

Media Information:

For immediate release:

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Yellowstone County Reports COVID-19 Related Death

Billings, MT – On Friday, September 4, a woman in her 50s passed away at a hospital in Yellowstone County due to COVID-19 related illness, reports RiverStone Health, the county's public health department.

This death is reflected on the Saturday, September 5 state COVID-19 tracking map.

To protect the privacy of the deceased and her family, RiverStone Health will not release further information.

"I offer my deepest condolences to the family and friends of this Yellowstone County resident who lost her life to this highly contagious new disease," said John Felton, Yellowstone County health officer and RiverStone Health president and CEO.

"The terrible loss of life reminds us to be vigilant against this virus," Felton said. "As we start the Labor Day holiday weekend, please remember to keep your distance (at least six feet) from people not in your household, wear a face covering when you are in public indoor spaces, wash your hands frequently and stay home if you feel ill."

In the month of August, the number of Yellowstone County COVID-19 cases doubled and 14 county residents died. Statistics for the first days of September are trending worse.

To date, 2,239 Yellowstone County residents have been infected with COVID-19 and 47 have died.

"We don't want to turn the joy of a holiday gathering into tragedy. It is critical that each one of us does our part to make sure that COVID-19 does not infect more Yellowstone County residents this holiday weekend," Felton said.