

PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY: COVID-19

Updated: 3/04/2021

Eastern Idaho Public Health (EIPH) adopted a COVID-19 Regional Response Plan in July of 2020 to assist us in responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic in the following counties:

BONNEVILLE, CLARK, CUSTER, FREMONT, JEFFERSON, LEMHI, MADISON, & TETON

Included in the plan were recommendations of actions everyone should take to protect themselves from the virus, help control the spread of the virus within our communities, and to help protect our region's healthcare systems from becoming overwhelmed with COVID patients which would prevent them from providing hospital care to all people needing it. Cases have surged several times over the past year, with the most significant being in November/December of 2020 which resulted in a high number of hospitalizations and deaths.

Over the course of the past eight months, EIPH's Board of Health has issued Public Health Orders requiring that face coverings be worn when in public and physical distancing was not possible when the number of active COVID-19 cases within a county reached a specific level in an effort to help slow the spread. With hospitalizations decreasing significantly from the peak in December, and hospitals in a better position to maintain staffing and resources, the EIPH Board of Health made the decision today to not issue Public Health Orders going forward and rely instead on people taking personal responsibility to choose to take precautions to help control the spread of COVID-19 until the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention directs that other pandemic control measures, including vaccinations, allow discontinuation of these measures. Review the updated [EIPH COVID-19 Regional Response Plan](#) at www.EIPH.Idaho.gov.

While COVID-19 vaccine rollout has begun in Idaho, it will still be several months before everyone wishing to receive the vaccine is able to do so. Until that time, we must continue to follow recommendations to protect ourselves and our communities.

EASTERN IDAHO PUBLIC HEALTH ASKS THAT THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS BE FOLLOWED UNTIL EVERYONE WHO WANTS TO GET VACCINATED HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO:

- 1. Stay home when you are sick to prevent the spread of illness to others.**
- 2. Practice good hand hygiene.**
- 3. Maintain physical space between yourself and others outside of your immediate household.**
- 4. Wear a face covering when physical distancing cannot be maintained.**
- 5. Get vaccinated when it is your turn.**

Eastern Idaho Public Health's recommendations may change as this situation evolves. If you have any questions or concerns that are not covered in this document, please feel free to call our hotline or send an e-mail to covidquestions@eiph.idaho.gov.

EIPH COVID-19 Hotline: (208) 522-0310 or toll free at (855) 533-3160

Stay up-to-date by visiting www.EIPH.Idaho.gov or our Facebook page @EIPH.Idaho.