

Wear A Mask FF Campaign FAQ's

#WearAMaskFF

When does the campaign start?

Immediately - materials are available to download now. Extensive social media and public communications are scheduled to begin at the end of May.

Why the campaign?

Because it is the best thing for our community. We all should be committed to do everything we can to not only keep vulnerable people safe, but also to help prevent our health care systems from being overwhelmed by this pandemic.

Why is this campaign necessary? What is the science behind it?

The CDC has announced that up to 1 in 4 people infected with COVID are asymptomatic and spreading infected respiratory droplets without knowing it. Wearing a bandana or non-medical mask made of cloth on your face can help prevent the spread to others if you have the virus. This is called "source control." Face coverings are also a good reminder not to touch your face. It's important to remember the main reason to wear a face covering is to protect other people, not to protect yourself.

Why should I participate?

As a community it's up to us to work together to protect our most vulnerable community members, sustain our healthcare system for the months ahead and slow the spread of COVID-19. It is good for all of us.

Will participating businesses be required to provide masks for their employees?

We are asking businesses to make this a standard part of employee uniforms or attire. It is up to each business owner to determine if they will provide and/or require them. We all must work together to protect our most vulnerable community members, sustain our healthcare system for the months ahead and slow the spread of COVID-19.

Why is the term face coverings used sometimes instead of masks?

Because of the lack of medical-grade masks that are so crucial to protecting health care providers on the front lines, these types of masks should not be sought after or used by the general public. By calling cloth masks used for source control "face coverings" it can help reduce confusion about the difference between the purpose and protection level of a face covering as compared to a medical grade mask. It's still important to preserve medical grade masks for health care providers.

When should face coverings/masks be worn?

We want to make it the norm to wear a face covering for the duration of the COVID-19 response, so please wear your non-medical mask whenever you leave your home.

Remember, wearing a face covering is not a substitute for proper distancing and the 6-foot buffer should be maintained whenever possible.

Should kids wear them?

Children under the age of 2 should not wear face coverings. Children over two years old should wear ones that fit their face. This is a great way to engage kids in helping the fight against COVID. Have them decorate their masks, use fun fabrics, and encourage their friends to do it.

What if I can't afford a mask, where can I get one?

There is no need to buy a mask! You can repurpose a t-shirt, a dish towel, a bandana, or other fabric item into a covering that fits your face! There are great instructions online at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>.

Locally, you can request masks for free will donation from Fergus Falls Face Masks [here](#) as well as Glende-Nilson Funeral Home via Karen Holte.

Otter Tail County has PPE available at cost via their new PPE Store that can be accessed [here](#).