The following information is from the Pennsylvania Department of Health

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is prepared to respond if this coronavirus spreads throughout the world.

- On 3/6 Governor Wolf declared an emergency disaster declaration. This frees up funding and resources to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak that is occurring nationwide.
- We understand there is a lot of concern of COVID-19 spread in Pennsylvania. COVID-19 is spread through the air by coughing or sneezing, close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hand and touching an object or surface with the virus on it.
- If you have recent travel history or have been in contact with a known COVID-19 exposure, we encourage Pennsylvanians to call 1-877-PA-HEALTH (1-877-724-3258) to discuss their symptoms and exposure to determine if a test is needed.
- We need to be prepared for community spread of COVID-19. We are working to make sure our health systems, first responders and county and municipal health departments have the resources they need to respond.
- The same family emergency plans and kits that we use to prepare for flu or norovirus, and even snowstorms and floods, are important now.
- WASH your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Cover any coughs or sneezes with your elbow, do not use your hands!
- Clean surfaces frequently, including countertops, light switches, cell phones, and other frequently touched items.
- If you are sick, stay home until you are feeling better.

What is coronavirus?
- Coronavirus are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others circulating among animals, including camels, cats and bats.
- These viruses are common throughout the world.
- Rarely, animal coronaviruses can evolve and infect people, and then spread as has been seen with MERS and SARS.
- Outbreaks of MERS and SARS have been complex, requiring a thorough public health response.
Early cases of the virus in Wuhan, China were linked to a large seafood and animal market, suggesting animal to person spread. However, a growing number of individuals did not have exposure to animal markets, suggesting person to person spread is occurring.

What are the symptoms?
- Symptoms of human coronaviruses are often like the common cold.
  - Cough
  - Fever
  - Shortness of breath
- The symptoms may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure. Reported illnesses have ranged from people with little to no symptoms to people being severely ill and dying.

How can the Coronavirus spread?
- Human coronaviruses spread just like the flu or a cold:
  - Through the air by coughing or sneezing;
  - Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands;
  - Touching an object or surface with the virus on it;
  - Occasionally, fecal contamination.
- What can you do?
  - Cover any coughs or sneezes with your elbow, do not use your hands!
  - Clean surfaces frequently, including countertops, light switches, cell phones, and other frequently touched items.
  - WASH your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
  - Contain: if you are sick, stay home until you are feeling better.