



# Big Flats News

March 2019

*At Big Flats Elementary,  
we will SOAR together  
as we explore our "wonders"  
in a fun and engaging  
community, where we will  
inspire each other to achieve  
anything!*

*Dear Parents and Guardians:*

As we approach each new day, we are all becoming more and more aware and concerned about the coronavirus also known as COVID-19. To minimize anxieties and to be transparent with our preparations and current procedures in order to keep our students, faculty, and staff as safe and healthy as possible, I want to reiterate what our Superintendent, Dr. Thomas Douglas, has already shared with you all in two prior communications.

First, our district continues to follow health care procedures and cleaning protocols in all of our schools. We are staying up to date on the latest information and recommendations and following guidelines from local, state, and federal agencies.

As a reminder for what you can currently do for you and your family, remember the importance of good hygiene habits to help prevent the spread of contagious health conditions. Please reinforce and practice the following precautions:

- Cover all coughs and sneezes into your bent elbow.
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water, especially after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.
- Avoid touching your nose, mouth, and eyes to reduce the spread of germs.
- If a child is ill, especially if a fever is present, PLEASE keep them home for at least 48-72 hours *after* their fever breaks.
- Do not share eating utensils, water bottles, beverage containers, or other personal items.

In closing, the coronavirus is a situation that concerns all of us. Please know that we continue to make this a priority. Our cleaners, teachers, and support staff continue to be vigilant regarding this public health concern. For more information, please visit the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth M. Scaptura*

Elizabeth M. Scaptura  
Big Flats Elementary, Principal

**Horseheads Central School District** sets the standard of educational excellence by fostering innovative thinking, curiosity, and a passion for learning to maximize the potential of each individual. We engage with our local and global communities to provide a student-centered, nurturing environment.

*Explore*

*Empower*

*Excel*

## **Elementary Lunches (K-6)**

School Food Services prices for the 2018-2019 school year will be:

Breakfast: \$1.25

Lunch: \$2.10

## **School Hours**

Hours for the Elementary Schools are:

8:15 a.m. to 2:25 p.m.

## **Office Hours**

Our school office hours during regular school days are:

Monday through Friday

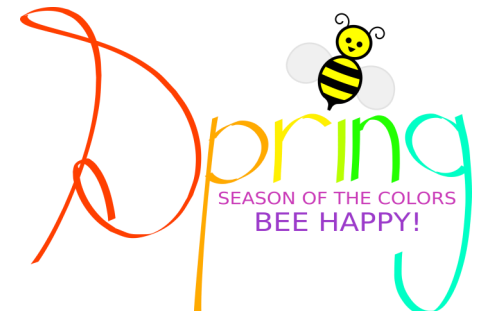
7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

## **Office Phone Numbers**

(607) 739-6373

(607) 795-2550

Fax: (607) 795-2555



## FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

### PLACEMENT INFORMATION for 5th grade at the Intermediate School

The Intermediate School will soon be completing 2020-2021 classroom placements for students. We create class sections with the intent to achieve a mix of students by ability, gender, personality, and individual special needs. While we are unable to honor specific requests for teachers, we value your input from a parent's perspective. If you have specific information about your child's needs which should be taken into consideration or a specific previous personal experience, please put them in writing and send them to the Intermediate School no later than Thursday, April 2nd. We look forward to working with you to ensure your child's academic success!

Thank you!

## 2020-21 Budget Development

The Board of Education and district are currently developing the proposed 2020-21 School Budget to be offered to voters May 19. Here is a schedule of public meetings regarding the proposed budget. All are welcome. The Multi-Media Center is located in the south wing of Horseheads High School.

