



September 14, 2020

For immediate release

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**Seventh COVID-related death reported in the Panhandle
Panhandle total: 756, Active: 83, Recovered: 666, Deaths: 7**

“We wish to express our heartfelt sympathy in the passing of a Scotts Bluff County male in his 80s with underlying health conditions. We must continue all increased prevention to guard our most vulnerable populations,” shared Paulette Schnell, Scotts Bluff County Health Department Director.

Unified Command confirms 26 more cases of COVID in the Panhandle since last reporting on Thursday, September 10. The investigations are underway, all close contacts will be quarantined and actively monitored for symptoms by public health officials.

Children 19 and under: 3		
County	Cases	Exposure Type
Dawes	1	Community Spread
Morrill	1	Community Spread
Scotts Bluff	1	Close Contact

Adults: 23		
County	Cases	Exposure Type
Box Butte	2	Close Contact
Box Butte	3	Community Spread
Box Butte	2	Unknown
Cheyenne	2	Community Spread
Dawes	2	Community Spread
Dawes	2	Unknown
Morrill	3	Community Spread
Morrill	1	Close Contact
Scotts Bluff	2	Close Contact
Scotts Bluff	2	Community Spread
Sheridan	2	Community Spread

Unified Command confirms 26 more recoveries in the Panhandle:

Recovered: 26	
County	Total
Box Butte	1
Cheyenne	2
Dawes	8
Morrill	1
Scotts Bluff	10
Sheridan	3
Sioux	1

Testing information and access for the Panhandle area:

- You can sign up for the following free testing at [Testnebraska.com](https://www.testnebraska.com) or 402-207-9377:
 - Box Butte General Hospital in **Alliance**: Monday-Friday, 9-10am
 - Ambulance Bay on the east side of the emergency department, watch for the green arrows
 - **Chadron** Community Hospital: Mondays & Fridays, 7-9am
 - Collections are at 821 Morehead Street (Old Hospital ER Entrance next to Wilson Park)
 - **Other testing opportunities for symptomatic patients may be available through the hospital as ordered by your Primary Care Practitioner, call the hospital at 747-2466 with questions.**
 - **Gordon** Memorial Hospital: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2-4pm
 - Regional West Health Services in **Scottsbluff**: Mondays & Fridays, Noon-4pm; Wednesdays, 2-6pm
 - **Sidney** Regional Medical Center: Tuesdays & Thursday, 7-9am
- Community Action Health Center in **Gering**: Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays, 7-8am
 - Testing is free, sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/yydxr5mc>
- Morrill County Community Hospital in **Bridgeport**: Daily
 - Call 308-262-1616 for testing, same day results
- Contact your local hospital or clinic for information on testing access.

March 2-September 14, 2020

- **Total Tests Conducted: 13,199**
- **Positive: 756**
- **Cumulative Positivity Rate: 5.7%**
- **Recovered: 666**
- **Active Cases: 83**
- **Deaths: 7**
- **Active Hospitalizations: 6**
- **Total Cumulative Hospitalizations: 76**

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.