

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Klickitat County Public Health

Contact: Erinn Quinn

Director for Klickitat County Public Health

publichealthpio@klickitatcounty.org

www.klickitatcounty.org



Klickitat County Reports COVID-19 Vaccine Shipment Delays

Klickitat County Health Department awaits a two week supply of vaccine shipments

Goldendale, WA, February 22, 2021 – The Klickitat County Health Department (KCHD) reported today that severe weather across the U.S. has resulted in COVID-19 vaccine shipping delays. Over the last two weeks, more than 800 COVID-19 vaccine doses had been allocated and scheduled to be sent to Klickitat County vaccine providers but did not arrive. This latest delivery of vaccines were "boosters" or second doses that allow people to complete their vaccination series.

Despite the delays, very few Klickitat County residents have had to reschedule their vaccine appointments. Any residents that have had to reschedule due to vaccine shipment delays have already been contacted. The overall impact of these delays has been minimal greatly because of the ongoing partnership and planning between KCHD, Skyline Health, Klickitat Valley Health, and NorthShore Medical Group. All of these vaccine providers are working expeditiously to deliver vaccines to residents.

These delivery delays have impacted COVID-19 vaccine clinics at most of the vaccine providers in Klickitat County. The delayed shipments are expected to arrive later this week or early next week. Once delivered, all the vaccine providers will work collaboratively to ensure that all the doses are administered to Klickitat County residents promptly.

Currently, all Klickitat County providers are focusing vaccine efforts on Phase 1a and 1b, tier one. These tiers include: high-risk healthcare workers, first responders, long-term care facility residents, persons 65 years and older, and those 50 years or older in multigenerational households.

You can help slow the spread of COVID-19 by wearing a face mask that covers your nose and mouth when you are in public, washing your hands, and staying home when you are sick. It is also highly recommended that the public avoid large gatherings and events even if they are hosted outside.

If you are currently experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms, please contact your primary care provider about getting tested. COVID-19 symptoms can be different for everyone but generally include some of the following: fever, chills, headache, muscle aches or pains, sore throat, sinus congestion, dry or productive cough, shortness of breath, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain or cramps, loss of smell or taste, and fatigue. Anyone with symptoms can be tested in Klickitat County by calling to make an appointment at Klickitat Valley Health, Skyline Health, or Northshore Medical Group.

About Klickitat County Public Health

Klickitat County Public Health is always working for a safer and healthier community. As the region's public health leader and partner, we are committed to excellence through innovative programs, community partnerships and a fundamental dedication to promote and protect the health of all Klickitat County residents.

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For More Information:

Klickitat County Public Health: www.klickitatcounty.org/289/Public-Health

Klickitat Valley Health: www.kvhealth.net

Skyline Health: www.myskylinehealth.org

Northshore Medical Group: www.northshore-medical.com

COVID-19 Risk Assessment Dashboard:

<https://coronavirus.wa.gov/what-you-need-know/covid-19-risk-assessment-dashboard>