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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Two More COVID-19 Deaths Confirmed in the Health District; Order for Mandatory Face Coverings and Other Restrictions Rescinded for Teton County

(SE Idaho) – Eastern Idaho Public Health (EIPH) has confirmed the death of two individuals, a male in his 90s from Fremont County and a female in her 70s from Bonneville County, due to COVID-19. This brings the total COVID-19 death count in the Health District to 17. Out of respect to their families, no additional details will be released. "For the family and friends of these individuals, as well as all the others who have passed away from COVID-19 and have suffered the ill effects of this virus, we want to express our sadness for your loss and offer our sincerest sympathy during these difficult times", stated Geri Rackow, EIPH Director.

The EIPH Board of Health (BOH) met this morning, September 10, and determined that Teton County had met the metric to return to the Minimal (green) Risk Level. The metric was met by having its active case rate below the threshold of 10/10,000 population for the most recent 7-day period. Although the BOH at EIPH rescinded the Order for Teton County, this does not alleviate the need to continue to wear face coverings while in public when not able to physical distance. There are still local mask ordinances in place in Teton County and following these will help alleviate the burden of COVID-19 in the community.

The following counties still have an active Order for face coverings and other restrictions in place: Bonneville, Custer, and Jefferson. If Jefferson County continues its downward trend in active cases and it falls below the metric for the seventh consecutive day, its Order will be rescinded Saturday, September 12. Copies of all the Orders can be viewed on EIPH's website at www.EIPH.Idaho.gov.

Although we have been seeing a downward trend in COVID-19 cases throughout the region over the past several weeks, we still need to remain vigilant in our efforts to slow the spread of the virus especially now that schools have resumed and we are heading into influenza season. One of our goals is to keep schools open and closely following public health guidelines is one of the ways to avoid outbreaks and ensure kids can remain learning and growing in their intellectual and extracurricular pursuits. This includes:

- Staying home if you are sick and not sending your child to school if sick or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.
- Maintaining a space of six feet between yourself and people not of your household.
- Wearing face coverings, if medically possible, in public spaces when not able to physical distance.
- Washing your hands frequently or using sanitizer if not able to wash.
- Avoiding hosting and attending large gatherings of people.

- More -

In addition to keeping kids in school, if everyone steps up their disease reduction efforts, we can maintain our healthcare capacity and restore confidence in individuals so they feel safe to venture out to businesses thus creating more economic growth in the region.

Stay Informed

COVID-19 information can be found on our website at www.EIPH.Idaho.gov and also on our data dashboard. Also, EIPH has a call center to answer questions regarding COVID-19. Call 208-522-0310 or 855-533-3160 (toll free) to speak with someone. The call center is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. In addition, questions can be submitted via email to COVIDQuestions@eiph.idaho.gov or asked through our Facebook page at [@EIPH.Idaho](https://www.facebook.com/EIPH.Idaho).

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