

## **Media Information:**

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## Yellowstone County Reports COVID-19 Related Deaths

**Billings, MT** – RiverStone Health, Yellowstone County's public health department, reports three more Yellowstone County residents have died due to COVID-19 related illness.

On Wednesday, October 7, a woman in her 60s passed away in a Yellowstone County hospital.

On Thursday, October 8, a woman in her 40s also passed away in a Yellowstone County hospital.

Also on Thursday, October 8, a man in his 80s passed away in a Yellowstone County hospital.

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

These most recent deaths are reflected on the Friday, October 9 state COVID-19 tracking map.

"As three more families experience the heartache of losing loved ones to COVID-19, there aren't words to adequately express my sorrow for their loss. Every death diminishes our community, affecting the families of the deceased immediately and acutely, but also all of us collectively," said John Felton, Yellowstone County Health Officer, President and CEO of RiverStone Health.

"Everyone must continue to do their best to slow the spread of this virus. If we all consistently practice COVID-19 prevention measures, we can slow the spread and begin to return to a more normal life. Show that you care about the community by wearing masks, watching your distance, washing your hands, avoiding crowds and staying home when you are ill," said Felton.

To date, 4,050 Yellowstone County residents have been infected with COVID-19 and 73 have died.