CENTRAL SHENANDOAH HEALTH DISTRICT

# Weekly COVID-19 Update

**February 22, 2021**

## WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK

### COVID-19 Vaccine Information

**Virginia Statewide COVID-19 Vaccine Pre-Registration System:** Virginia launched a statewide vaccine pre-registration system Tuesday, February 16th. All Virginians, regardless of phase phase eligibility, can pre-register for the COVID-19 vaccine at vaccinate.virginia.gov.

- **Who should pre-register?** Anyone interested in getting the COVID-19 vaccine. The Central Shenandoah Health District is currently focusing vaccination efforts on certain groups in Phase 1b, and it may be awhile before everyone has access to a COVID-19 vaccine. That being said, it is a good idea to get pre-registered now.
- **Do I need to pre-register on vaccinate.virginia.gov if I already signed up for the CSHD waitlist?** All individuals who have previously filled out a survey or form or signed up for a waitlist to be vaccinated through their local health district will be automatically imported into the new statewide system. Individuals will maintain their current status in the queue, and will be able to search that they are in the new system.
  Visit vaccinate.virginia.gov and select "Pre-Register" and then "Check the List"to see if you are pre-registered.
- **What happens if I can't find my name on the State Vaccine Pre-Registration site?** We are aware of some issues with our data being transferred over. It may take a few days or up to a week for your information to be transferred to the new system. First, try looking up your information using different contact information (phone, emails, etc.). If you have multiple emails, try inputting your different emails. If that does not work, try looking yourself up using your phone number(s). Lastly, if you still can't find your name,
  email cshdinfo@vdh.virginia.gov and they can confirm that you completed one of the CSHD pre-registration survey and are on the waitlist. If they cannot find your information, you will need to submit a pre-registration survey at vaccinate.virginia.gov.
- **Note:** If you completed the CSHD "Request for Individual Vaccine Survey, "COVID-19 Vaccine General Vaccine Information Survey," "Solicitud para Vacunación Individual," "Formulario de encuesta del COVID-19 para el público en general," or you called the health department and gave your information via phone, your information has been transferred or is in the process of being transferred to the new system.

**Virginia COVID-19 Vaccine Information Call Center:** The Virginia COVID-19 Vaccine Information Call Center was launched on Wednesday, February 17th. Virginian's can call **1-877-VAX-IN-VA (1-877-829-4682)** to pre-register for the vaccine, ask questions about the vaccine, and to confirm that they are on the waitlist for the vaccine. The call center is open from 8:00am-8:00pm, 7 days a week.

**Vaccine Scams:** It is important to be mindful of COVID-19 vaccine scams. All COVID-19 vaccines are free and you will

never be asked for your credit card information or social security number. Things to keep in mind:

- Do not pay to put your name on a priority list
- Do not pay to get early access to the vaccine
- Do not pay out of pocket for the vaccine
- Vaccines are not solicited door-to-door

Registration information will only come from the health department, PrepMod, and our healthcare partners. Do not complete any links that are forwarded to you.

**CSHD Vaccination Numbers:** We are publishing our daily vaccination numbers on Facebook and on our website. These numbers only reflect COVID-19 vaccinations performed by the Central Shenandoah Health District and are not a reflection of total COVID-19 vaccines given within the health district and are approximate as of date received. For total COVID-19 vaccine distribution numbers, please visit the VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard.

**Note:** CSHD postponed some COVID-19 vaccine clinics last week because last week's vaccine shipment was delayed due to nationwide inclement weather. For the VDH press release, please visit the website here.

### New COVID-19 Variant Reported in Virginia

The first case of B.1.351 COVID-19 variant was identified in Southwest Virginia on Thursday, February 18th. The B.1.351 variant, which first emerged in South Africa in late 2020, is associated with increased person-to-person transmission of COVID-19. At this time, there is no evidence that infections with this variant cause more severe disease.

**With the threat of these new strains spreading, it is important now more than ever to wear a mask correctly, stay at least six feet from others, avoid crowds, wash your hands often, and get vaccinated for COVID-19 when it is your turn.**

To read the VDH press release, please click here.

