

Guidance for COVID-19 Quarantine based on Updated CDC/DHEC Recommendations

Contact Tracing Guidelines require OH to look at the known or suspected COVID-19 infected person two days prior to their symptoms starting or date of test.

Employees who have close contact within two days before that person develops symptoms or tests positive are (considered to be) exposed and will be quarantined accordingly.

Close contact can be defined as being within 6 feet of the other person for a period of more than 15 minutes.

If the contact tests negative for coronavirus the employee should notify OH. In most cases these employees will be allowed to return to work.

Of Note: A full 14-day quarantine remains the most effective strategy for preventing additional transmission. Those ending quarantine early must continue daily monitoring of symptoms and **preventive measures must be strictly adhered to through day 14** including social distancing, hand hygiene and wearing a mask or face covering. In the case of someone who lives with an infected individual, you need to wait until the end of the infected persons quarantine before yours begins.

Employees who have close contact with known or suspected COVID-19 infected persons:

- The employee will be required to quarantine. There are two options for length of quarantine after the last contact with known or suspected case:
 - **Day 10:** Quarantine can be ended **after** day 10 if the employee has not had any symptoms during the quarantine period.
 - **Day 7:** Quarantine can be ended **after** day 7 if the employee has a negative test for COVID-19 **no sooner than 5 days** after the last contact with known or suspected case.
 - In either situation, continue to closely follow all recommendations to prevent spread of the virus (correct and regular use of face coverings, social distancing, hand washing, etc.) through quarantine Day 14.
 - Anyone who develops symptoms must immediately separate themselves from others, call their medical provider, and get tested for COVID-19.

Employees who live with a close contact of known or suspected COVID-19 infected persons (household member):

- Known or suspected case (infected person) is isolated for 10 days from their symptom onset (or positive test if asymptomatic). Household members may be exposed to the virus anytime during that 10-day period.
- Employee, who cannot separate from infected person, is required to quarantine for an additional 7 – 10 days after infected person ends their quarantine (total quarantine from 17 – 20 days).
 - **Day 20:** Quarantine can be ended **after** day 20 if the employee has not had any symptoms during the quarantine period.
 - **Day 17:** Quarantine can be ended **after** day 17 if the employee has a negative test for COVID-19 **no sooner than 5 days** after the infected person's isolation period ends.
 - In either situation, continue to closely follow all recommendations to prevent spread of the virus (correct and regular use of face coverings, social distancing, hand washing, etc.) through quarantine Day 14.
 - Anyone who develops symptoms must immediately separate themselves from others, call their medical provider, and get tested for COVID-19.
- If the employee can separate/isolate from the infected person, the quarantine period will be 10 days (no test) or 7 days (negative test) after the last contact with the infected person. See *"Employees who have close contact with known or suspected COVID-19 infected persons"*.

Quarantine exception for critical infrastructure employees (including many Santee Cooper employees):

- Some employees must work, even during a period that quarantine is recommended, if necessary, for operations.
- This can be determined in conjunction with employee's management.
- If possible, the employee should work in isolation.
- Employees who are exempted in this way must:
 - Have temperature check and wellness screening prior to each shift during quarantine period.
 - Always wear a face mask.
 - Practice social distancing.
 - Go home if they develop any symptoms and notify Occupational Health.
- They must not:
 - Stay at work or come to work if they become sick.
 - Share headsets, respirators or other objects used near face.
 - Congregate in break rooms or other crowded places.

- Ride in fleet vehicles with other employees.

Travel/Holiday Quarantine – An employee will be quarantined for travel or participation in a holiday event for the following reasons:

- Travel involves airports.
- If the employee goes to an amusement park.
- Indoor gatherings of greater than 10 people, such as:
 - Weddings
 - Funerals
 - Holiday dinners/parties
- The employee will be required to quarantine. There are two options for length of quarantine after travel or an event:
 - **Day 10:** Quarantine can be ended **after** day 10 if the employee has not had any symptoms during the quarantine period.
 - **Day 7:** Quarantine can be ended **after** day 7 if the employee has a negative test for COVID-19 **no sooner than 5 days** after date of return or date of event.
 - In either situation, continue to closely follow all recommendations to prevent spread of the virus (correct and regular use of face coverings, social distancing, hand washing, etc.) through quarantine Day 14.
 - Anyone who develops symptoms must immediately separate themselves from others, call their medical provider, and get tested for COVID-19.