



Public Health Administration

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COVID CASES INCREASE, HEALTH OFFICIALS URGE PUBLIC TO HEED REOPENING GUIDELINES

BUTTE COUNTY, Calif. – Butte County has recently experienced an increase in the number of positive COVID-19 cases with a majority of these cases identified in the Oroville area. With increased capacity for testing and more activities and businesses reopening, Butte County Public Health expected to see an increase in cases.

However, it is important to note some specifics about some of these new cases and remind our residents how to protect themselves. At this time, only one of the recent cases is linked to the Mother's Day gathering, in addition to the initial case. Other recent cases, not linked to that gathering, are an indication of increased community spread in the Oroville area.

COVID-19 does not recognize city limits or local boundaries. An increase in cases in any part of Butte County is an increased threat to everyone.

Hospitalization of people infected with COVID-19 is one of the most important indicators BCPH uses to understand the extent of the virus in our community. After many weeks with no COVID-19 hospitalizations, five people have been hospitalized in the last few days.

Residents should take action to protect themselves, their family and their community. Prevent the spread of COVID-19 by:

- Washing hands often
- Maintaining a minimum of six feet of distance between others
- Wearing a face covering when away from home and in contact with individuals who are not part of their household
- Limit non-essential travel
- Avoid gatherings
- Avoid sick people
- Stay home if you are sick

Community spread poses an even higher threat to people in increased risk categories. Those individuals should continue to stay home as much as possible to limit their exposure to the virus. People at increased risk include:

- All Adults over 65 years old
- All persons with chronic health conditions, such as: heart disease, diabetes and lung disease

Butte County is currently in an accelerated stage 2 of reopening. All businesses should be following industry specific guidelines for reopening as provided by the State. These guidelines can be found on the Butte Reopens website: www.buttecounty.net/buttoreopens.

Due to an increase in cases, it is imperative to the success of every business and to the health and safety of the community, for these guidelines to be followed. An outbreak associated with a business could delay

our county moving into stage 3 and may lead to an immediate shut down of a business while an investigation takes place.

Stay informed about COVID-19:

- Butte County Public Health: www.buttecounty.net/publichealth
- Butte County Reopens: www.buttecounty.net/buttereopens
- California COVID-19 website: www.covid19.ca.gov

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