Thursday, March 5	Budget Workshop, Multi-Media Center, 6pm
Thursday, March 19	Board of Education Regular Meeting, Multi-Media Center, 6 p.m.
Thursday, April 16	Budget Workshop, Multi-Media Center, 6pm
Wednesday, April 22	Board of Education Meeting, Multi-Media Center, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, May 5	(Tentative) Board of Education Candidates' Forum, Multi-Media Center, 6 p.m.
Thursday, May 7	Public Hearing, Multi-Media Center, 6 p.m.
Tuesday, May 19	<b>Budget Vote/Board of Education Election, High School South Gym, 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.</b>

For more information on the proposed budget, including videos and presentations from the Board of Education meetings above, please visit the district website at <https://horseheadsdistrict.com/Budget2020-21.cfm?school=District>. Questions? Please email [hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com) or call (607) 739-5601, x4295.

### Grade 4 Intermediate School Presentation and Self-Guided Tour

The Intermediate School will be hosting a presentation and self-guided tour for all current 4th graders. The presentation will be held on Monday, March 23rd in the Middle School cafeteria beginning at 6:00 PM. Immediately following, students and families will have the opportunity to take a self-guided tour around the Intermediate School. Should you have any questions, please contact the Intermediate School office at 739-6366.

### ATTENTION PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF 3RD AND 4TH GRADERS

To provide schools and parents with an assessment of student achievement, New York State has developed the New York State Testing Program. These standardized tests challenge all students in grades 3 through 8 to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. Please visit the site at <https://www.engageny.org/parent-and-family-resources>. If you are interested in viewing this site but do not have access to the Internet, please call the school office so that we can make arrangements for you to see this guide.

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade ELA—March 25-26, 2020

4<sup>th</sup> grade Science Performance Test—May 19, 2020

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade Math—April 22-23, 2020

4<sup>th</sup> grade Science Written Test—June 1, 2020

Please join us for the  
Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade!

**Saturday, March 14, 2020**

(With the current construction underway at the High School, more information will be forthcoming regarding the parade locations and route. We will be sure to keep you posted.)

**The Parade will start at 2:00pm on March 14.**

Parents may walk or ride with students and staff.  
If dropping your child off, pick up will be at approximately 2:30pm.

*We hope to see you there!*



# Falcon Leadership

## Show Respect

Written By: Beckett and Keeley

During the month of March, we are focused on the Character Trait of Respect. Respect is getting to know people, including people in games, being kind, and treating others the way you want to be treated. At school, you can show respect by helping someone up when they fall. Another example is trying to see someone else's view in an argument. This month, *how can you show respect?*

### What is **Respect**?

By Falcon Leader Keeley M.

Honor, caring, yes!

Mannerly, mindful, kind, yes!

What is it? **Respect!**

### Respect

By Falcon Leader Katie M.

Respect: Important

It means honor and kindness

Please listen: respect

## Next Falcon Leadership Team Meeting:

**March 10, 2:30-3:30pm!**

## Spirit Days!

March 6  
Dr. Suess/PJ Day



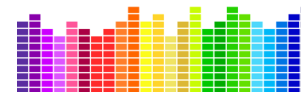
March 13  
Sports Day



March 17  
Wear **Green**



March 19  
Shine Bright



March 27  
Fun Sock Day



## Mark Your Calendars

### March 3

PTO Meeting-6pm; BF Library

### March 6

Spirit Day-Dr. Seuss/Pajama Day

### March 10

Falcon Leadership Team Meeting-2:30-3:30pm

### March 13

Spirit Day-Sports Day

### March 14

St. Patrick's Day Parade

### March 17

St. Patrick's Day-Wear **Green**

### March 19

Spirit Day-Shine Bright

BOE Meeting-6pm; HS MMC

### March 20

NO SCHOOL-Superintendent's Conference Day

### March 25 & 26

NYS ELA Assessments-Grades 3&4

### March 27

Spirit Day-Fun Sock Day

### March 31

Spring Photos

### Learn Up-To-Date Information About Our Schools and the District

**Facebook:** The district and each of our seven schools have pages. "Like" them to see our information in your news feed.

**Twitter:** Follow us on Twitter at @HhdsSchools to read our tweets. Follow Mrs. Scaptura on Twitter at

@escaptural

**Instagram:** The district's page—hhdsschools

Visit our district website at:

[www.horseheadsdistrict.com](http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com).

