

# Division of State and Local Readiness Friday Update

November 13, 2020



CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program is a critical source of funding, guidance, and technical assistance for state, local, and territorial public health departments to strengthen their public health preparedness capabilities and improve their response readiness. The Division of State and Local Readiness (DSLRL) Friday Update provides information and resources for PHEP recipients and other preparedness planners. Please share the newsletter with your colleagues.

For more information, visit the [CDC State and Local Readiness website](#) or contact us at [preparedness@cdc.gov](mailto:preparedness@cdc.gov).

Subscribe here for the  
**DSLRL FRIDAY UPDATE** 

## In This Issue

### Upcoming Deadlines

#### PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

- PHEP Recipient Conference Call Scheduled for November 18
- South Dakota Welcomes New Preparedness Director

#### COVID-19 Response Activities

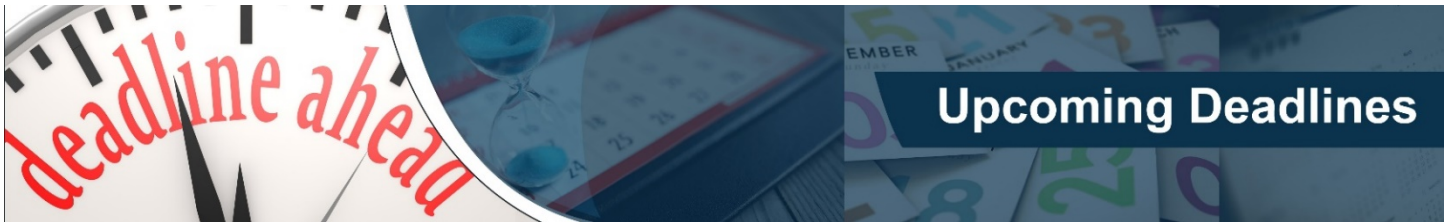
- CDC Announces Holiday Schedule Change for Vaccine Planning Calls
- CDC Provides Considerations for Holiday Gatherings
- New CDC Video Explains Contact Tracing Process

#### What's on the Calendar

#### Tools and Resources

- Mobile GIS Training Goes Virtual

#### Online Resources



## Upcoming Deadlines

- **November 16** – Direct Assistance Renewals/New Requests for Personnel Due



## PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

### PHEP Recipient Conference Call Scheduled for November 18

The next monthly PHEP recipient conference call will be held from **3 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. EST on Wednesday, November 16**. November’s call has been shortened to allow attendees to also participate in the weekly COVID-19 vaccine planning call at 3:30 p.m. EST. The PHEP recipient call will be held using Zoom technology, and participant information is provided below.



Join ZoomGov Meeting

<https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1607434087?pwd=Tmw3czliWGILVHFYRE1xZks1MXpkQT09>

Meeting ID: [160 743 4087](#)

Passcode: [30303434](#)

Zoom Dial in [1-646-828-7666](#)

### South Dakota Welcomes New Preparedness Director

Kaitlin Thomas is the new administrator of South Dakota’s Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response. She replaces Bill Chalcraft, who retired November 6 after 36 years of service at the state health department, including 25 years as the preparedness and planning director. She can be reached at [Kaitlin.Thomas@state.sd.us](mailto:Kaitlin.Thomas@state.sd.us). DSLR would like to include PHEP leadership changes in future issues of the DSLR Friday Update. Please send updates to [preparedness@cdc.gov](mailto:preparedness@cdc.gov).



## COVID-19 Response Activities

### CDC Announces Holiday Schedule Change for Vaccine Planning Calls

CDC plans to reschedule the weekly jurisdictional vaccine planning calls that occur during the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s Day. **For these three weeks only**, the calls will be held on **Tuesdays at 3 p.m. EST**. CDC will send updated calendar invites to preparedness directors and immunization program managers. The new dates are:

- Tuesday, November 24
- Tuesday, December 22
- Tuesday, December 29

The weekly call schedule remains in effect for all other weeks: 3:30 p.m. EST on Wednesdays.

## CDC Provides Considerations for Holiday Gatherings

As Thanksgiving and other holidays approach, many people across the country are beginning to plan for holiday celebrations and small gatherings. To help minimize risk and prevent the spread of COVID-19, CDC has released considerations for [Holiday Celebrations and Small Gatherings](#). The considerations were updated to reflect small and informal gatherings of family and friends from across multiple households that often occur during the holiday season. The [Thanksgiving](#) section offers tips to help people take steps to make their Thanksgivings safer as well as [considerations for traveling during the holidays](#). These considerations complement other resources to help minimize risk and keep family, friends, and communities safer.

