

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### For Immediate Release

## Teton County Receives Variances to New State Public Health Orders

**April 29, 2020, Jackson, WY** – Teton County District Health Officer, Travis Riddell, MD, has received approval for variances to the modified statewide public health orders that were announced by the Wyoming State Health Officer on Tuesday, April 28, 2020.

The [modified statewide public health orders](#) included provisions for county health officers to submit requests for variances based on local conditions and health data. Under this provision, Dr. Riddell submitted two variances to the Wyoming State Health Officer, Alexia Harrist, MD, PhD, and received approval earlier today. Specifically, they state:

- Teton County’s variance to Statewide Public Health Order #1 will keep gymnasiums including gyms and fitness centers closed until May 11th, 2020. Other businesses listed in the order may open May 1st, 2020 on a limited basis.
- Teton County’s variance to Statewide Public Health Order #3 will keep all businesses listed closed until May 11, 2020. These businesses include nail salons, hair salons, barber shops, massage parlors, tattoo body art and piercing shops, and cosmetology, electrology, and esthetic services.

Teton County’s variances are set to expire May 11, 2020. The signed Teton County variance can be viewed [here](#). These variances were requested based on Teton County’s metrics determined by the State including the number of lab-confirmed positive cases, attack rate, positivity rate, number of patients admitted to St. John’s Health, and current testing numbers.

“It’s not a time to let our guard down,” Dr. Riddell said. “We’re urging everyone in Teton County to err on the side of caution, especially those who may have more frequent interaction with others or are at higher risk.” Teton County continues to have one of the highest number of laboratory-confirmed cases in the state. A [COVID-19 Response Overview Dashboard](#) provides statistics and demographics summarizing the total number of cases, both in Teton County and statewide.

Dr. Riddell did not submit a variance for [Statewide Public Health Order #2](#). Teton County residents will follow the guidance listed in Statewide Public Health Order #2, which prohibits gatherings of ten (10) or more people. Teton County Order #20-4 that restricted gatherings to only individuals in the same household will expire at midnight on April 30, 2020.

Updates to Teton County and Statewide public health orders are posted on both the [Teton County Health Department](#) and [jhcovid.com](http://jhcovid.com) web sites.

Residents should continue to minimize errands, practice physical distancing, frequently wash their hands, cover cough and sneezes, avoid touching their face, and wear cloth face coverings when physical distancing may be compromised.

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