

May 20, 2020  
5:00 PM  
Big Horn County  
COVID-19 Update/Response

## **For Immediate Release**

The Big Horn County Incident Response Team for the COVID-19 pandemic has diligently been working on behalf of the Citizens in Big Horn County to share accurate and timely information about the State of Wyoming's response to COVID-19. Our focus is strictly to help our communities navigate these new challenges, remain as healthy as possible and moving forward to get our lives and our economy moving again. We would like to clarify that our team only uses four outlets for our official statements and to share updated information. These four outlets are:

1. The Big Horn County Website ([www.bighorncountywy.gov](http://www.bighorncountywy.gov))
2. The Big Horn County Facebook page
3. The Big Horn County Emergency Management Facebook page
4. The Big Horn County Public Health Facebook page

There are many sources for information and misinformation. Please be cautious when searching for accurate information about our county and utilize one of these four outlets.

This team was formed following a universal incident response system that is designed to handle emergencies of all types known as the Incident Command System (ICS). ICS is designed to ensure information, actions and responses to any emergency are well planned and provide the best response possible to any situation.

On March 17, 2020 the Big Horn County Commissioners declared an emergency and activated a Big Horn County ICS Team for the COVID-19 response. This team is staffed by citizens of this county who have expertise in public health or emergency management use of the ICS system. This team has been delegated the responsibility to make decisions and take the actions necessary to help Big Horn County Citizens comply with the State Health Orders, obtain necessary supplies and services and manage this emergency as easily as possible.

This is a public health emergency and as such public health is the lead agency with law enforcement and emergency management as supporting agencies. Monitoring of public health orders is the responsibility of individual entities and not a function of our law enforcement agencies. The response team continues to do our best to help entities safely navigate moving forward and getting past the current health situation. The County's responsibility is to help families and businesses get moving again and find ways to mitigate the risks and liabilities associated with reopening our communities and businesses. We are as anxious to get back to normal as everyone. We wish we had a crystal ball that would tell us when and how these restrictions will be lifted. Please be patient and kind to others and take care of yourselves and your families.

Any questions or concerns about COVID-19 and Big Horn County's response can be directed to [covid-19@bighorncountywy.gov](mailto:covid-19@bighorncountywy.gov) or by calling 307-568-4031.