



PRESS RELEASE

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Madison County Public Health COVID-19 Update

On Tuesday, June 16, 2020, Madison County Board of Health held a Special COVID-19 meeting. After discussion and public comment, the Board of Health voted and approved “requiring” organizers to submit a Plan to the Public Health Department prior to holding group events larger than 50 people. The Public Health Department will respond within 10 business days of receiving the Plan. To assist with this process an on-line application will be available on the Public Health Department’s website: <https://madisoncountymt.gov/230/Public-Health>.

Depending upon planning elements such as number of attendees, Plans submitted to the Public Health Department may require the approval of the Board of Health. To assist with timely plan review, the Madison County Board of Health has scheduled a “special meeting” to review the selected plans. In addition, items reviewed will include Governor Bullock’s phased plan and the state of COVID-19 in Madison County. The meeting will be held via computer/phone on June 30, 2020, beginning at 4:30 p.m. The agenda will be posted prior on the Madison County website: <https://madisoncountymt.gov/>.

In addition, the Board approved the re-opening of the Renova Hot Springs and the Madison County Senior Shuttle Service.

The Board of Health continues to support the Executive Orders by Governor Bullock including the Phase 2 Plan. Local officials should continue to assess the conditions in their jurisdictions and public health authorities may adopt more restrictive approaches based on local need. No tighter restrictions were adopted by the Madison County Board of Health but may be adopted at any time.

The Board stressed that the public should continue to limit face-to-face contact with others, as it is the best way to reduce the spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Social distancing, also called “physical distancing,” means keeping space between yourself and other people outside of your home.

To practice social or physical distancing stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms’ length) from other people.

In addition to everyday steps to prevent COVID-19, keeping space between you and others is one of the best tools we have to avoid being exposed to this virus and slowing its spread locally and across the country and world.

Limit close contact with others outside of your household whether you are in an indoor or outdoor space. Since people can spread the virus before they know they are sick, it is important to stay away from others when possible, even if you—or others—have no symptoms. Social distancing is especially important for people who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

Many people have personal circumstances or situations that present challenges with practicing social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The Board of Health encourages everyone to follow Governor Bullock's plan to gradually re-open the state through a three-phase process. We all need to do our part for the greater good of our community.

The Madison County Health Department is available during normal business hours to answer questions about COVID-19 by phone at 406.843.4295. For additional information concerning COVID-19, visit the Public Health website: <https://madisoncountymt.gov/230/Public-Health>.

You may also contact the Madison County Sanitarian Department at 406.843.4275 for additional information relating to business licensures and sanitation.

Your healthcare professional will work with the local public health department and the CDC to determine if you need to be tested for COVID-19. Refer to the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>, for additional information.