Questions about our website or social media?

E-mail [hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com)

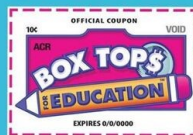


Please pull tabs for  
Ronald McDonald!

[PullTabs4McDonalds@yahoo.com](mailto:PullTabs4McDonalds@yahoo.com)

Pull tabs for Ronald  
McDonald Charities!

Tabs will be picked up  
mid-May.



SEE THIS...  
**CLIP IT**



SEE THIS...  
**SCAN YOUR RECEIPT**

The Horseheads Central School District is looking for interested individuals for several job positions: cleaner, bus driver, food service worker, as well as substitute clerical, nurse, cleaner, and food service worker. We seek candidates who are 18 or older, including retired community members. To apply, complete our district application and submit it, along with all required documents, to Human Resources. The district application may be found here: <http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/uploadeddocs/application.pdf> or picked up at our Human Resources Office. Questions? Email us at [hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com).

## March —The month of:

### RESPECT

- Follow the Golden Rule
- Be tolerant and accepting
- Deal peacefully with anger and insults
- Use good manners, not bad language
- Be considerate of the feelings of others
- Don't threaten, hit, or hurt anyone



## Dignity Act Coordinator

The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Big Flats Elementary is Elizabeth Scaptura. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Mrs. Scaptura at (607)-739-6373. The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for the Horseheads Central School District is Caitlin DeFilippo, director of Human Resources. If there is a complaint regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student, the complaint should be filed with Caitlin DeFilippo at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845; 607-739-5601 x4211, or [cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com).

## Non-Discrimination Notification

The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, marital status, military status, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, predisposing genetic characteristic, or disability, and provides equal access to applicable groups under the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Inquiries regarding this policy may be made to Caitlin DeFilippo, Title IX/DASA Coordinator, and Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; Anthony Gill, Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; or Kelly Squires, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

This policy of non-discrimination includes access by students to educational programs, counseling services, course offerings, and activities, as well as recruitment and appointment of employees and employment pay, benefits, advancement and/or termination.





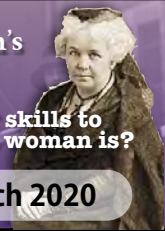


# Digital Citizen News

## March 2020

National Women's  
History Month


Can you use your skills to  
find out who this woman is?



Volume 3 : Issue 7 - March 2020

# IDENTITY THEFT

## AND YOUR CHILDREN

 It is never too early to protect your children from identity theft!

According to the Federal Trade Commission's **Child Identity Theft** webpage, "A child's Social Security number can be used by identity thieves to apply for government benefits, open bank and credit card accounts, apply for a loan or utility service, or rent a place to live."

Here are five steps you can take to help protect your children from becoming victims of identity theft:

- Look for red flags. ...
- Find out if your child has a credit report. ...
- Freeze it. ...
- Be vigilant in protecting your child's sensitive information. ...
- Review online safety.

It can take families years to undo the damage caused by identity thieves. ... Freezing a child's credit doesn't prevent personal information from being stolen, but it does stop thieves from opening fraudulent accounts with the child's social security number.

Parents and Guardians can freeze credit for minors, under the age of 16, until the child is old enough to use it. When your child turns 16, you'll need to lift the credit freeze before the child applies for any new credit, applies for a job, a loan for tuition or a car, or needs to rent an apartment.

**IdentityTheft.gov** (from the Federal Trade Commission)  
<http://go.gstric.org/307-idtheft>

**Child Identity Theft** (from the Federal Trade Commission)  
<http://go.gstric.org/307-idtheft-child>

**Identity Theft Central** - The Internal Revenue Service (IRS)  
<http://go.gstric.org/307-idtheft-central>

**Equifax** (1-800-349-9960)  
<http://go.gstric.org/307-equifax>

**Experian** (1-888-397-3742)  
<http://go.gstric.org/307-experian>

**TransUnion** (1-888-909-8872)  
<http://go.gstric.org/307-transunion>



Melissa McCarthy plays an aggressive identity thief in the Universal Pictures movie of the same name, co-starring Jason Bateman. (released in 2013)

### Does your minor child have a credit history?

As of Sept. 21, 2018, a new federal law, Section 301 of the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act (P.L. 115-174), allows people to freeze and unfreeze their credit at the three major credit bureaus, **Equifax**, **Experian** and **TransUnion**, without being charged.



