

Granite County COVID-19 Response

Wednesday, March 25, 2020 @ 3:00 p.m.

Mark Ransford, Incident Commander



Granite County
Montana

Information: Bill Slaughter, 406-552-7088

Web: <https://co.granite.mt.us/>

Email: granitecovid@co.granite.mt.us

Facebook: [Granite County Sheriff's Office](#)

As of 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday 25, there are NO reported cases of COVID-19 in Granite County. Please follow required social distancing and other recommended guidelines to protect yourself and others.

Yesterday, March 24, Governor Bullock issued a directive extending closures of public schools as well as dine-in food service and alcoholic beverage businesses through April 10. Mandated social distancing measures were also included in the Directive to slow the spread of COVID-19 in Montana. The Directive is a public health order enforceable by county attorneys and preempts all county health ordinances if less restrictive. A previous closure order by the Granite County Board of Health on March 18 closing all restaurants and bars to dine-in services in Granite County is superseded by the Governor's Directives (<https://news.mt.gov/>).

The Granite County COVID-19 Incident Management Team (IMT), under the command of Mark Ransford, continues to manage the COVID-19 situation in Granite County. The IMT will continue to meet weekly with the Local Emergency Planning Committee to discuss the needs and concerns of the people of Granite County. Official information regarding Granite County and the response to the threat of the COVID-19 virus will be posted on the Granite County webpage (<https://co.granite.mt.us/>) and the Granite County Sheriff's Office Facebook page. If there a need to send urgent information, the Sheriff's office will utilize an Emergency Alert System; information would be delivered similar to an Amber Alert.

Orders of Closure:

- Establishments offering food or beverage for on-premises consumption, including alcoholic beverage services, through April 10. Take-out and delivery services for these businesses is allowed and encouraged.
- Other places where activities pose enhanced health risks including gyms, indoor facilities at ski areas, fitness studios, indoor recreational facilities, movie and performance theaters, etc.

Required Social Distancing:

- Effective immediately - Non-essential social and recreational gatherings of individuals outside of a home or place of residence of greater than 10 people are prohibited, if a distance of at least six feet between individuals cannot be maintained.
- Parents should avoid, if possible, placing children for childcare with grandparents, family members, friends, or providers over the age of 60 or immunocompromised persons.
- Effective March 28, retail businesses shall establish, implement, and enforce social distancing policies sufficient to ensure a minimum of six feet of distance between customers.

Granite County Medical Center: While the hospital and clinic remain open at this time, residents are asked to please call ahead before coming in for treatment. NO WALK INs are allowed unless it is a medical emergency.

DONATIONS: Granite County Board of Public Health is asking our communities to come together and donate masks, respirators, gloves, face shields and eye protection that are not being used for essential life-saving functions. DONATIONS are being accepted at the following locations:

- Drummond: Public Health Office. Please call ahead,
- Philipsburg: Granite County Sheriff's Office. Please call ahead, 406-859-3251