## New CDC Video Explains Contact Tracing Process

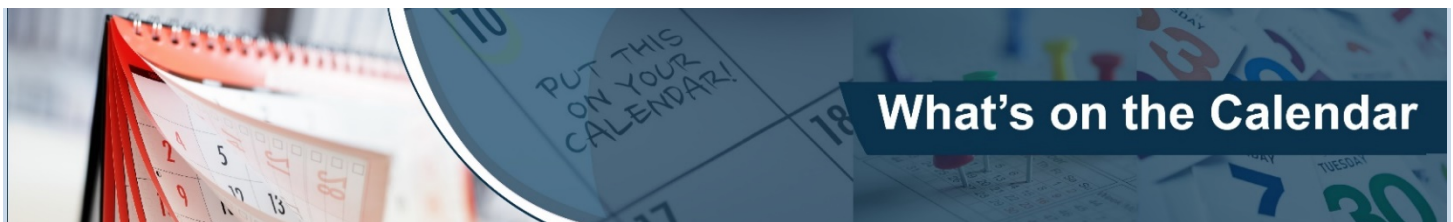
CDC has released a new video, "[Answer the Call](#)," that describes the contact tracing process. This video can be found on CDC's [Contact Tracing Resources for Health Departments web page](#) as well as in the [Contact Tracing Communications Toolkit for Health Departments](#).

This one-minute animated video informs the public about contact tracing and why they should answer and respond to a call from a public health worker. The video:

- Explains what will happen when a person with COVID-19 receives a call from a public health worker to initiate contact tracing
- Explains how a public health worker will help identify close contacts by checking on the person's health, answering questions, and asking about where the person with COVID-19 has been and who they have been around
- Addresses potential concerns that may make some people reluctant to participate in contact tracing, addresses misinformation around contact tracing, and explains that all information provided by the participant during the call is confidential and kept private

This new video is an addition to existing contact tracing communication resources that include:

- [general information](#)
- [questions and answers on contact tracing](#)
- [infographics](#)
- [social media resources](#) and [graphics](#).



- **November 18** – PHEP Recipient Monthly Call



## Mobile GIS Training Goes Virtual

Geographic information systems (GIS) play an instrumental role in data collection, analysis, and situational awareness in preparation for and response to public health emergencies. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, CDC has transitioned the "Building Field GIS Capacity in Preparedness and Response Data

Collection for State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Public Health Workforce” training for PHEP personnel and partners into a live, eight-hour virtual course.

GIS aligns closely with several public health preparedness and response capabilities including Capability 1: Community Preparedness, Capability 3: Emergency Operations Coordination, Capability 4: Public Information and Warning, Capability 6: Information Sharing, and Capability 13: Public Health Surveillance and Epidemiological Investigation.

Interactive skill-building activities are used to train participants how to collect, analyze, and share real-time geospatial data to facilitate all-hazard incident planning and response to public health emergencies using mobile GIS applications. Training exercises may be tailored specifically for the participating jurisdictions using their own pre-existing tools such as paper-based surveys and jurisdiction data to demonstrate potential applications of the GIS tools presented. The course places an emphasis on collecting and sharing surveillance data to improve situational awareness and responsiveness to hazardous events and disease outbreaks

To further supplement learning, guest speakers are invited to provide current real-life examples of applications using GIS tools in their jurisdictions. CDC currently is developing and recording webinars for individual on-demand training that will be available in On-TRAC. Jurisdictions that would like more information or to schedule a training should contact the DSLR project lead, Nyki Preacely, at [npreacely@cdc.gov](mailto:npreacely@cdc.gov).



#### CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#), November 13
- [Surveillance Summaries: Investigations of Possible Multistate Outbreaks of \*Salmonella\*, Shiga Toxin–Producing \*Escherichia coli\*, and \*Listeria monocytogenes\* Infections — United States, 2016](#), November 12
- [Early Release: Multiple COVID-19 Outbreaks Linked to a Wedding Reception in Rural Maine – August 7–September 14, 2020](#), November 13
- [Early Release: Characteristics of Hospitalized COVID-19 Patients Discharged and Experiencing Same-Hospital Readmission — United States, March–August 2020](#), November 9

#### COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **NEW** [Late Sequelae of COVID-19](#)
- **NEW** [COVID-19 Published Science and Research](#)
- **NEW** [Celebrating Thanksgiving](#)
- **UPDATED** [CDC COVID-19 Data Tracker](#)
- **UPDATED** [Staffing Resources](#)
- **UPDATED** [Long Term Effects of COVID-19](#)
- **UPDATED** [Investigating the Impact of COVID-19 during Pregnancy](#)
- **UPDATED** [Clinical Questions about COVID-19: Questions and Answers](#)
- **UPDATED** [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- **UPDATED** [Vaccine Information for You & Your Family](#)
- **UPDATED** [CDC Science Agenda for COVID-19](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Forecasts: Cases](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Forecasts: Deaths](#)
- **UPDATED** [Considerations for Wearing Masks](#)

**Christine Kosmos, RN, BSN, MS**

Director, Division of State and Local Readiness

Center for Preparedness and Response

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

1600 Clifton Rd Atlanta, GA 30329 1-800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636) TTY: 888-232-6348

[Questions or Problems](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)