## March 8th, 2020



is International Women's Day  
**Celebrate Women!**



**In honor of Women's History Month,  
try these challenges ...**

**Challenge #1 :** Can you find the identity of the woman in the top right corner of this page? Who is she? What did she do?

**Challenge #2 :** Can you find the name and accomplishments of a famous American woman in any of these fields; Politics, Science, Business, Athletics/Sports, Music or Art, Poetry or Dance, Literature or Philosophy?

**Challenge #3 :** Can you find the name and accomplishments of a well-known woman in your local town, city, or state?

When you have completed your investigations, send your findings in an email to [dc@gstboces.org](mailto:dc@gstboces.org). We would love to read your answers and to share them in a future newsletter.

**Good Luck Digital Detectives!**



# Creating a High School Cell-phone Policy Accepted by Staff & Students



The Spencer-Van Etten High School uses several tools to manage cell phone usage for high school students throughout the instructional school day. Students are required to fill out and sign, (along with their parents/guardians) two district forms in the beginning of each school year. These forms grant access for students to use their cell phones at school with rules they need to follow.



The forms that they fill out are as follows:

## 1. Mobile Communication Device Privilege Form -

This form states that using a cell phone is a privilege with responsibility, and that the use of a mobile

communication device is prohibited in all instructional areas unless it is utilized for educational reasons and authorized by the supervising staff member. The devices are to be turned off and stored according to the staff member's instructions.

**2. Student Wi-Fi Agreement Form** – Once this form is signed and returned students are placed in a special Active Directory group that gives them access to sign into the student wireless group in the high school where their internet use is filtered by the Content Keeper device. Students are instructed to use the schools filtered internet exclusively while using their cell phones at school to comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). (<http://go.gstric.org/307-CIPA>)

These signed forms are kept on file throughout the school year and reviewed by staff to make sure all students have turned them in if they use a cell phone at school.

This year the high school administrators added posters throughout the building that were placed on classroom doors to indicate that instructional areas are "Cell Free Zones" (red) where phones are not to be used. Other areas like hallways, the cafeteria, etc. are designated as "Cell Friendly Zones" (green) where students can use their cell phones according to the rules in the agreements. If students have a question whether they can use their cell phone in a specific location, all they have to do is look for the green zone or red zone poster in that area to answer their question. Teachers have indicated that it is much easier to maintain a cell free zone in their classrooms this year with the addition of the poster reminders.

Cell phone holders (shoe holders) have been purchased and hung up in all classrooms so students can safely store their devices as they are learning. Students like having their devices in the wall holder pockets so they are not tempted to constantly check their phones for messages or notifications.

The S-VE High School administrators and staff continue to work together to find solutions for safe student cell phone use while keeping classrooms for learning.

## Mobile Communication Device School Use Privilege Application

This policy is meant to help maintain an educational focus in the school environment and respect the needs of our students to have reasonable access to their phones and other electronic devices. We acknowledge that this is the age of instant communication; however we must maintain the proper educational environment for our students and faculty.

Remember, with privilege comes responsibility.

The use of mobile communication devices is prohibited in all instructional areas (this includes the auditorium during assemblies) unless it is utilized for educational reasons and authorized by the supervising staff member. The devices are to be turned off and stored according to the staff member's instructions.

According to the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) students are not permitted to access the internet on privately owned devices while at school. Therefore, students who access the internet at school without permission from a staff member while using their phone, i-pad, or tablet are in violation of this policy. The school Wi-Fi can be accessed if the Wi-Fi Agreement is signed and returned.

