

Gila County Health & Emergency Management



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GILA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH CONFIRMS SECOND POSITIVE CASE OF COVID-19 IN GILA COUNTY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 31, 2020
Globe, Arizona

Time: 5:30 PM

PUBLIC INFORMATION

CONTACT:
(928) 402-8888

Globe, AZ - The Gila County Public Health Department has confirmed our second Gila County resident has been diagnosed with COVID-19. The case is a Town of Payson resident, female, in her 40's. This case is not travel related, indicating that this is our first evidence of community spread in Gila County. We will confirm, due to the early release of information in the community, that the case is employed at the Walmart Supercenter in Payson, AZ. Local public health disease investigators have reached out to Walmart leadership and are currently investigating the case and all close contacts.

- **COVID-19 is widespread in Arizona with cases now in all 15 counties.**
- **The Gila County Call Center is open M-F 8-5. Call 928-402-8888 for information, resources and guidance.**
- **COVID-19 Hotline call 2-1-1 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day of the week**

Public Health expects additional cases of COVID-19 in Arizona and is advising residents to follow infection prevention guidelines. The best way to prevent COVID-19 and other respiratory diseases is to:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- 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
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

Sincerely,

Michael O'Driscoll, Director
Gila County Health & Emergency Management