

SAN JUAN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER REQUIRING FACEMASKS INDOORS STARTING MIDNIGHT ON FRIDAY AUGUST 13th, 2021

Silverton, CO: On Wednesday August 11th, 2021, San Juan County's Public Health Medical Director Dr. Bob Brokering recommended to the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Health to implement a FACEMASK ORDER FOR INDOOR PUBLIC SPACES. A unanimous vote of 3 county commissioners occurred on Wednesday Aug 11, 2021, to enact a county wide indoor facemask order beginning Friday August 13, 2021, at midnight and set to expire on Friday September 10th, 2021. The Public Health Order will be issued due to a surge of COVID-19 positive cases among the unvaccinated since August 3, 2021.

- 29 positive COVID-19 cases since Tuesday August 3rd, 2021
- SJC had 47 cases up until August 3, 2021, and as of today we are at 75 total cases
- 37% of total COVID-19 positive cases are just from the last 7 days
- A PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER: "FACEMASK REQUIRED INDOORS" WILL BEGIN MIDNIGHT FRIDAY AUGUST 13, 2021, and will expire on Friday Sept. 10, 2021
- Facemasks will be required within public indoor spaces regardless of vaccination status in Silverton and San Juan County CO
- There are NO mask requirements outdoors or at outdoor events
- There are NO occupancy regulations or any other business restrictions
- San Juan County has issued a Declaration of Disaster due to this outbreak

"We ask our community to be flexible during this outbreak and be a part of the solution to stop the spread. If these were our statistics last summer, businesses and the community would be in "Shelter in Place" according to the Colorado Dept of Public Health and Environment. We have come a long way in this pandemic but by no means is it over yet and we still have a way to go. Part of our success last summer was the mask mandate, and it is a necessary decision to stop the current COVID-19 outbreak happening community-wide here in Silverton and San Juan County."

Becky Joyce, RN, Public Health Director

Vaccination is the best defense against COVID-19

What if you have been exposed to a COVID-19 positive person?

- Unvaccinated people must be tested and follow isolation and quarantine guidelines for 14 days
- Test and test often for COVID-19 if you have been exposed or are experiencing symptoms
- IF YOU ARE UNVACCINATED, you may need to show proof of a negative test
- After the quarantine period, non-vaccinated people must wear a mask around non household groups & in indoor public areas during periods of substantial or high transmission.
- Vaccinated people do not need to quarantine but should monitor for COVID-19 symptoms
- Vaccinated people are asked to wear a mask in indoor public areas and test 3-5 days after exposure
- Proof of vaccination is becoming more common for indoor events and festivals

How do I get tested locally?

- On-site testing is available 5 days a week Mon-Fri from 9-12pm.
 - Call 970-387-0242 to set up a free and easy COVID test
- BinaxNOW “at home” Covid-19 tests kits are available for free
 - Call SJCPH at 970 387-0242 to get your at home test kit

How do I get a vaccine locally?

- San Juan County Public Health now offers 3 different types of vaccines Monday - Friday.
 - Available Mon - Fri Call 970-387-0242 to make an appointment
 - SJCPH offers two dose Moderna, two dose Pfizer and one dose Johnson & Johnson

Protect yourself from COVID-19

COVID-19 continues to spread in the United States and variants are circulating. Take steps to protect yourself from the virus.

- Get a [COVID-19 vaccine](#) when it is available to you.
- Wear [a mask that covers your nose and mouth](#) to help protect yourself and others.
- [Stay 6 feet apart from others](#) who don't live with you.
- Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated indoor spaces.
- [Wash your hands often](#) with soap and water. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water aren't available.

Watch for Symptoms

People with COVID-19 report a wide range of symptoms – from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Anyone can have mild to severe symptoms. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea