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### **Buffalo County Update on COVID-19, Vaccination Efforts, and Interim CDC Guidance**

Alma, WI – 07/28/2021 – As of Tuesday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, the CDC has updated their recommendation for fully vaccinated individuals. It is as follows:

- Recommend that fully vaccinated people wear a mask in public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high transmission.
- Fully vaccinated people might choose to wear a mask regardless of the level of transmission, particularly if they are immunocompromised or at increased risk for severe disease from COVID-19, or if they have someone in their household who is immunocompromised, at increased risk of severe disease or not fully vaccinated.
- Recommend that fully vaccinated people who have a known exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 to be tested 3-5 days after exposure, and to wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.
- CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to schools, regardless of vaccination status

It should be noted that Buffalo County is currently in the “substantial” level of transmission according to the CDC’s Integrated County View Map. Prevention measures are still recommended for individuals who are not vaccinated including wearing a mask in indoor public places and staying 6 feet away from others in public places. More information on current CDC guidance can be located at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>.

Buffalo County is concerned about the Delta variant and the risk it poses to the community. This variant is extremely infectious and is spreading more quickly than any strain of COVID-19 during the pandemic. **The best way to protect yourself, your family, and your community from COVID-19 is to get vaccinated.** Wisconsin COVID transmission data can be found at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/data.htm#summary>.

Buffalo County continues to stress the importance of vaccination in slowing the spread of COVID-19 in the county, state, and country. As of Tuesday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 50% (6,558) of Buffalo County residents have received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Though this is notable progress, we still have a long way to go in our vaccine efforts. The virus is still spreading in communities, and those that are unvaccinated are at an increased risk. We ask that you get vaccinated to not only to protect yourself, but to protect those that are unable to get vaccinated such as children 11 and under that are not yet eligible for the vaccine.

Buffalo County will be holding a walk-in vaccine clinic Thursday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, at the Buffalo County Courthouse on the first floor. The clinic runs from 8:00 AM-12:00 PM and 1:00 PM-4:00 PM. We will also have a walk-in clinic at the Buffalo County Fair on Friday, July 30<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 PM-6:00 PM and Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM in the commercial building. Any individual that gets vaccinated with us at the fair and/or brings someone to get vaccinated with us at the fair will receive a ticket for a free malt. Both Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson COVID vaccine brands will be available. We hope to see you there!

The mission of Buffalo County Public Health is to empower communities to live better longer by preventing disease, protecting health and assuring safety. For more information, please contact the Buffalo County Public Health at 608-685-4412 or visit our website <https://www.buffalocounty.com/489/COVID-19>.