



Update – October 23, 2020

Supervisors/Managers, please print and post this update in your area and discuss with your employees to ensure they're aware of these topics.

1) Download the free COVID Alert app!

Help prevent the spread of COVID-19 by downloading and installing the free COVID Alert app. The app can notify you of possible exposures before any symptoms even appear, giving us advanced notice to take care of ourselves and protect the community.

How it Works:

- If someone with the COVID Alert app is diagnosed with COVID-19, they can upload codes sent by their phone. These codes go to a central server and it is the only information the server receives. No personal information is gathered.
- Each day the app on your phone will scan through the codes to see if there is a match with anyone who has been diagnosed and inform you if you may have been exposed, and what to do next.

Over 4.7 million Canadians are currently using the COVID Alert app, and we strongly recommend you download it if you haven't already done so. Every effort we can make to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 is valuable. We're in this together, so let's do all we can.

2) Get the Flu Shot!

From the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU):

- This is an important year to get the flu shot with COVID-19 circulating as well.
- Community distribution of the flu shot, including to primary care providers and pharmacies is currently being rolled out across the province.
- This takes several weeks given the large number of locations where the flu vaccine is administered. If your healthcare setting doesn't have vaccines yet they will be receiving them over the coming weeks and **we urge everyone to get vaccinated to protect themselves.**
- 2020 influenza vaccine information is posted on the SMDHU website [Immunization pages](#) including information on where to get your flu shot.

3) Stay up to date on COVID-19 in our region with the SMDHU Monitoring Dashboard

The purpose of the [COVID-19 Monitoring Dashboard](#) is three-fold:

- To provide SMDHU with an 'at a glance' view of the COVID-19 situation in Simcoe Muskoka for local monitoring and informing reopening decisions.
- To provide the public with a general sense of the status of COVID-19 and its transmission in our local community.
- The COVID-19 Monitoring Indicators in Simcoe Muskoka are grounded in the provincial Framework for Reopening our Province and are presented across four domains:
 - Virus Spread and Containment
 - Laboratory Testing
 - Health System Capacity and
 - Public Health System Capacity
- The data will be updated at least weekly, unless otherwise noted.
- The current overall status of the COVID-19 pandemic in our area is **Yellow** (needs attention)
 - Virus spread and Containment: **yellow**
 - Laboratory Testing: **red**
 - Health System Capacity: **yellow**
 - Public Health System Capacity: **red**

If you think you may have COVID-19 symptoms or have been in close contact with someone who has it, first self-isolate and then use [Ontario's Self-Assessment Tool](#) to see if you need to seek further care.

Remember to pre-screen daily when entering any Town building.

Any changes within a department will now be provided to Randy to be included in an update and copied to Clerks@midland.ca for tracking.

We are looking for positive news/stories about Town departments and staff to share both internally and externally. Please email fee@midland.ca with details so we can promote the great work everyone is doing!