MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Possible COVID-19 Exposure Locations Announced

District Health Department No. 2 (DHD2) would like to alert the general public of possible COVID-19 exposure locations. The only time DHD2 will alert the public to specific locations where an individual who has tested positive has been is when the contact-tracing team are unable to contact all of the individuals who may have been present (for example: larger facilities). DHD2 wants to make the public aware of locations that may have allowed for low risk exposure, therefore making individual identification difficult. Individuals who were present at the listed West Branch locations, at the designated times, have the potential for exposure:

- Home Depot: April 20, 2020 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
- Walmart: April 22, 2020 11:30 am – 3:30 pm
- Walmart: April 24, 2020 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
- Walgreens: April 24, 2020 2:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Individuals should monitor for symptoms consistent with COVID-19. If they do not developed symptoms within the 14 days of these dates, there is nothing to be done. Those that develop symptoms within 14 days of these dates should contact their doctor and consider COVID-19 testing.

While this news is unnerving for many individuals, it is why we continue to urge residents to stay home and stay safe and to:

- only leave home for essential needs and as infrequently as possible
- limit the number of individuals who leave your home (designate one person to get groceries, pick up medicine, etc.)
- if you must go out, wear a mask, stay at least 6 feet away from others and avoid gatherings
- when recreating outdoors, maintain social distancing, do not congregate
- wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds
- avoid touching your face
- disinfect commonly touched surfaces
- check on others – by calling loved ones and neighbors who are most at risk to see how they are doing and if they need help

Denise Bryan, Health Officer at DHD2 states “We cannot over-emphasize the importance of continued compliance with the Stay Home, Stay Safe order. We want to stress that this is an order, not a suggestion, aimed at protecting the public’s health. The rise in cases and ongoing community spread in our area serve to remind us how imperative it is that we follow this order. Essential businesses should be screening their employees, providing home-made face coverings, and implementing social distancing measures.”