

STATE AGENCY COVID-19 UPDATES

May 22, 2020

A gradual return to youth sports gets underway June 1

- The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has issued [new guidance](#) on a gradual return to youth sports that builds on existing guidance for Youth Summer Programming.
- The first phase focuses on small groups, engaging in practice sessions, and individual skills and incorporates limits on the number of participants.
- For the time being, guidelines do not allow activities that involve contact, games, or competition.

MnDOT urges Minnesotans to stay safe this Memorial Day holiday

The Minnesota Department of Transportation encourages all motorists traveling during the 2020 Memorial Day holiday weekend to focus on safety when driving through work zones and when interacting with others off the road.

- With more than 200 road constructions underway statewide, motorists are encouraged to plan their trips and to keep these safety tips in mind when driving in or near work zones:
 - Slow down when approaching every work zone, then navigate through with care and caution
 - Stay alert; work zones constantly change
 - Watch for workers and slow moving equipment
 - Obey posted speed limits; fine for a violation in a work zone is \$300
 - Minimize distractions behind the wheel
 - Be patient; expect delays, especially during peak travel times
- For traffic information in Minnesota, visit 511mn.org or get the free smartphone app at [Google Play](#) or the [App Store](#).
- For a complete list of projects by highway or region, visit www.mndot.gov/roadwork/current.html. Stay informed about projects and other transportation topics by connecting to MnDOT via social media and by signing up for email updates for major projects at www.mndot.gov/emailupdates.

Traffic volumes remain below May 2019 averages

MnDOT continues to monitor [traffic volumes](#) statewide.

- Metro area: Traffic volumes on Thursday, May 21, were down 20 percent compared to Thursday averages for May 2019.
- Statewide: Traffic volumes on Thursday, May 21, were down 10 percent compared to Thursday averages for May 2019.

COVID-19 lab-confirmed cases pass 19,000

- 842 reported deaths — an increase of 33 since May 21; 26 of the 33 deaths were people in long-term care facilities.
- 19,005 lab-confirmed cases in Minnesota — an increase of 813 cases since May 21.
- 534 patients are currently hospitalized with 233 in intensive care units (ICU). The number of ICU patients is up 4 from May 21.
- 12,696 patients have been released from isolation.
 - Learn more about the latest lab-diagnosed cases on the [COVID-19 public dashboard](#).

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SEOC Focusing on Testing and PPE

The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) remains fully activated and staffed either physically or virtually by all state agencies and several volunteer organizations.

- Officials is the SEOC continue to focus on testing.
 - National Guard medical soldiers are conducting testing at two long-term care facilities on Friday.
 - The Department of Corrections is testing between 1,300 and 1,400 people at their facilities.
- The SEOC continues to support PPE requests across Minnesota. This support includes request tracking for non-healthcare workers, delivery of PPE, and managing supply and distribution coming to Minnesota from the strategic national stockpile.
- SEOC officials are supporting Minnesota Department of Health efforts to ensure long-term care facility staffing over the Memorial Day weekend.
- The SEOC continues supporting the state hotline, which received 79 calls on Thursday. Employees are answering calls at 651-297-1304 or 800-657-3504. The hotline is currently operating from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.
 - The state hotline will operate on weekend hours on Monday, May 25, Memorial Day.