COVID-19

What is it?
- A new respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, China
- It has the potential to cause severe illness and pneumonia in some people

How is it spread?
- Through the air by coughing and sneezing
- Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes

Who is at risk?
- Travelers to and from certain areas are at increased risk
- The close contacts of those who are ill
- Current risk to the general public is low

What are the symptoms?
Illnesses can be mild, or in some cases severe enough to require hospitalization. Symptoms of this respiratory illness primarily include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath

How is it prevented?
Similar to prevention of other respiratory illnesses, including the flu:
- Wash hands often
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid contact with sick people
- Stay home while you are sick; avoid others
- Cover mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing

Visit scdhec.gov/COVID19 for more information.