

Press Release

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Contact: Holly Kerns or Ashley McClay, (541) 523-0014

New Baker County website offers key coronavirus health and community information

To help members of the Baker County community stay informed about coronavirus disease (COVID-19), its local impacts, and actions being taken to prevent its spread, Baker County today launched a COVID-19 website, located at https://www.bakercountycovid19.com/. Information on the site will be regularly updated for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic's effects on Baker County.

The site features a variety of information about COVID-19 and the concurrent public health measures being taken to slow the spread of the disease. This includes messages from Governor Kate Brown and the Oregon Health Authority's #StayHomeSaveLives campaign. The health information page provides residents with links to reliable medical information about COVID-19, its symptoms, and what to do if you suspect you may be infected. The business and workforce information pages provide news and links about resources which are being made available for local workers and business owners who are affected by mandatory closures and resulting layoffs. The community information and resources page provides updates on the status of community services such as meals for seniors and transit options. Other community resources posted include links to lists of local businesses which are remaining open under the order, such as restaurants offering take-out meals.

Stay Home, Save Lives

The Oregon Health Authority released projections yesterday modeling how the Stay Home, Save Lives order can dramatically reduce the impact on hospitals that will treat patients who develop complications from COVID-19. <u>Oregon Gives New Projections On COVID Cases</u>

Please do your part to reduce the risk of spread and protect our community by staying home unless the trip is essential, such as for groceries or medication, and practicing social distancing when you do go out.

0 Cases in Baker County, testing continues

Baker County healthcare providers continue to follow the CDC guidelines for testing suspect patients for the Coronavirus. People with a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing who meet the following criteria may meet the guidelines for testing from a commercial laboratory:

- Healthcare workers
- Patients with worsening symptoms
- Patients older than 60 years of age
- Patients with underlying medical conditions, including, but not limited to hypertension, diabetes, heart disease, lung disease, and immunocompromising conditions
- Pregnant women
- Patients who had contact with a suspected or lab-confirmed COVID-19 patient, or who traveled from an affected geographic area, within 14 days of their symptom onset

Any person meeting the criteria will need to be assessed by a medical provider who will decide if they need to be tested. Influenza is still circulating in our area and flu testing is recommended prior to testing for COVID-19. Patients who meet the guidelines have been tested and to date, all results have been negative. Any positive case will be reported immediately through a press release.

If you feel you need to be seen by a medical provider, call your provider before going to the clinic or Emergency Department.