



**Update from CCPHA and CCOEM  
April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020**



Good afternoon, Custer County.

Unfortunately, we, Elisa and Meredith, are unable to bring you a live video today. We would still like to give an update to the public regarding Covid-19 and the county's response efforts. Below is a summary of where the county is at as of April 17th, 2020.

**Case Count**

- 2 Positive Cases
- 11 Negative Tests
- 0 Tests Pending
- 1 Hospitalized
- 0 Deaths

**Positive case status**

The first positive case has fully recovered and has been given the "all-clear" by both her primary care physician and the Custer County Public Health director. The second case is still in this hospital in critical condition.

**Test Kits**

Custer County now has testing capabilities. The Custer County Public Health Agency has created a set of guidelines and criteria to determine who will be tested. The testing criteria is based on the CDPHE testing guidelines. This includes signs and symptoms, severity of illness, and other factors. CCPHA will also conduct thorough contact investigations on any pending cases.

**Public Health Orders**

Even though the State's order is due to end on April 26th, we have opted to keep our order in effect through April 30th. However, if we find that the data around the state and county shows that it is safe to start removing restrictions, we will do so. We would rather have the ability to rescind an order early than be forced to extend one.

The state is starting to see a flattening of the curve in Covid-19 cases. That fact does not mean that we should open everything back up all at once, which would likely lead to a recurrence. We must take a staggered approach in lessening the Public Health Orders. If this is not done, it is likely we would have to go back into a stay-at-home order and start the process over all again.

**Stay Strong**

We realize the strain the state and local orders are putting on our people and our economy. We want to re-emphasize that our first priority is the health and wellness of our residents. The public health orders that are in place are the main reason we only have 2 cases and 0 deaths in Custer County thus far. It is vital that our community continues to abide by the orders until they are lifted or reduced.

Now more than ever, our community's strength and resilience are being tested in new ways that force us to rethink how we support one another. Let us come together in support for our community and the response agencies looking out for the safety and wellness of us all. Custer County must be unified in our efforts to stop the spread of Covid-19. We are truly stronger together.

To find more resources on Covid-19 and Custer County's Public Health Orders, go to <https://www.custercountycolorado.com/covid-19> or <http://custercountygov.com/index.php?pg=covid19>