



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monkeypox Risk is Low in Monroe County

Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by infection with the monkeypox virus. The risk of widespread transmission of monkeypox to the public is relatively low, however, it is important to be prepared by knowing the symptoms and preventive measures.

Monkeypox spreads from person to person through direct contact with the infectious rash, scabs, or body fluids. It also can be spread by respiratory secretions during prolonged, face-to-face contact, or during intimate physical contact.

The most distinct symptom of monkeypox is a rash that can look like pimples or blisters that appear on the face, inside the mouth, and on other parts of the body. Other symptoms can include a fever, headache, muscle aches, swollen lymph nodes, chills, and sore throat. If you have any symptoms or a new and unexplained rash, see a healthcare provider immediately. While waiting to see a provider, avoid close contact with other people and pets.

To prevent monkeypox, you should avoid close, skin-to-skin contact with people who have a rash that looks like monkeypox, avoid contact with objects and materials that a person with monkeypox has used, and wash your hands often with soap and water.

If you believe you have been in close contact with someone with monkeypox, call the health department or your healthcare provider. You may be eligible for a vaccination. Stay up to date with the most recent monkeypox information by following the [Monroe County Health Department Facebook page](#).

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Healthy People, Healthy Monroe County