



**Quad Cities COVID-19 Coalition  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Nov. 24, 2020**

**Current COVID-19 case count**

**Scott County** – Total of 10,459  
Total deaths in Scott County: 75  
9 deaths since last briefing on Nov. 19

**Rock Island County** – 125 new cases since Monday; total of 7,908  
Currently in hospital in Rock Island County: 89  
Total deaths in Rock Island County: 137  
3 newly reported deaths: a woman in her 90s and two men in their 90s, all of whom had been living in long-term care.  
Total deaths: 137

**Today's call**

A video recording of today's media briefing can be found at  
<https://www.scottcountyiowa.com/health/covid19/news>

**Make safe decisions for Thanksgiving**

Remarks from Edward Rivers, director, Scott County Health Department

Thanksgiving is two days away, and we are at the bleakest point yet in this pandemic. This past Sunday, the Iowa Department of Public Health announced the COVID-19 related deaths of 6 Scott County residents. One of these residents was a young adult. This is the first death of a Scott County resident under the age of 40 due to COVID-19. We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of these residents we have lost. The hospitalizations and deaths we are seeing in the community are not limited to one age group. They are widespread.

I'm concerned about what holiday gatherings this week will mean for spread in our community. I fear that we will see a further spike in cases in the following weeks, as COVID-19 will undoubtedly spread across the Thanksgiving table of those who choose to gather with extended family and friends.

Our healthcare system is stressed and I fear what will happen if demand increases. Our hospitals cannot weather another doubling of daily cases.

Today, I urge every resident in (the Quad Cities) to make the tough but necessary decision to avoid Thanksgiving gatherings with extended family and friends. Do it this year so that there isn't an empty seat at the table next year. Your decision could very well save a life – maybe even your own.

Today we will hear from another healthcare system partner, local emergency medical service providers. These providers play a critical role in emergency medicine and I don't want us to take the role they play for granted during this pandemic. Unfortunately, at this point in the pandemic, their system is also being challenged daily and their ability to respond gets more and more difficult.

## **EMS systems challenged by COVID**

Speakers:

- Linda Fredericksen, MEDIC EMS
- Travis Noyd, City of Moline Fire

Neither of them spoke from prepared remarks. Please refer to recording from link at the top of this release.

Quotes of the day:

"I always think of your mask as your underwear: If you wouldn't go out in public without your underwear, don't go out without your mask," Fredericksen said.

"It goes back to taking care of each other," Noyd said. "I worry that the public isn't heeding the requests of public health. ... We have to be smarter and better about it for each other."

## **More information**

- Current Illinois mitigations: <https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/restore-illinois-mitigation-plan>
- Current Iowa mitigations: [https://governor.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Summary%20of%20Enhanced%20Public%20Health%20Measures\\_final.pdf](https://governor.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Summary%20of%20Enhanced%20Public%20Health%20Measures_final.pdf)
- <https://www.scottcountyiowa.gov/health/post/do-masks-prevent-covid-19>
- <https://togetherqc.com/2020/10/mask-mandate-local-initiative/>
- [www.TogetherQC.com](http://www.TogetherQC.com)
- [coronavirus.iowa.gov](http://coronavirus.iowa.gov)
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19>
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics?regionID=2>
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics?county=Rock%20Island>
- <https://www2.illinois.gov/idoc/facilities/Pages/Covid19Response.aspx>
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/long-term-care-facility-outbreaks-covid-19>

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