questions to alert our crews better when they may be entering a hazardous situation.

What you can expect:

- When calling 911 for any respiratory-related illness, you will be asked a series of questions by the dispatcher. This information will be delivered to the responding crews to alert them to take full precautions as needed.
- If you see our crews in Tyvek suits, masks, and gloves, **do not be alarmed**. We are taking every precaution possible to keep our responders safe so that they can return to their families. **This does not mean that there is a confirmed case of COVID-19**

How you can help us:

- Be forthcoming with information: If you have been outside of the United States, been in physical contact with someone who has been outside of the United States, or in physical contact with someone who was under quarantine, you must tell us.
- Do not withhold information about your condition, fearing that you may be “overreacting” or “don’t want to cause a scene.”
- Prepare a list of all your medications, medical history, and allergies to give to the EMTs and Paramedics.

How you can keep yourself safe:

- Stay indoors as much as possible, avoid going out to mass gathering locations such as stores or restaurants
- Wash your hands frequently (for at least 20-30 seconds)
- Use disinfectant spray around your house and clean according to CDC recommendations
- Stay informed with news from reputable news sources such as the CDC and WHO.

We understand that times such as these are concerning, please be assured that all the appropriate steps are being taken to keep the public safe and that Canandaigua Emergency Squad is prepared to respond to your medical emergency at any time.

Lieutenant, David D. Hubble
Public Information Officer

####END OF RELEASE####