



Media Information:

For immediate release:

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340th Yellowstone County resident dies of COVID-19 illness

Billings, MT – The COVID-19 pandemic continues to take a terrible toll in Yellowstone County. On Friday, Yellowstone County residents accounted for 3,066 of the 12,539 currently active cases statewide and for 340 of the 2,079 COVID-19 related deaths statewide so far, according to RiverStone Health and data from the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services.

The most recent Yellowstone County resident to die from COVID-19 related illness was a woman in her 80s who passed away Thursday at a Billings hospital. She had been fully vaccinated and had underlying medical conditions.

Also on Friday, Billings hospitals were caring for 126 of the 463 COVID-19 patients hospitalized statewide. Among the 126 Billings inpatients, 104 had not been vaccinated.

Vaccination remains the fastest, surest way to reduce the risk of being infected with COVID-19 or spreading the virus to others. RiverStone Health will hold these free, walk-in COVID-19 vaccine clinics:

- Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon, Harvest Fest, downtown Billings.
- Monday, 4 to 6 p.m., Billings YMCA.
- Tuesday, noon to 2 p.m., Billings Public Library Community Room.
- Thursday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., RiverStone Health, 123 S. 27th St., in the four-story building.
- Oct. 19, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., City College, Tech Building, Room A017.
- Oct. 20, noon to 2 p.m. Billings Public Library Community Room.
- Oct. 21, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., North Park.
- Oct. 22, 11 am. to 1 p.m., Terry Park.
- Oct. 27, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Billings Public Library Community Room.

Clinics listed above will offer first and second doses and booster shots of Pfizer vaccine, along with first and second doses of Moderna and the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine to people 18 and older. Third doses of Moderna and Pfizer vaccines are available to immune-compromised people.

Only the two-dose Pfizer vaccine is recommended for children ages 12-17. Children will need a parent or guardian to sign their vaccination consent form.

A limited number of vaccination appointments are available from the RiverStone Health Immunization Clinic, phone **406.247.3382**. More vaccination information is posted at covid.riverstonehealth.org.

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