Violations of the privilege and/or use of a device which constitutes a violation of other discipline policies will result in disciplinary action. This may include confiscation of the device, retrieval by appointment (parents only), loss of privilege, and/or possible further disciplinary actions up to and including suspension from school.

You must obtain consent for any pictures, videos, or recordings of any sort from all people involved in such recordings. You must refrain from any use of your mobile device when in a private area (locker room, restroom, dressing area, offices, etc.). This violation may result in the immediate confiscation of the recording device and additional consequences may be imposed. Be aware that recordings without consent, especially in private areas will result in consequences which could include the criminal code.

The administration reserves the right to make the final determination in each case.

Created 8-2011, Updated 8-2019

## Spencer-Van Etten High School Student Wi-Fi Agreement

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Device Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Identification: \_\_\_\_\_  
• To find identification number on iPhone go to Settings, General, About and use Wi-Fi Address.  
• To find identification number on Android phone go to Settings, About device, Status and use Wi-Fi Mac Address.

You will need to be on the Spencer-Van Etten Wi-Fi network when using your cell phone, laptop or tablet at school this year. We will review your internet usage including where you have been and what you have done if you misuse the network.

Adherence to the following guidelines is required.

### Student Expectations:

- I will follow our current Acceptable Use Policy when using my device at school.
- I agree to exclusively use the school's wireless network while using my personal mobile learning device. If I am using a smartphone, I will turn on school Wi-Fi on my device and log in to the school's wireless network. I will not use my cell network during the school day as this is against the school's CIPA compliance to provide filtered internet to all students.
- I will only use my device in designated classrooms for direct school purposes as directed by my teachers on the school's wireless network.
- I am completely responsible for the security and usage of my device. I will keep my device locked up or on my possession when not in use. The school is not responsible for loss or damage to my personal device while at school.
- I will refrain from using the device for any other purpose than what the instructor or supervisor has asked while in school. I also agree to refrain from using Facebook or any other personal social media, will not download apps, music or other programs while on the school network without the permission of an instructor or the technology staff.
- I will turn over my device if asked by a teacher or adult school employee. I know I will be given an opportunity to explain the situation when I later speak to the classroom teacher or administrator.

### Consequences of misuse of our Wi-Fi network

- First offense we will warn you of inappropriate sites you have been accessing.
- Second offense you will lose your access to the wireless network for 2 weeks.
- Third offense you will lose access to our wireless network.

Connecting to Wi-Fi: You will be granted access to the school's wireless network.

In your signed  
your school

The two documents shown to the right are described in the article. You can download copies by following these links.

**Mobile Communication Device School Use Privilege Application** - <http://go.gstric.org/307-SVE-APPL>

**Spencer-Van Etten High School Student Wi-Fi Agreement** - <http://go.gstric.org/307-SVE-AGREE>





# Just Use Your Common Sense! PART 1



“Common Sense is dedicated to improving the lives of kids and families by providing the trustworthy information, education, and independent voices they need to thrive in the 21st century.”

<http://go.gstric.org/common-sense-ed>

Media Balance & Well-Being

Privacy & Security

Digital Footprint & Identity

Relationships & Identity

Cyberbullying, Digital Drama & Hate Speech

New & Media Literacy

Each grade level has 6 total lessons, 1 for each of the topics listed above, to be addressed throughout the year. The lesson times range from 20 minutes for younger students to an hour for older students. Detailed lesson plans can be **searched by grade level and/or topic**.

Included in each lesson are an essential question, key vocabulary, estimated time breakdown, lesson slides, related handouts, a quiz, and family resources to be used for at-home follow-up all organized for easy access and quick delivery in our busy teaching lives.

To illustrate, the image to the right is a 4th grade lesson on **My Media Choices**, in the **Media Balance & Well-Being** topic area, which addresses the essential question, “**What makes a healthy media choice?**” Further inspection shows a lesson snapshot and breakdown and everything you will need to deliver or modify the lesson.

