

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 1/28/2021

RAVALLI COUNTY COVID-19 Vaccine Update PUBLIC HEALTH

Ravalli County Public Health will be releasing a weekly vaccine distribution update beginning this week. Vaccine continues to be in very short supply across Montana and nationwide. Public Health is continuing to communicate with our partners on a local, state, and federal level to ensure that Ravalli County providers are able to provide a safe and efficient distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Public Health is developing an online form for Ravalli County residents to register their Notice of Intent to receive the COVID-19 vaccine from Public Health. The system is planned to go live the week of February 1. We will be asking community members to assist our elderly population who may not have the capability or access in submitting their information.

Public Health is anticipating that additional local providers may be able to offer vaccine appointments in the coming weeks.

- Vaccine providers in Ravalli County are as eager to begin a countywide vaccination effort as our residents are to receive the vaccine.
- Ravalli County is currently receiving very limited quantities of vaccine. The timing and amount of vaccine shipments is irregular and unpredictable. This increases the difficulty of planning and scheduling future appointments.
- Distribution of the vaccine is not solely the responsibility of Public Health; all providers in our County are working together to provide the vaccine in a safe and efficient manner.
- Each vaccine provider will have their own method of registering for an appointment.
- This is an unprecedented effort in Ravalli County as well as across the entire United States; every community and state will experience challenges and mistakes.

Please continue to observe any public health guidelines or directives - wear your mask, wash your hands and watch your distance. Keep your cohort groups small and stay home if you're sick.