



The Fairfield County Commissioners urge everyone to take important precautionary measures to fight COVID-19:

- **Wear a mask**
- **Keep your distance (at least 6 feet)**
- **Wash your hands and surfaces**
- **Stay home if you're sick**
- **Avoid groups of people**
- **Cooperate with local public health officials (with contact tracing)**

Do it for Fairfield County!



**For more information go to:
coronavirus.ohio.gov**



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Fairfield Department of Health

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If you have had surgery in your lifetime, the nurses and doctors that attended you wore a mask during that procedure. Modern surgical masks have been worn universally in surgeries since at least the 1960's. There are a couple of reasons but one of them is that your health care providers were trying to protect you when you were in a vulnerable state from getting infected with a germ that they might be carrying and not know it. The same is true of wearing masks in the current COVID-19 pandemic crisis. One reason we wear it is to protect others that are vulnerable from something we might have and not even know it. Early on it was argued by some that we didn't have data to prove that masking helped stop the transmission of COVID-19. At the beginning of the pandemic, medical experts lacked good evidence on how SARS-CoV-2 spreads, and they didn't know enough to make strong public-health recommendations about masks. That simply is not true now. There are many good studies now that show us that masks can reduce transmission both ways but especially when it comes to protecting others from ourselves. I would encourage you to read about the two hair stylists in Springfield Missouri where many people were exposed but everyone was masked, and the transmission was absolutely diminished. (See MMWR early release Weekly / July 17, 2020 / 69(28);930-932). Many say that they feel that they will do well if they get COVID-19 so they don't mask up. While that may be true, if I get infected, I will pass it to someone who will pass it to someone who will pass it to someone who might not do well. I won't even know that person, but I may be the link in a chain that leads to their death.

Mark Aebi, MD
Health Commissioner