



Jackson County Department of Public Health

154 Medical Park Loop • Sylva, NC 28779

Tel: 828-586-8994 • FAX: 828-586-3493

Shelley Carraway
DIRECTOR

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To: Jackson County Community & Stakeholders

From: Jackson County Department of Public Health

Re: Jackson County Department of Public Health Identifies COVID-19 Cluster in Local Business

Jackson County Department of Public Health (JCDPH) has identified a COVID-19 cluster in a local business. The North Carolina Division of Public Health (NCDPH) defines clusters of COVID-19 in workplace, educational, and other community settings as 1) A minimum of 5 cases with illness onsets or initial positive results within a 14-day period AND, 2) plausible linkage between cases where cases were present in the same setting during the same time-period (e.g., same shift, same classroom, same physical work area); that the timing fits with likely timing of exposure; and that there is no other more likely source of exposure for identified cases (e.g., household or close contact to a confirmed case in another setting).

Eleven employees of Mountaintop Golf & Lake Club have tested positive for COVID-19. All positive employees are following isolation orders; additional positive results are expected. The investigation is ongoing. Symptomatic individuals who test positive will be required to remain in isolation under the following conditions: 1) At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared AND, 2) at least 72 hours have passed since the resolution of fever without the use of medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms. Asymptomatic individuals who test positive will be required to remain in isolation under the following conditions: 1) At least 10 days have passed since their positive test assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test.

JCDPH is working to identify any additional close contacts of these employees. The CDC defines close contact as being within approximately 6 feet of a person with an infection with COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time of 10 minutes or longer. Based on information provided by the employees, county health officials will assess risks of exposure, determine which if any additional measures are needed, quarantine and/or testing.

Upon notification of the first positive case, Mountaintop Golf & Lake Club coordinated testing for approximately 12 rapid tests on June 26, 100 swab tests on June 27, and 40 swab tests on June 30, 2020. All indoor facilities at Mountaintop Golf & Lake Club were closed on June 27, 2020 to allow time for employees to be tested, for symptoms to resolve, and to perform cleaning and disinfecting. Mountaintop Golf & Club has instituted a phased re-opening with the intention of resuming all operations on July 15, 2020.

“Mountaintop’s highest priority is the health, wellness and safety of the community, its members, guests and employees. Mountaintop has engaged a testing provider to aggressively test employees and arranged two on-site testing days for members who wanted to get tested. Mountaintop continues to maintain an aggressive COVID-19 testing program and compliance procedures exceeding minimum requirements,” stated General Manager of Mountaintop Golf & Lake Club Chris Robinson.



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For information about COVID-19, look to reliable sources like JCDPH, NCDHHS, and the CDC. Visit JCDPH's website at <http://health.jacksonnc.org/covid19>. For COVID-19 questions, call the Jackson County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at 828-631-HELP.

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