

There is a lot of information coming from all directions about COVID-19 and it may be difficult to determine what is credible and what is not. In addition, much is still unknown about the disease so things are evolving and recommendations may change on a day to day basis. The following links are to credible, useful, and continually updated sources for both humans and animals. *Most of these sites have Frequently Asked Questions pages that are extremely helpful.* We will send an update out to you when we find new information that we believe will be helpful to you, but we will do our best not to overload your already busy inbox.

1. **US Department of Agriculture: *Animals Testing and COVID-19***: This link will connect you to information about testing for SARS-CoV-2 in animals.
https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/SA_One_Health. At this time, testing for companion animals will only be done if animal and public health officials agree due to a link to a known human case of COVID-19. There is still no evidence that domestic animals are a source or can transmit the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The CDC animal page has more information about this. Things are continuing to evolve so animal and public health officials are monitoring this worldwide. Should this change, you will be notified immediately. Please note that animals DO NOT need to be euthanized if positive. This is a coronavirus that animals can clear. Right now, health officials agree that there is no reason for trade restrictions to movement or trade of companion or agricultural animals.
2. **MS State Department of Health**: This site is updated daily with recommendations, guidelines and case numbers for Mississippians. Type www.healthmys.com in your browser, then click on Coronavirus COVID-19 on the homepage. All the COVID-19 information for the state is on that one page, just scroll down to find maps, charts and graphs, as well as links to national and global information. They also have a 24-hour hotline number to answer questions about the virus at **877-978-6453**.
3. **MS Emergency Management Agency**: This site has state closures and updates on the Governor's declarations and useful contact information. The website is www.msema.org, click on Coronavirus on the homepage.
4. **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**: This site has all the national information listed at www.cdc.gov, then click on "Coronavirus Disease 2019" on the homepage. The CDC even has a page dedicated to animal related information at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/animals.html>. Their animal information is based on data they are receiving from other parts of the world.
5. **American Veterinary Medical Association**: This link is one we are most familiar with at www.avma.org. On the homepage click on "What do you need to know about the coronavirus?" They will be posting information about animals that you may see on CDC and USDA websites.

We are actively monitoring the situation and are engaged with the MS State Department of Health and the MS Emergency Management Agency, the MS Board of Veterinary Medicine and the MS Veterinary Medical Association. Please let us know if you have questions and we will do our best to find accurate and credible answers as they become available. Stay safe and healthy!