



Teton Valley Health
Where Everyone Matters

Press Release – For Immediate Release COVID-19 Update March 25, 2020 6:00 pm

GOVERNOR LITTLE UPDATE:

Governor Little issued a statewide stay at home order effective immediately for the next 21 days. The order comes after confirmation by health officials that community spread COVID-19 is now occurring in the state. A press release from the Governor details the mandate:

“The stay-home order requires citizens to self-isolate at home if you can, not just if you are sick. This excludes healthcare, public safety and other essential workers as defined in the order. If you are high-risk, avoid leaving home. People can leave home to obtain or provide essential services as defined in the order. Employers that do not provide essential services as defined in order must take all steps necessary for employees to work remotely from home. Grocery stores, medical facilities, and other essential businesses as defined in the order will remain open. Restaurants across the state are being ordered to close dine-in but drive-thru, pick up, and delivery will still be available. Non-essential businesses and services will close their physical locations. This includes bars, nightclubs, gyms, recreational facilities, entertainment venues, convention centers, hair and nail salons, and others not included in the “essential” category as defined in the order. People must limit public transit unless to provide or obtain essential services. People must limit all discretionary travel. People must limit all non-essential gatherings of any number of individuals outside the household. When you go for a walk, run, bike ride, or other outdoor recreation near your home, stay 6-feet away from individuals who are not part of your household. “Our healthcare and public safety workers are putting themselves in harm’s way to respond to the coronavirus emergency, and we owe it to them to do our part by following this statewide stay-home order,” Governor Little added. The statewide stay-home order is effective immediately and will remain in effect for 21 days. Governor Little and public health officials will evaluate later whether to extend the order past 21 days”, Governor Little Press Release March 25, 2020.

This order follows similar actions already taken by Teton County and the Cities of Driggs, Tetonla, and Victor however, the action is now mandated and enforceable. Details regarding essential businesses as defined by the order and by local officials will be provided as soon as possible. Please visit <https://coronavirus-response-tetonidaho.hub.arcgis.com/> for future updates.

A poster provided by the Governor’s office explaining details of the order is attached to this press release. We ask for your assistance in spreading the word by sharing it electronically.

TETON VALLEY HEALTH UPDATE:

There are no newly confirmed COVID-19 cases in Teton County. Confirmed cases remain at two however, seven tests are pending. TVH Dr. Prissel confirmed the belief that community spread of COVID-19 is in fact occurring. However, due to limited testing, the actual numbers of cases are unknown. According to Dr. Prissel and Dr. Levanger, the public has the biggest responsibility, more so than health providers, to make a difference in controlling the spread of this illness. Self-isolation and social distancing are imperative by all who live in our community to “flatten the curve” and ensure that local medical facilities are not overwhelmed. To demonstrate the severity of what potentially lies ahead a model created by the Centers For Disease Control (CDC) was presented by TVH showing predictions of high and low percentages of people who

may contract the illness and what level of care would be needed.

Teton County COVID Model

CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report Feb 12 - Mar 16		Low	20.7%	4.9%	1.8%	
		High	31.4%	11.9%	3.4%	
Population	Percent who get COVID	Number with COVID	Range	Total Number Hospitalized	Total Number requiring ICU	Total Number of Deaths
13,500	20%	2,700	Low	560	130	50
			High	850	310	90
	40%	5,400	Low	1,120	265	95
			High	1,700	620	185
	60%	8,100	Low	1,680	395	145
			High	2,540	930	275
	80%	10,800	Low	2,240	530	195
			High	3,390	1,240	365

Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Severe Outcomes among Patients with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) – United States, February 12 - March 16, 2020

Assumptions and Constraints:

1. Population of 13,500 including Alta
2. Average length of hospital stay – 14 days.
3. Replication Rate will vary as we progress through the COVID cycle, getting smaller as we progress
4. Cases cannot exceed population
5. Number Hospitalized in that Week calculated using average of low and high rates.
6. We use the percent with COVID to reduce the number of cases. For example if everyone gets COVID and the number of new cases in a week is 4, the number of new cases in a week if 20% get COVID is 0.8
7. Total Number Hospitalized is rounded to the nearest 10, both Total Number Requiring ICU and Total Number of Deaths are rounded to the nearest 5.
8. Cases and Beds are rounded to 1 decimal place
9. The model is not effective until there are four known cases.

TVH currently has space for 13 beds. An alternative Health Care Facility will be activated should the need arise.

TVH continues to test individuals for COVID-19. They are using both Eastern Idaho Public Health and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines for conducting the tests. Until the supply of test media, test lab capabilities, and the supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) required to perform tests all increase, they will not be able to substantially increase testing.

Teton Valley Health CEO Keith Gnagey reported that there is a small community group actively raising funds to procure testing equipment and media that would allow tests to be done locally with results available within the hour. Dr. Mike Wine, TVH Board Vice Chair, and Director of Philanthropy, Jessica Pozzi, along with two members of the community, John and Linda Unland are heading up this effort.

Other TVH Efforts:

- A Specialty Clinic is being piloted for people needing medical services not related to COVID-19. Patients may make an appointment with the Driggs Clinic to be seen in a section of the facility that has not been exposed to any COVID-19 patients or patients with COVID-19 symptoms. Call 208-354-2383 to make an appointment.
- A Teledoc program is being piloted for seniors needing care that does not require an in person visit. You may call 208-354-2383 to make an appointment.

Eastern Idaho Public Health (EIPH)

New cases were reported in Fremont and Custer County bringing total confirmed cases to eight in Eastern Idaho. Total number of cases in Idaho as of 5:00 pm is 123. Visit <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/> for further details.

Community Updates from the Cities and Teton County :

Teton County, and the [Cities of Driggs](#), [Tetonia](#), and [Victor](#) have joined forces to bring you a collective message from your local government agencies. An information hub has been created to house all COVID-19 information and resources at <https://coronavirus-response-tetonidaho.hub.arcgis.com/>. You may also contact Public Information Officer Holly Powers at 208-390-1604 for more information. Or contact Mayor Johnson (City of Driggs) at MayorJohnson@DriggsIdaho.org, Mayor Frohlich (City of Victor) at mayor@victorcityidaho.org, Mayor Hoopes (City of Tetonia) at clerk@cityoftetonia.com.

Public Sewer System Request:

There are reports of people using alternatives to toilet paper and flushing those products down the toilet. **Please do not flush anything down the toilet except for toilet paper.** Many items (wipes of any kind, paper towels, facial tissue) labeled as flushable or disposable do not degrade enough and result in nasty and costly backups in homes, businesses, and the public sewer system. Wipes of any kind, feminine products, condoms, diapers, toilet bowl scrub pads, swiffers, napkins, dental floss, food scraps like egg shells, coffee grounds, peels, fats, oil, grease, wash cloths, rags, clothing, plastic of any kind, medication, kitty litter, and cigarette butts all go in the trash can.