

August 10, 2020
4:00 PM
Big Horn County
COVID-19 Update/Response

For Immediate Release

Recent events across the country and State remind us of the fierce individuality and protection of constitutional rights that we value in Wyoming. We respect and defend the individual choices and constitutional liberties of competent citizens with respect to their own health care.

We respectfully ask that no matter on which side of the discussion you land, please understand that there are good people who have polar opposite views at this time. Our efforts have always been and will remain focused towards protecting the constitutional freedoms and best health practices of both sides.

This health crisis has been volatile, disruptive and frustrating for all of us. We are realizing that our world, like it or not is upside down and crazy with no stability in sight at the moment. As the world is changing we are scrambling to figure out how to safely keep events open and return to a new normal.

The stark argument as to the value or lack thereof of face masks should not be the center of the debate. There is room to respect individual opinions. For those that agree with masks, any chance to prevent transmissions is well worth the effort. For those who disagree with masks, that is certainly a right to hold converse views of thought. The fact is, there is much we don't know for certain when it comes to this virus. If there is any chance that masks may reduce the transmission, what is the harm? Similarly, arguing about whether choices and freedoms are being taken away from citizens by requesting mask usage is moot because there is no statutory law mandating such.

Regardless of where you stand in the mask discussion we can all agree that as Wyomingites we have differing opinions on almost everything but still find common ground that values our neighbors, family and friends and we will always be there to help our fellow citizens in need. We can all get behind these values. We are Wyoming Strong, we laugh together, we play together and sometimes we grieve together. We need to remember our roots on both sides of the fence. Remember Wyoming is the Equality State, we are all tired, the trail we are on is long and this is not the time or place for this fight. Our nation is under attack from an unseen force. This is happening to all of us, our neighbors, our families and friends. We need to come together and each do the best we can to reduce the spread of this virus and help one another without judgement. If there is a reasonable measure we can take to help protect our elderly and vulnerable populations isn't that worth considering a little bit of discomfort?

Respectfully,
Big Horn County Incident Management Team

For Sources of Information on COVID-19:

1. Big Horn County Public Health Website:
<https://www.bighorncountywy.gov>
<https://www.bighorncountywy.gov/departments/public-health>

2. Big Horn County COVID-19 INFORMATION LINE 307-568-4031
Or Email us @ covid-19@bighorncountywy.gov
3. Park County Public Health Coronavirus Information Line: 754-1870 or 527-1870
(Updated regularly). Big Horn County may use this.
4. Up to date announcements from Wyoming Department of Health as they are released Wyoming Department of Health
Website: <https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/infectious-disease-epidemiology-unit/disease/novel-coronavirus>.
5. CDC Website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html>
6. Wyoming Department of Health State Orders:
<https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/infectious-disease-epidemiology-unit/disease/novel-coronavirus/covid-19-orders-and-guidance/>

