

Steps Take at Green River Correctional Complex (GRCC)



The prison is a medium-security male prison located in Central City, Ky. (Muhlenberg County) with a total inmate population of 928 and a staffing complement 264.

- The prison has been operating under controlled containment since April 6 and with these measures, we have in essence locked down the prison by dormitory, while still allowing inmates time to shower, make phone calls and send electronic mail. Outside-the-cell activities are strictly controlled and done in small groups to allow social distancing.
- We have a screening process for staff to check for COVID-19 symptoms every day upon entry. Anyone entering a DOC facility is required to sanitize hands, receive a temperature scan, and answer questions regarding recent travel activity and current health symptoms.
- We have significantly increased sanitation at the prison using germicide and a bleach solution multiple times a day. In addition, 10 extra bottles of germicide have been placed in each dorm and refillable spray bottles have been provided for each cell.
- Foot sanitation systems have been placed in front of every dorm so inmates and staff can kill any germs on their shoes.
- At the beginning of April, all inmates and staff received two cloths masks in order to be able to launder one while still having one mask to wear. It is mandatory for staff to wear a mask at all times and inmates to wear a mask while out of their cell. At the end of May, inmates received a third mask in order to replenish their supplies. Masks will continue to be replaced as needed.
- We have established regular medical check for all inmates. Our medical staff go to teach dormitory and check on the men cell by cell. Medically vulnerable inmates are closely monitored by medical staff and checked regularly throughout the day.
- If any inmate becomes symptomatic for any illness, not just COVID-19, and the prison medical staff cannot handle their care adequately, they are transferred to the hospital.
- On 4-24-20 the Governor announced all staff and inmates at GRCC would be tested. We worked closely with the Department of Public Health on the large-scale testing which was completed May 1. Based on the results, the entire inmate population is being separated into distinct housing areas: 1) positive inmates, 2) negative inmates with direct exposure, 3) negative inmates with no exposure, 4) medically vulnerable inmates.
- The prison is operating on lockdown status instituted to accomplish the mass testing and to safely carry out the inmate housing moves mentioned above. For that reason, the inmates are not going to the dining hall for meals. They are allowed out to shower, and to use the phone and secure email system on a daily basis for 1 hour. During the lockdown they are being fed a packed breakfast and lunch, and a hot meal for dinner.
- Loved ones of those incarcerated can contact GRCC at 270-754-5415 between 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Central Time. All media questions should be directed to DOC's communications office: Lisa.Lamb@ky.gov; or Katherine.Williams@ky.gov.

"I would like to thank the staff at Green River Correctional Complex for the hard work and dedication that they have shown to this institution, the Department of Corrections, and most importantly to our inmate population. Staff have gone above and beyond to make sure the inmates are taken care of and to address their questions. The inmates are handling this difficult situation relatively well and we have been keeping them up to date with any new developments. To the families: I want you to know that we are taking every measure to make sure your loved one is taken care of and we are here to answer your questions."

Warden Kevin Mazza