



June 19, 2020

For immediate release

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**Phase three of the Governor’s Directed Health Measure will take effect Monday, June 22
Three more cases announced; Panhandle total: 234, Active: 90, Recovered: 142, Deaths: 2**

The Panhandle, along with most other Nebraska counties, will be moving towards decreased restrictions in phase three of the Governor’s Directed Health Measure beginning on June 22. Guidance documents are available at <http://pphd.org/COVID-19.html>. Public health urges all Panhandle residents to continue the following:

- Stay at least six feet away from others. Exposure is considered less than six feet for 15 minutes or more. Social distancing is one of the best prevention strategies we have against this virus.
- Wear a mask when social distancing is not possible or when in public spaces or areas.
- Frequent handwashing or sanitizing is critical.
- Monitor your symptoms and immediately call your doctor, clinic, or our 24/7 line at 308-262-5764 before going anywhere if you are experiencing any of the following: cough, fever, shortness of breath, sore throat, body chills, headache, loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Please use extra caution if you are over 60 or have any underlying health conditions.

Free drive-thru testing will be offered in two more Panhandle locations this week:

- **Scottsbluff:** Saturday from 8am-Noon: Panhandle Public Health District, 18 W. 16th St
- **Sidney:** Sunday from 8am-Noon: Sidney Regional Medical Center, 1000 Pole Creek Crossing

COVID-19 testing is available at Community Action Health Center: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 7am-8am. Testing is open to those that are symptomatic or close contact to a positive case. Sign up today <https://tinyurl.com/y7msahzq>.

Unified Command confirms three more cases of COVID-19 in the Panhandle:

County	Demographics	Exposure Type
Cheyenne	Male in his 30s	Close contact
Dawes	Male in his teens	Community spread
Scotts Bluff	Male in his teens	Close contact

March 2-June 19, 2020

Total Tests Conducted: 4,526

Positive: 234

Cumulative Positivity Rate: 5.1%

Recovered: 142

Active Cases: 90

Active Hospitalizations: 4

Total Cumulative Hospitalizations: 28

Deaths: 2

- **Banner County: 1 case (recovered)**
- **Box Butte County: 3 cases (recovered)**
- **Cheyenne County: 14 cases (3 active, 11 recovered)**
- **Dawes County: 2 cases (1 active, 1 recovered)**
- **Garden County: 4 cases (recovered)**
- **Kimball County: 10 cases (recovered)**
- **Morrill County: 14 cases (4 active, 10 recovered)**
- **Scotts Bluff County: 185 Cases (81 active, 102 recovered, 2 deaths)**
- **Sioux County: 1 case (active)**

Panhandle Public Health District, Region 21, 22, and 23 Emergency Management, and Scotts Bluff County Health Department are working as a unified command on this evolving situation. Essential updates will be regularly communicated to the public and community partners.

For the most up to date information from the CDC, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety, and quality of life for all who live, learn, work, and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Community. Visit our website www.pphd.org.