PSA Release

North Central District Health Department (NCDHD) represents the following counties: Antelope, Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, Knox, Pierce, and Rock



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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NCDHD COVID-19 Updates

Public Service Announcement

North Central District Health Department (NCDHD) has been made aware of 135 cases in the district since the last reporting on 12/3: 16-Antelope; 2-Boyd; 18-Brown; 14-Cherry; 24-Holt; 4-Keya Paha; 34-Knox; 15-Pierce; 8-Rock.

NCDHD has regretfully been notified of a Knox County man in his 90s who died from COVID-19. NCDHD sends its sincerest condolences to the family.

NCDHD will host a drive-through influenza shot clinic on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 from 3-5PM in the back of the NCDHD office in O'Neill, NE. To access the clinic, enter through the east ally entrance and remain in your vehicle. To fast track the clinic process, complete the vaccination form online prior to arrival and have a copy of your insurance card with you. If unable to complete the vaccination form prior to the clinic NCDHD will have hard copies available and will be making copies of insurance cards as needed.

The Directed Health Measures (DHMs), effective December 3rd through December 31st, 2020, have been updated to include the recommendations from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding shortened quarantine. The change includes:

- > Quarantine may now discontinue <u>without testing</u> under the following conditions:
 - at least 10 days have passed since the quarantined individuals last Close Contact exposure AND
 - have no symptom development AND
 - continues to self-monitor daily for symptom development through day 14 since last Close Contact exposure AND

- wears a facial covering (such as a bandana or cloth mask) through day 14 since last Close Contact.
- Quarantine may discontinue with testing under the following conditions:
 - at least seven (7) days have passed since the quarantined individuals last Close Contact exposure AND
 - has had no symptom development AND
 - results of a diagnostic specimen test is negative, AND the specimen was collected no earlier than 5 days since the quarantined individuals last Close Contact exposure AND
 - continues to self-monitor daily for symptom development through day 14 since last Close Contact exposure AND
 - wears a facial covering (such as a bandana or cloth mask) through day 14 since last Close Contact exposure

NCDHD has expanded its COVID-19 testing capacities to include a 15-minute rapid test, in addition to the gold standard PCR test already offered. The rapid test is <u>only</u> offered to individuals who are currently exhibiting symptoms associated with COVID.

All testing is offered free of charge at the below locations:

- O'Neill: Monday- Thursday from 8:30am-10:30am in the north parking lot of the O'Neill Armory. The armory is located at the corner of 4th and Hynes Ave.
- Bassett: Tuesdays from 1:00pm-3:00pm at the Rock County Fair Grounds.
- Pre-registration for testing at <u>www.testnebraska.com</u> is highly encouraged, but not required.
- The last patient will be scheduled 15 minutes before the scheduled end of the clinic.
- Valentine: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1:30-3:30PM. Hosted by Cherry County Hospital but testing is at the Valentine United Methodist Church, located at 804 E. 5th St. Valentine, NE. Rapid Test are <u>not</u> available at this location.

Case count update as of 12/7/2020 at 4:00 PM: 3,075 Total Cases (TC), 1,165 Recoveries (R), 41 Deaths (D), and 503 total cases reported in the last 14 days. A reminder that Total Case (TC) numbers are represented first, and of those total cases the number of Recovered (R) persons is represented second, and total case related Deaths (D) is represented third.

Antelope: TC: 417, R:154, D: 4 Keya Paha: TC: 28, R: 6 Boyd: TC: 146, R: 49; D:2 Knox: TC: 657, R: 285, D: 3

Brown: TC 217, R:76, D: 3 Pierce: TC: 545, R: 159, D:13 Cherry: TC: 326, R: 107, D:5 Rock: TC: 121, R: 78, D:1

Holt: TC: 618, R: 251, D: 10