



PRESS RELEASE

July 12, 2020

Melissa Brummell, RN, Director of Public Health
Department of Public Health
7 Placer Loop, Virginia City, MT 59755
Office: 406.843.4295

Bonnie O'Neill
Public Information Officer
Madison County
103 W Wallace St. PO Box 278
Virginia City, MT 59755
Commissioners' Office 406.843.4277

Madison County Public Health COVID-19 Update

July 12, 2020, Melissa Brummell, RN, Public Health Director reports eight new positive COVID-19 cases since Friday, July 10, 2020, making 33 positive cases, which includes one death earlier this year. All active positive cases are in quarantine. The new coronavirus cases include 2 females and 6 males consisting of 4 in their 70s, 1 in their 60s, 2 in their 50s and 1 in their 40s. All individuals in close contact with the new cases have been notified and are on a 14-day home isolation.

Brummell, stressed that “No” personal information concerning the location of the new cases may be disclosed due to the individual’s right to privacy and protective health information.

In addition, the State of Montana reported today 114,661 individuals have been tested with 549 new positive cases for the virus, making 1,758 including 29 deaths at the time of this press release. Additional, information concerning the State of Montana’s COVID-19 cases may be found at: <https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/cdepi/diseases/coronavirusmt/demographics>

On Thursday, July 9, 2020, the Madison County Board of Health held a Special COVID-19 meeting. After discussion and public comment, the Board of Health “***Strongly recommended that the public wear a facemask when in a public setting.***” People should be considerate of others and be responsible for keeping others safe.

The Board also stressed that the public and businesses should continue to follow Governor Bullock’s phased plan and consider the state of COVID-19 in Madison County. Everyone needs to do his or her part for the greater good of our community. The next quarterly Board of Health meeting will be held via computer/phone on July 16, 2020, beginning at 4:30 p.m. The agenda will be posted prior on the Madison County website: <https://madisoncountymt.gov/>.

In light of recent findings and new evidence, the CDC recommends individuals wear facemasks or cloth face coverings in public settings where it is hard to practice social distancing etiquette—and that is why it is also recommended that individuals consider making it a part of their daily routine.

CDC experts say recent studies show that a “significant portion” of individuals who have the coronavirus do not have any symptoms (in other words, they are “asymptomatic”). In addition, those who eventually develop symptoms (or those who are “pre-symptomatic”) can spread the virus to others before they show any symptoms.

On Friday, July 10, 2020, a free Drive-thru-Surveillance Testing was provided to the public. The event was held at the Public Health Department 376 individuals tested. Test results will be received by the Health Department within 7-10 days. Only those individuals who “*test positive*” will be contacted. The event was sponsored by: the Public Health Department in collaboration with the Madison County Commissioners’ Office, state and local DES, State of Montana DPHHS, Montana National Guard, Madison Valley Medical Center and the Town of Virginia City.

The Madison County Public 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’s website at: https://madisoncountymt.gov/230/Public-Health](https://madisoncountymt.gov/230/Public-Health)

Please contact the Madison County Sanitarian Department at 406.843.4275 for information relating to business licensures and sanitation.

Refer to the CDC’s website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> for additional information.

