**Information Concerning the coronavirus**

We have been in touch with DHEC. Their recommendations while in an environment that includes large numbers of people are listed below:

* **Do not shake hands, hug, fist pump high five or elbow bump**
* **Cough and/or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow**
* **Wash your hands frequently especially if you cough, sneeze, use the bathroom eat or touch your nose or mouth**
* **Avoid touching your nose or mouth**

**The following information was copied from the CDC web site concerning prevention:**

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

* Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
* Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
* Stay home when you are sick.
* Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
* Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
* Follow CDC’s recommendations for using a facemask.
	+ CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
	+ Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to  others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for [health workers](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/infection-control.html) and [people who are taking care of someone in close settings](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-home-care.html) (at home or in a health care facility).
* Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
	+ If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

For information about handwashing, see [CDC’s Handwashing](https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/) website

For information specific to healthcare, see [CDC’s Hand Hygiene in Healthcare Settings](https://www.cdc.gov/handhygiene/index.html)

These are everyday habits that can help prevent the spread of several viruses. CDC does have [specific guidance for travelers](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/warning/novel-coronavirus-china).