



## PRESS RELEASE

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### Madison County Board of Public Health Special COVID-19 Meeting

On Thursday, October 15, 2020, Madison County Board of Health held a Special COVID-19 meeting. After discussion and public comment, the Board voted and approved three COVID-19 Response forms to be used by the district public schools, area daycare centers and hospitals. The three forms are the following:

1. Covid-19 Screening Form is used for high risk symptoms and provides guidance when to direct students and faculty to stay home;
2. School Algorithm Flow Chart is to assist with the step by step process for the COVID-19 Screening process;
3. Checklist for Managing Student/Staff with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 assists School Administration on the process of when, how and what needs to be reported to Public Health and Sanitarian.

After discussion and public comment, the Board approved the FFA JDAR event plan to be held at the Madison County Fairgrounds on November 13 and 14, 2020.

The Board then considered the Ennis Hunters' Feed event application. After discussion the Board denied the application for the event due to the event exceeding group attendance over 50 people.

The next Special COVID-19 Board of Health meeting is TBD. The meeting will be held via computer/phone and the agenda will be posted prior on the Madison County website: <https://madisoncountymt.gov/>.

The Board of Health continues to support the Executive Orders by Governor Bullock including the July 15, 2020, Directive implementing Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 and providing for the mandatory use of face coverings in certain settings. Local officials should continue to assess the conditions in their jurisdictions and public health authorities may adopt more restrictive approaches based on local need.

The Board of Health continues to restrict events or group gatherings over 50 as approved by the Board of Health on August 18, 2020 due to the increased risk of COVID-19 spread with larger gatherings. It is important to limit gathering sizes to decrease the spread of the virus in order to keep Madison County's schools and businesses open.

Businesses, schools and the public are strongly encouraged to monitor the daily active case map to find out if Madison County has 4 or more active cases in order to mask up in compliance with Governor Bullocks mask mandate. The COVID-19 case map can be located by going to the following website that updates daily at 10:00 a.m.: <https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/cdepi/diseases/coronavirusmt/demographics>

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

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.

***Madison County Public Health Department Mission:***

To protect and promote the health and safety of county residents through the efforts of dedicated and skilled professionals applying sound preventative principles.

