CENTRAL SHENANDOAH HEALTH DISTRICT
Weekly COVID-19 Update

March 15, 2021

WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK

COVID-19 Vaccine Information

CSHD Expands Vaccination Efforts: This week CSHD is expanding our vaccination efforts to include all groups in Phase 1b. Invitations for these clinics will come through email or phone call.

We will post all extra appointments on our website at 12:00pm the day before a clinic. Please review the specific clinic eligibility requirements before you register for an appointment. If you do not meet the specific clinic eligibility requirements, your appointment will be cancelled.

MASK UP FOR MARCH!

Keep doing your part to stop the spread while vaccines are on the way.

VACCINATE VIRGINIA

Virginia Statewide COVID-19 Vaccine Pre-Registration System: All Virginians, regardless of phase phase eligibility, can pre-register for the COVID-19 vaccine at **vaccinate.virginia.gov** or by calling the **Virginia COVID-19 Vaccine Information Call Center 1-877-VAX-IN-VA (1-877-829-4682)**.

Verify and Update Your Pre-Registration Record: VDH added increased functionality to the pre-registration system this week and Virginians can now change or edit their pre-registration information at vaccinate.virginia.gov. It is important that everyone checks that they are pre-registered and verifies all of the information in their profile. There is information that CSHD did not ask in our pre-registration surveys that needs to be added to your record in the statewide system.

CSHD Vaccination Numbers: We are publishing our daily vaccination numbers on Facebook and on our website. Starting Tuesday, March 16, we will post our daily vaccination numbers at 12:00pm the following day (Ex. Monday's vaccination numbers will be posted at 12:00pm on Tuesday).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.

Updated COVID-19 Visitation Guidance for Healthcare Settings and Nursing Homes

Healthcare facilities in Virginia can expand visitation practices for residents and their families, the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) announced March 10. On March 10, the CDC released Updated Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations in Response to COVID-19 Vaccination for all healthcare settings, including but not limited to nursing homes and assisted living facilities. At the same time, CMS released updated COVID-19 Guidelines and Revised Visitation Recommendations for certified nursing homes in response to significant reductions in COVID-19 infections and transmission resulting from ongoing infection control practices and high vaccination rates in the nursing home population.

For more information about the update recommendations for Virginia, please click here.

District COVID-19 Activity

Cases have been decreasing in our region (Northwest) for the last 58 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

<p align="center">The COVID-19 vaccine is here, but we still need to focus on flattening the curve.</p>

<p align="center">**Watch your distance | Wash your hands | Wear a mask**</p>

- 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

NEW CSHD COVID-19 Community Call-In

Do you have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine and vaccination efforts in our district? Join us for our weekly COVID-19 Community Call-In! Please share with your community. This will replace our twice weekly "Office Hours."

Spanish language call:
- Every Wednesday from 6:00pm-6:45pm

English language call:
- 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.

Vaccinate Virginia Town Hall - Telemundo 44

The Virginia Department of Health and Virginia's Hispanic Chamber of Commerce will host a Spanish language Digital Vaccination Forum on Wednesday, March 17 at 7:00pm. It will be streamed live on the Telemuundo 44 Facebook page. Search for "Telemundo 44 Directo al Consumidor."

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 3/15/2021. 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	5	5,285	149	70
Staunton City	2	2	2,492	78	69
Waynesboro City	0	3	2,185	69	34
Rockbridge	0	15	1,418	42	44
Lexington City	4	1	1,137	21	30
Buena Vista City	3	1	857	20	19
Rockingham	3	7	6,175	344	102
Harrisonburg City	7	17	5,927	172	94
Bath	0	0	247	6	12
Highland	0	0	98	1	1
Totals	**25**	**51**	**25,821**	**902**	**475**

As of 10:00am on 3/15

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