



TANNER KINGERY, MPH
DIRECTOR

PUBLIC HEALTH

302 Second St. · P.O. Box 670 · Ouray, Colorado 81427 · 970-325-4670 · Fax 970-325-7314

TO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 4/3/20

RE: COVID-19 case

FROM: Tanner Kingery, MPH

The Ouray County Public health Agency (OCPHA) announces the first confirmed case of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Ouray County. One resident, a male in his 50s is in home isolation and recovering well. Health officials are identifying and contacting all close contacts. Ouray County has one case at this time.

Everyone should consider themselves at risk from exposure to COVID-19 and should adhere to the Governor's Order to Stay-at-Home as much as possible. While at home, everyone should monitor themselves for fever and remain alert for cough, shortness of breath or sore throat. Testing is not indicated for persons who are mildly ill or are not showing signs of illness. This helps conserve personal protective equipment and reduce possible exposures to healthcare workers. Testing priority is given to hospitalized patients with severe acute lower respiratory illness, for example pneumonia.

The Ouray County Unified Command and all community partners are working diligently on our community-level response to COVID-19. Your adherence to public health guidance is imperative to keeping you, your family, our healthcare providers, first responders and other essential staff safe.

Sincerely,

Tanner Kingery, MPH
Director
Ouray County Public Health Agency



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RE: COVID-19 case

FROM: Tanner Kingery, MPH

The Ouray County Public health Agency (OCPHA) announces the second confirmed case of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Ouray County. One resident, a male in his 80s, is recovering. Health officials are identifying and contacting all close contacts. Ouray County has two cases at this time. Please visit ouraycountyco.gov for the latest case count summary.

Everyone should consider themselves at risk from exposure to COVID-19 and should adhere to the Governor's Order to Stay-at-Home as much as possible. While at home, everyone should monitor themselves for fever and remain alert for cough, shortness of breath or sore throat. Testing is not indicated for persons who are mildly ill or are not showing signs of illness. This helps conserve personal protective equipment and reduce possible exposures to healthcare workers. Testing priority is given to hospitalized patients with severe acute lower respiratory illness, for example pneumonia.

The Ouray County Unified Command and all community partners are working diligently on our community-level response to COVID-19. Your adherence to public health guidance is imperative to keeping you, your family, our healthcare providers, first responders and other essential staff safe.

Sincerely,

Tanner Kingery, MPH
Director
Ouray County Public Health Agency



PRESS RELEASE

April 8, 2020

Contact: Tanner Kingery, Director, Ouray County Public Health Agency
Phone: 970-325-4670
Email: tkingery@ouraycountyco.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

OURAY COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ANNOUNCES FIRST COVID-19 DEATH

Ouray County Public Health Agency is saddened to report the first death from COVID-19 in Ouray County. The individual was an 81-year-old man who had underlying medical conditions, and died while receiving treatment at Montrose Memorial Hospital.

“While we knew this day would eventually come, it still does not make it any easier,” said Ouray County Public Health Director Tanner Kingery. “Our deepest condolences go out to his wife, family, friends and our Ouray County community.”

Ouray County currently has three (3) confirmed cases of COVID-19. Daily updates are provided on the Ouray County website: ouraycountyco.gov as well as Ouray County Public Health Facebook page: [Facebook.com/OurayCountyPublicHealthAgency](https://www.facebook.com/OurayCountyPublicHealthAgency)

We remind our community members to continue doing their part in maintaining their social distance during the Stay at Home order. We live in a beautiful community and with the spring-like weather many of us are wanting to get out and enjoy the sunshine. If you are outside exercising or taking care of essential errands, please continue to keep your distance from others. This not only protects you, but protects them as well. This is our community’s best way to continue to flatten the curve of the virus.

Ways that you can continue to protect yourselves, family members and community members:

- ✓ Stay home
- ✓ Wash your hands, often
- ✓ Disinfect hard surfaces frequently
- ✓ Cover your sneeze and coughs
- ✓ Practice social distancing
- ✓ Wear a mask if you go out and are around people
- ✓ Avoid people who are sick

And if you become sick:

- ✓ Self-Isolate. If possible, keep yourself isolated from other people in your household. If you develop a fever, cough or shortness of breath you may need to call your healthcare provider. But please **CALL** your healthcare provider first, do not show up unannounced. They will give you instructions on what to do next.

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