

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

401 State Street Hudson, New York 12534

Telephone: 518-828-1527 Fax: 518-822-0684 www.ColumbiaCountyNY.com Ronald L. Knott Deputy Chairman

James J. GuzziDeputy Chairman

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Matt B. Murell

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Tuesday, November 23, 2021

CHAIRMAN'S PRESS RELEASE

VIRUS SPREADING EQUALLY AROUND COUNTY

Last Wednesday, the Columbia County Department of Health recorded 38 new cases, with 27 on Thursday, 50 Friday, and 33 on Saturday. For Sunday-Monday, there were 52 new cases, and 23 as of midday today.

There are currently six hospitalized individuals, one of whom is vaccinated. There is no one in the ICU.

The Columbia County COVID-19 infection rate now stands at 9.5 percent, said county DOH Director Jack Mabb today, adding, "There are no significant clusters and the infections are confined to no specific area of the county."

Director Mabb said that "positive cases seem to be half vaccinated and half not vaccinated, with the vaccinated not having significant illness. Another plus of the county's high vaccination rate is that hospitalizations remain low with the majority of those hospitalized being unvaccinated."

All vaccination opportunities are posted on the county DOH website at columbiacountynyhealth.com

ADVISORY: Please note that the numbers distributed in Board of Supervisors Chairman Matt Murell's coronavirus press releases are morning results provided to the county Department of Health via the state reporting system. Updated numbers are issued again by the state in the afternoon, ordinarily past the time this press release is distributed. Consequently, there may be discrepancies in the numbers that appear here versus the final daily numbers shown on the DOH website and elsewhere.

UPCOMING COUNTY DOH VACCINATION CLINICS

Registration and additional information for all clinics is can be found at columbiacountynyhealth.com

On Monday, November 29, at the Claverack Fire Department's A.B. Shaw building, a first-shot (Pfizer) clinic for children ages 5-11 will be held from 3-6 p.m. All who receive the first shot at this clinic will automatically be registered for the second dose clinic on December 20, 2021.

Multi-brand booster clinics will be held at Columbia-Greene Community College on Thursday, December 2, from 3-6 p.m.; Friday, December 3, from 1-3 p.m.; and Friday, December 10, from 1-3 p.m.

COUNTY VACCINATION RATE

As of Sunday, November 21, the Columbia County Department of Health had administered 11,233 first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. Second doses now number 9,526. The vaccine administered is Pfizer, Moderna, or Johnson & Johnson. Note: J&J – a one dose vaccine – is added as a first shot.

Third shots of Moderna or Pfizer now number 1,659. Johnson & Johnson boosters number five.

Pediatric first shots number 462.

The total number of Columbia County residents by all vaccine providers, as shown on the NYS COVID-19 vaccine tracker website:

38,326 have completed the vaccine series. 42,655 have received at least one dose, or 71.2 percent of the county's 59,916 population.80.0 percent of the county's over-18 population has received at least one shot.

COUNTY DOH OFFERS WEEKLY VAX HOURS

On Tuesdays between the hours of 1 to 3:30 p.m., the Columbia County Department of Health offers COVID-19 vaccinations at its 325 Columbia Street, Hudson location. Every third Tuesday of the month, the immunization clinic runs from 1-5:30 p.m. An appointment is required - call the Health Department at: 518-828-3358.

COVID-19 TESTING SITES (as of 8-2-2021)

Those seeking testing are advised to contact the site for insurance eligibility and testing hours.

New York State DOH, 888-364-3065. CMH Copake Rapid Care, call for appointment, 518-329-3902. CMH Valatie Rapid Care, call for appointment, 518-758-4300. WellNow Urgent Care, Hudson, 518-267-3496. CVS-Valatie, call for appointment, 518-758-2200. Pine Plains Pharmacy, online preregistration required, 518-398-5588. CareMount Medical Urgent Care, Rhinebeck. CVS-Red Hook, call for appointment, 845-758-9612.

Also, Community Care Physicians, Latham, 518-863-3600. Whitney Young, Albany, 518-465-4771. Priority 1 Urgent Care, Guilderland, 518-867-8040. Rite Aid-Colonie, 518-240-1456. Central Med Urgent Care, Albany, 518-240-1456. Walgreens Rapid Testing, 518-426-2976. EmUrgentCare, Albany, Saugerties, West Coxsackie, Guilderland, 518-264-9000 for all locations.

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On Tuesdays between the hours of 1 to 3:30 p.m., the Columbia County Department of Health offers COVID-19 vaccinations at its 325 Columbia Street, Hudson location. Every third Tuesday of the month, the immunization clinic runs from 1-6 p.m. Walk-ins are accepted but appointments are strongly encouraged.

SENIORS & HOMEBOUND RESIDENTS – DO YOU NEED VACCINATION REGISTRATION HELP?

Columbia County Seniors and/or homebound residents in need of assistance getting themselves registered for the COVID-19 vaccine are encouraged to contact the county call center Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The telephone number is 518-828-3358.

AT-HOME COVID-19 TEST AVAILABLE

LabCorp currently offers an at-home COVID-19 test at https://www.pixel.labcorp.com/at-home-test-kits/covid-19-test-home-collection-kit. This test does not detect antibodies or immunity. It is designed to determine active infection with the virus that causes COVID-19.

After completing a short eligibility survey, choose a billing option, which can be through personal insurance, the use of federal funds to cover the cost of this test on your behalf if you're uninsured, or

with a credit card. The test kit will arrive via FedEx. After collecting and returning your sample, the average time to deliver results is one-two days from when your sample is received at the lab, according to LabCorp.

DONATION INFORMATION

Monetary: Monetary donations intended for the purchase of coronavirus testing kits and much-needed equipment for emergency responders, medical personnel, and others on the front lines of the coronavirus fight are advised to send a check in care of Columbia County, with coronavirus noted in the memo field. The check can be sent to the Columbia County Controller's Office, 401 State Street, Hudson, NY 12534. All money received is being placed in a dedicated account.

PPE: Those wishing to make donations of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), such as N95 masks, face shields, and gowns, are advised to contact the Emergency Management Office at 518-828-1212.

Food: Donations should be directed to the county Office for the Aging (518-828-4258) and local food pantries.

DISCLAIMER

It is the county's intention to issue accurate information regarding the coronavirus situation under conditions that can change by the minute. For the most up-to-date, accurate information, visit the County Department of https://www.columbiacountvnvhealth.com their Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/Columbia-County-Department-of-Health-469399129790791. The state's coronavirus website. with up-to-the-minute information, be located at https://coronavirus.health.nv.gov/home. Every Tuesday and Friday, the county will issue a press release on the coronavirus situation. The releases can be found on the Columbia County website and the Facebook pages of the Sheriff's Office, the Department of Health, and the Emergency Management Office.