## 4th Grade

## MEDIA BALANCE & WELL-BEING

### My Media Choices

What makes a healthy media choice?

We all make choices every day about the media we consume and create. But do kids understand what makes a media choice healthy or not? Hint: It's about more than just screen time. Use the activities in this lesson to give kids a framework for making informed media choices.

**Students will be able to:**

- Learn the “What? When? How Much?” framework for describing their media choices.
- Use this framework and their emotional responses to evaluate how healthy different types of media choices are.
- Begin to develop their own definition of a healthy media balance.

### Lesson Snapshot

Estimated time: 45 mins.

Warm Up:	How Media Can Make Us Feel	10 mins.
Explore:	My Media Choices	15 mins.
Evaluate:	Media Balance Reflection	10 mins.
	What Is Media Balance?	10 mins.

Curriculum link - <http://go.gstric.org/307-dc-curriculum>  
Direct link to the lesson above <http://go.gstric.org/307-grade4>  
(You will need to create a free account to download resources)



Hi! I am the editor of this newsletter. I have to jump in here to say that CommonSense Education is one of my favorite sites. It has so many useful resources that you can find a lot of things in just a few minutes. Use our links at the right to visit them!



New York State's Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) seeks to provide students with a safe, supportive, and positive environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment, and bullying on school property, a school bus, or at a school function.

DASA is a tool for students to report behavior that they find to be discriminatory, abusive, or falling under the description of bullying. The legislation applies to both students' peers and staff members who exhibit the above behaviors. Each school district designates a contact for conducting DASA reports and those individuals will help the student to navigate the process. If you feel that you are being discriminated, abused, or bullied in school, you have the right to file a DASA report. If you do not know who your school's DASA contact is, you may find that information on your schools' website, or ask at your school's main office.

**For more DASA resources, navigate to <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/dignityact/>**



**MARCH  
2020**



**ATTENTION  
DIGITAL CITIZENS!  
FIND  
THE**

**POT OF GOLD**

**AT THE  
END  
OF THE**

**INTERNET**



**Learn a new  
Technology Skill**  
( move ahead 1 → )

**Be Nice  
Online**

( move ahead 2 → )

**Send a  
Nasty Tweet**

( ← go back 2 )

**Think Before  
You Post**  
( move ahead 1 ↓ )

**Act With  
Integrity**  
( ↓ move ahead 1 )

**Stand Up  
For Yourself**  
( ← move ahead 1 )

**Harass  
Someone  
via Email**  
( go back 2 → )

**Help Others  
to Succeed**  
( ← move ahead 2 )

**Pay  
More  
Attention to People  
than to Devices**  
( move ahead 2 → )

**Create a  
Fake Account**  
( ← go back 2 )

**Become  
a Good  
Digital Citizen**  
( move ahead 1 → )

**YOU  
WIN !**







# Chemung County Health Department

## Coronavirus (COVID-19)

This is a new virus that causes respiratory illness in people and can spread from person to person. This virus was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China. *The current risk of contracting the virus in the United States remains low.*

### Working Together

We are working closely with the New York State Department of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and local healthcare providers and facilities to follow this virus.

### No Confirmed Cases

Currently, there are no confirmed cases in Chemung County. Confirmed cases will be promptly investigated. This is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation. To stay up-to-date on information, please go to the [CDC COVID-19 website](https://www.cdc.gov/covid19/).

### Trusted Information

The uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 has led to misinformation and rumors on the internet and social media regarding the virus. It is critical that residents rely on the following trusted and reliable health sources of information regarding COVID-19.

- [Chemung County Health Department](#)
- [New York State Department of Health](#)
- NYSDOH COVID-19 Information Line: 1-888-364-3065
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)

Please note that Influenza (Flu) is actively occurring in our area. It's not too late to get your flu vaccination from your health care provider or use this tool [Flu Vaccine Locator](#).

### What You Can Do

Residents should take the following steps every day to avoid spreading respiratory illnesses:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- 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.

If you have other questions please call the  
Chemung County Health Department at 607-737-2899.