



PRESS RELEASE

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Melissa Brummell, RN, Director of Public Health
Department of Public Health
7 Placer Loop, Virginia City, MT
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 Press Release COVID-19 Virus

Madison County Public Health Department reports 20 new positive coronavirus cases this week with 33 active COVID-19 positive cases in Madison County including six fatalities. During the week of January 18, 2021, there were 70 new positive cases for a total of 631 positive cases in Madison County since March 2020. The Incident Management Team was activated on March 5, 2020, and has been managing the Incident for 330 days as of today.

On January 26, 2021, the Madison County Board of Health issued an order to "extend the current Mask Mandate for **ALL** Madison County Residents and businesses universally for 60 days." The Board supports Governor Gianforte's January 13, 2021, Directive implementing Executive Order 2-2021.

In addition, the Public Health Department is working collaboratively with both the Ruby Valley Medical Center and the Madison Valley Medical Center for the distribution and administration of the coronavirus vaccines. Approximately, 100 vaccines are being received per week within Madison County.

Madison County Residents, who are interested in signing up to receive the vaccine, should contact one of the medical centers to be placed on the waiting list. Once the vaccine is received by the facility, the facility will contact patients by using the information on the waitlist to schedule an appointment. Madison County is currently in Phase 1b vaccine administration. To see if you, or a loved one, falls within the Phase 1b category, please see the Montana Health Alert Network information at; <https://dphhs.mt.gov/Portals/85/publichealth/documents/HAN/2021/HANUD2021-1.pdf>

Cases of COVID-19 have ranged from people with little to no symptoms to severe illness and death. The CDC expects cases to continue to be confirmed and would like families and individuals to prepare to take action to help prevent the spread of the virus.

As this situation evolves, the public can find accurate and timely information on COVID-19 through the CDC's website, www.cdc.gov/COVID19 and social media channels and the Public Health Department's website, <https://madisoncountymt.gov/230/Public-Health>.