

October 23, 2020

Covid Update 10-23-2020

Hello, this is Ron Woody, Roane County Executive, with a Friday morning, October 23rd Covid update. Today's numbers are based on October 22nd.

Looking back on the last 22 days, we had seven (7) days with single digit positives with yesterday having only one (1). Our high positive day was 28, and we average 14 ½ positives a day. Our average for September was 9.5, and the average in August was 13.

Here's a comparison with the total tests that's more important:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Tests</u>	<u>Average Positives a Day</u>
August	4,874	13
September	4,123	9.5
October	4,159	14.5

Now, here's our overall numbers:

Total tested- 22,722 which is 42.2% of the Roane County population
Positive Cases- 1,223
Hospitalizations- 38
Deaths-7
Total Active Cases- 156
Total Recovered/Inactive- 1,060

These are the rankings as if the surrounding counties had a population of 100,000, allowing equal comparison along with Sevier and Hambleton:

<u>County</u>	<u>Positives</u>	<u>Equivalent</u>	<u>Ranking</u>
Morgan	422	1,972	1 st
Anderson	1,611	2,093	2 nd
Roane	1,223	2,291	3 rd
Cumberland	1,561	2,579	4 th
Meigs	300	2,581	5 th
Knox	12,174	2,588	6 th
Loudon	1,566	2,896	7 th
McMinn	1,564	2,907	8 th
Rhea	1,063	3,205	9 th
Sevier	3,241	3,299	
Hambleton	2,379	3,664	

Every week I am still receiving emails on "Masks are useless. Here are all the doctors who don't agree with masks. The masks do more harm than good." I also receive emails requesting mandating masks countywide, and "here are all the doctors who support the mandate."

There is a lot we still do not know about the virus, but these should be a few things we should be able to agree upon.

1. If you are in contact with someone who has the virus, you then could contract the virus. If you are not in contact with anyone who has the virus, you are not exposed, thus are not contracting from a person. That is social distancing.
2. If you are around someone who has the virus but can keep the virus off of you, you should not contract the virus. This is called using PPE as our DOE cleanup contractor used Personal Protective Equipment. That could be your facial protection.

I remember teaching a class while working for U.T. and asked the class if they knew why workers often have a red or yellow dot placed on their watch? They did not know, but the person who had the watch with a dot on it did. The dot was a reminder to be safe. Practice safety.

Like a mask, don't' like a mask. Let it be a reminder to practice safe good health hygiene. Be safe. We want to see and hear from you next week.

RW/ba

C:media