

Humboldt County Health Board



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS 120 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, SEVEN ACTIVE CASES

WINNEMUCCA, Nev. — Humboldt County has been notified of two more positive cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the county's total to 120.

Overall, 106 of Humboldt County's cases were identified through Humboldt General Hospital, one was identified through community-based screening, one was identified at the Golden Valley Medical Center, and 12 were confirmed out of area.

In addition, the Office of the Humboldt County Community Health Nurse has completed 56 tests, with 56 negative and no results pending. Any positives through the Community Health Nurse will be reported as part of Humboldt County's total number of cases.

The Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe reports 90 total cases; 76 were confirmed through the Fort McDermitt Wellness Center, six were tested out of area, while eight were tested through the National Guard community-based testing on July 26. In all, Fort McDermitt has completed 725 tests, 89 people have recovered, one person has died, and the tribe has no active cases.

Based on available information, close contacts of the newest Humboldt County cases are being identified or have been notified and are following self-isolation procedures to prevent community spread of the virus.

Brief summary information of Humboldt County's latest cases follows:

- Case 120 – A man in his 20s, whose case remains under investigation. He is self-isolating at home.
- Case 119 – A man in his 20s, who had contact with a previously reported case. He is self-isolating at home.

Of the previous 118 cases, 109 have recovered, five are self-isolating and four have died; Humboldt County has seven active cases.

The latest worry for doctors and health experts across the country is the possibility of a "twindemic" — an overlap between coronavirus outbreaks and flu cases during the upcoming 2020-2021 flu season — that could sicken countless Americans and overburden the nation's health care system.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said older adults in particular are at higher risk of severe illness from both COVID-19 and influenza.

“That makes getting a flu shot this year more important than ever,” said Dr. Stringham.

Dr. Stringham said the best time to be vaccinated against the flu is between mid-September through the month of October, which makes the timing of this week’s Drive-Thru Flu POD perfect.

The annual mass vaccination event will take place from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, September 23, at the indoor Winnemucca Event Center, located at 1000 Fairgrounds Road.

To limit the transmission of COVID-19, participants should wear a mask and bring their own pen. All persons age 6 months and older are recommended for the vaccine.

Dr. Stringham said experts aren't able to predict how long a given flu season will last, but activity typically peaks between December and February and can last as late as May.

“So getting a vaccine now will not only provide needed protection during the flu season, but will also help protect against the possibility of a ‘twindemic,’” he said.

There is no charge for the Drive-Thru Flu POD, and no appointment is necessary. Dr. Stringham said older adults are especially recommended for the vaccine, along with pregnant women and those with compromised immune systems.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Humboldt County:

- Stay home to limit exposure, and wear a facial covering if going out in public is necessary.
- Maintain 6 feet of distance from other people at all times.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid visiting sick people or those who are self-isolating.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Self-isolate if they have had a known exposure, or if they are awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- Stay informed. The COVID-19 situation is changing frequently. Up-to-date information is available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [website](#).

The Humboldt General Hospital Screening Clinic continues to test symptomatic and exposed residents from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The clinic may be accessed from the ramp entrance on Mizpah Street. Residents should call (775) 623-5222, ext. 1379, to alert staff and wait for assistance.

The Office of the Humboldt County Community Health Nurse also is offering testing to asymptomatic persons with no known exposure. For more information or to make an appointment, residents may call the clinic at (775) 623-6575.

Free cloth masks are available to community members at the Olsen’s and Ridley’s pharmacies, courtesy

of the Mucca Mask Makers, or by messaging the group on Facebook @Mucca Mask Makers.

Local COVID-19 information is available in Spanish @CovidEspanol. Humboldt County COVID-19 updates and information are available in English at @HumboldtCountyNV and @StopHumboldtCoronavirus.