### District COVID-19 Activity

Cases have been decreasing in our region (Northwest) for the last 37 days and cases are considered to be decreasing. Even though cases are decreasing, it does not mean that COVID-19 isn't in our community. It is still important to take preventative measures. You can explore individual locality metrics here. To learn more about the VDH Pandemic Metrics, click here.

## PREVENTION REMINDERS

### The COVID-19 vaccine is here, but we still need to focus on flattening the curve.

### Watch your distance | Wash your hands | Wear a mask

- All people in Virginia should **stay home as much as possible** and **practice social distancing** to reduce the risk of being exposed to COVID-19.
- **Wear a face mask to protect yourself** from COVID-19.
- **Get your flu shot:** it is not too late to get your flu shot to protect you from the seasonal influenza.
- **Download** COVIDWISE, Virginia's free exposure notification app.
- **Answer the call!** If a Case Investigator or Contact Tracer calls you, you should answer the call. Talking to the health department is an important step in slowing the spread of COVID-19.
- **Who is in your Social Bubble or Pod**? As COVID-19 continues to spread in our community, it is important to think about who is in your social bubble and who might be in their bubble. Check out this VDH document for more information.

## COVID-19 HEALTH EDUCATION

### CSHD Office Hours

Do you have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine and vaccination efforts in our district? Join us for our twice weekly office hours! Please share with your community.

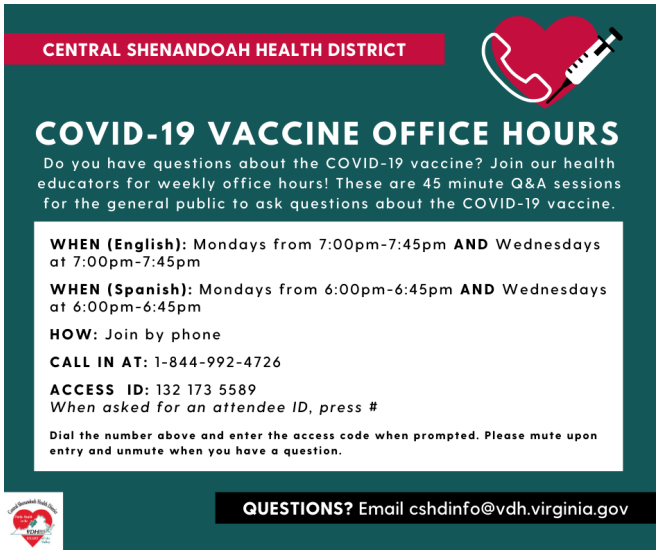
Spanish language office hours:

- Every Monday from 6:00pm-6:45pm
- Every Wednesday from 6:00pm-6:45pm

English language office hours:

- Every Monday from 7:00pm-7:45pm
- Every Wednesday from 7:00pm-7:45pm

Dial **1-844-992-4726** and enter the access code **132 173 5589** when prompted. When asked for attendee ID, press #. To unmute yourself during the call press *6.



## COVID-19 DATA BREAKDOWN

As reported to VDH, by date of lab report. May differ from other sources, due to reporting lags. Negative numbers indicate data corrections, since March 2020. More data can be found here. Note: The daily case count only reflects the cases reported 2/22/2021. For daily case counts throughout the week, please visit the VDH website.

| | Daily case count* | New cases, 7-day avg | Total cases | Total hospitalizations | Total deaths |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Augusta | 6 | 9 | 5,130 | 143 | 54 |
| Staunton City | 3 | 5 | 2,383 | 77 | 60 |
| Waynesboro City | 4 | 8 | 2,111 | 66 | 28 |
| Rockbridge | 8 | 4 | 1,248 | 40 | 30 |
| Lexington City | 0 | 12 | 1,083 | 20 | 19 |
| Buena Vista City | 1 | 4 | 827 | 18 | 12 |
| Rockingham | 3 | 13 | 5,986 | 303 | 80 |
| Harrisonburg City | 7 | 10 | 5,642 | 156 | 68 |
| Bath | 0 | 0 | 240 | 5 | 9 |
| Highland | 0 | 0 | 90 | 1 | 0 |
| **Totals** | 32 | 64 | 24,740 | 829 | 360 |

*As of 10:00am on 2/22

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