Face Mask Sewing Project In Conjunction With Marshall County Health Department (MCHD)

General Information (updated 3/24/2020)

Disclaimer: These face masks are not meant to replace the medical grade surgical face masks. They are a contingency plan for those who have no availability to surgical masks.

Completed masks will be collected at:

Marshall County Health Department
510 W. Adams St. Plymouth
8 am - 4 pm weekdays; please call 574-935-8565 in advance to make arrangements for drop off
Masks will be distributed from MCHD as demand requires. The need is urgent. Adult masks are in higher demand than children's masks. Please start sewing as soon as possible. Masks will be laundered before they are distributed.

Fabrics: Use your stash. Front of mask-100% cotton-cheerful prints or solids suitable for men, women or children.

Lining of mask: 100% cotton solid/prints or 100% cotton muslin. Using different colors for front and back helps wearers know which is the contaminated side. ALL FABRIC MUST BE PRESHRUNK.

***************UPDATE FROM JOANN FABRIC AND CRAFT STORE, PLYMOUTH***************
ALL FACEMASKS MUST HAVE LIGHTWEIGHT FUSIBLE INTERFACING ON THE INSIDE OF THE MASK. BEST IS P44 OR P45, BUT ANY WILL DO. ALL ELASTIC AT JOANN’S IS 3/8” BLACK ELASTIC; CALL TO RESERVE (574-935-0400). SOME PRECUT MASK KITS ARE AVAILABLE AND WILL BE GIVEN OUT. BE AWARE; STORE HOURS MAY CHANGE.

Elastic: 1/4 inch
Some instructions use rope elastic. Use what you have or can find. Elastic hair ties as a substitute did not work well on my prototype. If elastic is not available, you can make ties on the sides. If you are going to put on string ties, leave the sides of the mask unstitched before turning. Stitch down your pleats before adding the ties. Press pleats down before you add your ties. Ties can be from some of your unused quilt bindings, bias tape or wide grosgrain ribbon. I measured 2 - 42inch lengths. Knotting the ends of the ties after attaching helps prevent fraying.

Patterns: YOU MAY USE ANY PATTERN YOU LIKE or use one of the ones listed below. Multiple patterns are available online and YouTube.

1. Pleated Masks-I have made prototypes and these fit my face better than the fitted, curved seam mask.
   TheTurbanProject.com has a pattern and instructions online. Very simple and quick.
   Jenny Doan from Missouri Quilt Company has a very good video on YouTube.
   JoAnn Fabrics has a video on their website.

2. Fitted, Curved Seam Mask
   CraftPassion.com has an online pattern in 3 different sizes including children, instructions and comments.

OTHER ITEMS NEEDED ARE: N95 or surgical masks; gowns; face shields; disinfectant, hand sanitizer and medical gloves of all sizes. Contact the Marshall County Health Department (574-935-8565) if you can help!

Please share this with anyone who is willing to help. Thank You for joining the fight against the Coronavirus!