

September 13, 2021

For immediate release

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Scotts Bluff County reaches 40% of the population COVID vaccinated!

As the Delta variant continues to increase COVID cases and hospitalizations around the Panhandle, Scotts Bluff County has increased its COVID vaccination rate to 40% of the population. The vaccine is safe, effective, and widely available around the area.

"Every increase in the vaccination rate remains critical to traversing the Fall COVID wave and protecting area hospital systems. I urge residents age 12 and older from around the area to exercise their right and decision to get vaccinated today," said Kim Engel, Panhandle Public Health District Director.

The Panhandle dashboard, accessible at <u>www.pphd.org</u>, will begin to see changes to continue to inform residents of the COVID data and statistics around the area.

A few of the changes will include separating the Panhandle into three sub-regions: Scotts Bluff County (as is currently accessible), Northern Panhandle (Sioux, Dawes, Sheridan, and Box Butte counties), and Southern Panhandle (Banner, Morrill, Garden, Grant, Banner, Kimball, Cheyenne, and Deuel counties). Additionally, the sidebar will provide data on cases the previous week to be more in alignment with the CDC COVID tracker community transmission rate, and case rate per 100,000 for the previous seven days.

Vaccinations have protection against all known variants, including Delta. For any youth age 12 and older preparing to return to school, make sure getting your COVID vaccine is on the list. COVID vaccine is available across the Panhandle. There is no charge for the vaccine.

- Box Butte/Grant: <u>https://tinyurl.com/25mwaapu</u> | <u>safeway.com</u>
 - Walk-ins welcome
 - Dave's Pharmacy Hemingford & Alliance, Monday-Friday, 8 AM 5:30 PM (Pfizer 2 PM- 5:30 PM)
 - Alliance Community Pharmacy, Monday-Friday, 7:30 AM 6 PM
- Cheyenne/Deuel: <u>https://tinyurl.com/5b5uac8p</u> | <u>walmart.com</u> | <u>safeway.com</u>
 - Walk-ins welcome
 - During COVID clinic hours visit <u>https://tinyurl.com/5b5uac8p</u> for days and hours
- Dawes/Sioux: <u>https://tinyurl.com/x5d5nnbn</u> | <u>walmart.com</u> | <u>safeway.com</u>

- Walk-ins welcome
- Western Community Health Resources, Monday-Friday, 12:30 PM 1:30 PM
- Garden: To schedule an appointment visit <u>vaccinate.ne.gov</u> provider will call you
 - Walk-ins welcome
 - Regional West Garden County Clinic Front Desk, Monday-Friday, 8 AM 5 PM
- Kimball: <u>https://tinyurl.com/d2u8txrs</u>
 - Walk-ins welcome
 - Kimball Health Services, Monday-Friday, 8 AM 4:30 PM
- Morrill: <u>https://tinyurl.com/sb8mvumm</u>
 - Walk-ins welcome
 - Morrill County Hospital Clinic, Wednesdays, 8 AM 4 PM
- Sheridan: <u>https://tinyurl.com/cvrmkv38</u>
 - Walk-ins welcome
 - o Gordon Rural Health Clinic, Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM- 9:30 AM
- Scotts Bluff/Banner: <u>https://tinyurl.com/hkw7wk2p</u> | <u>walmart.com</u> | <u>safeway.com</u> | <u>walgreens.com</u>
 - Walk-ins welcome
 - Gering CAPWN Health Center, Monday-Friday, 9 AM-12 PM & 1 PM-4 PM
 - Scottsbluff County Immunization Clinic, Monday-Friday, 9:40 AM-12:30 PM & 1:30 PM-5:30 PM

If you are homebound or have a condition that makes it hard for you to access a COVID vaccine, please call Kim Engel at 308-633-2866 ext 101.

People who are fully COVID vaccinated will not be required to quarantine due to close contact. If you have lost your COVID vaccine card, go to <u>https://tinyurl.com/2zh7uhhu</u>.

Unified Command confirms 242 more cases of COVID in the Panhandle since last reporting on Tuesday, September 7.

All Ages: 242	
Cases	
106	
136	

Exposure Type	
Community	40%
Close Contact	35%
Travel	0%
Under Investigation	25%

March 2, 2020-September 13, 2021

- Positive: 10,471
- Last week's cases: (cases/100,000): 288.37
- Last week's cases: 248
- Last week's positivity rate: 10.2%
- Deaths: 200
- Deaths Pending Verification: 9
- Active Hospitalizations: 17
- Total Cumulative Hospitalizations: 613

Avoid the Three Cs:

- Avoid Crowded Places Avoid gathering in groups where you cannot maintain 6-feet of distance from others
- Avoid Close Contact Wear a mask over your nose and mouth or maintain 6-feet distance when you are spending more than 15 total minutes with people you don't live with
- Avoid Confined Spaces Avoid enclosed spaces with poor ventilation

Current COVID testing access can be found at <u>http://pphd.org/COVID-19.html</u>.

The Panhandle COVID dashboard is updated on Mondays & Thursdays by 4:30 pm MT and available at <u>www.pphd.org</u>. For the most up to date information from the CDC, visit <u>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html</u>.

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.

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 <u>www.pphd.org</u>.