

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 12/21/20

**RAVALLI COUNTY COVID-19
PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE**

Hamilton, Mont. – Ravalli County Public Health had 43 cases reported for the weekend 12/19 through 12/20/20. The active open case count was at 301 as of 5pm Sunday.

Public Health continues to prepare for Moderna vaccine arriving this week. Training for public health staff to administer the vaccine began today. We are in Phase 1A of distribution allocated for frontline healthcare workers. We are aware that other medical entities are due to receive the Moderna vaccine and will most likely be vaccinating their own frontline healthcare personnel. If any doses remain from this first allocation, Public Health will prioritize critical frontline workers and begin to offer vaccinations.

There is no information as to when the second shipment of vaccine will arrive in Ravalli County.

However, Montana Department of Health and Human Services has indicated that we could see vaccine allocated for the general public as early as February 2021. We are hoping to begin vaccinating frontline workers the week after Christmas.

Public Health would like to thank Ravalli County residents for using the online “release from isolation” process. This has increased our efficiency in getting those recovered release from isolation in a timely manner. Thank you.

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