

MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Teton District Health Officer Re-Issues Recommendation #11 Gather in Household Groups Only

January 13, 2021, Jackson, WY – Due to the recent increase in new COVID-19 cases in Teton County, the Teton District Health Officer finds it necessary to re-issue Recommendation #11. This recommendation asks community members to gather only with their household groups (i.e., people who live together at the same residence). This recommendation will be in place from January 13, 2021 through January 27, 2021. Recommendation #11 was first put in place from December 3 through December 15, 2020, at which time Teton County, WY was experiencing a high number of new COVID-19 cases, increased hospitalizations, and strain on the contact tracing system. Now, similar circumstances make this recommendation necessary for the second time.

Teton District Health Officer, Travis Riddell, MD, MPH states, “Current community-wide COVID numbers and hospital census numbers are comparable to and in some cases higher than they were in the beginning of December when we previously enacted the household-gathering-only recommendation. After that, we saw case numbers go down in our county for a couple weeks. My hope is that this targeted intervention will help us achieve a similar result.”

Attending work and school is still appropriate with proper physical distancing, mask usage, and hygiene measures. The recommendation asks that people avoid other social, recreational, and extracurricular gatherings with members outside of their household. Though this isn’t a Health Order that is enforceable by law, Teton County Health Department is asking community members to help assist in lowering our current COVID-19 case counts by following this recommendation.

Other local leaders have highlighted the importance of making responsible personal choices to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. Teton County Board of County Commissioners Chairwoman Natalia D. Macker stated, “Please join us in supporting and following this necessary recommendation. The vaccine is here, it is being distributed, and we must slow the spread. We know what to do, so let’s do it for our families and friends, for our schools and businesses, and for all the people who have been working tirelessly for many months without a break. Please heed this request from our health professionals. We are all fatigued, but we cannot let our guard down now.”

To read the entire recommendation please visit, <http://www.tetoncountywy.gov/2064/Current-Health-Orders-and-Guidance>.

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