First Case of 2019 Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Roxbury Township

The **Roxbury Township** Health Department, in conjunction with NJ Department of Health (NJDOH) has confirmed its first case of COVID-19 in **Roxbury Township.**   To date, **7** cases of COVID-19 are confirmed in Morris County, **267** cases of COVID-19 are confirmed in New Jersey and **1678** cases have been identified in the United States. As of today, there are 267 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in New Jersey, 12 of which are in Morris County. This includes the 1st confirmed case in Roxbury – an individual age 66 who is under doctors care, but not hospitalized. All close contacts have been reached and were asked to self-quarantine for 14 days as per NJ DOH guidelines.

Currently, there is no vaccination for COVID-19. The **Roxbury Township** Health Department is encouraging all residents to take simple precautions to protect themselves and others from respiratory illness:

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Limit close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Avoid handshakes. Try an elbow bump.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve (not your hand).
- Get a flu shot to prevent the flu if you have not done so this season.

While the risk of infection to the general public remains low, should a person start showing symptoms of COVID-19, which include fever, cough and shortness of breath, residents must contact their healthcare provider. Even though the risk is low, Mark Caputo, Health Officer for the **Roxbury Township** Health Department explains "People who have these symptoms should contact their healthcare provider prior to visiting the hospital or a healthcare setting."

For more information on COVID-19, visit:

The New Jersey Department of Health website
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html