

## Nancy Elyse Grossman

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**From:** bounce-124433201-76929370@list.cornell.edu on behalf of Shari Lynn Lighthall <slighthall@cornell.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 6, 2020 6:57 PM  
**To:** AGED-L  
**Subject:** COVID-19

As the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak continues to develop, we are monitoring the situation and assessing potential impacts on the New York State FFA. We are sending this information out now only out of an abundance of caution so that we can proactively monitor this concern to protect the health and well-being of the Agricultural Education and FFA communities.

We are reviewing our planned events and will make decisions about holding these activities based on best available evidence and guidance from school and health officials. At this point state and local health officials have stated that the current risk to our communities remains low.

In the event that public health concerns dictate further restrictions on travel, group meetings, or gatherings, we will update you on any contingency plans that may need to be made to our upcoming FFA and agricultural education events.

Because the situation with respect to the coronavirus is so fluid, we encourage all our teaches to regularly review and follow the latest information from the CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html>.

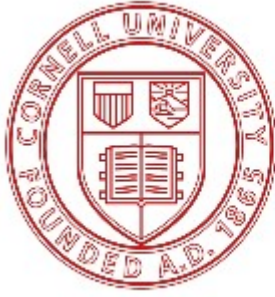
Please help us model the sharing of best practices for health and hygiene, taking proactive steps to prevent possible exposure and transmission. If any teacher, student, judge, or chaperone is ill, they are **NOT** to attend events. We also encourage teachers and students to limit contact by not shaking hands, hugging, and thoroughly washing hands on a regular basis. Most importantly; NY FFA should model appropriate contact, and use elbow and foot bumps when greeting each others.

In closing, New York FFA along with National FFA's first responsibility is the safety of everyone involved with our organization – including students, advisors, chaperones, stakeholders and staff – and we take that role seriously. We are here to assist in any way we can. Let us know what questions or concerns you may have, and how we can best support you.

Best Wishes,

Shari Lighthall, Director, NYS Agricultural Education Outreach  
Derek Hill, NY FFA Director  
Gleason Walley, NYS FFA/NYAAE Governing Board Chair  
Paul Perry, State Convention Committee Chair

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**NYAAE**