



San Juan County Utah Daily Information Report

Coronavirus (COVID-19)
March 23, 2020

It was a nice weekend with some sunshine. Hopefully San Juan County residents are practicing Social Distancing as best as they can. The longer we delay social distancing the longer we are stuck practicing social distancing.

#15 Days to Slow the Spread

Currently, there are still no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in any person physically residing in SJC.

*Note-US Surgeon General Jerome Adams has anticipated that this is going to be a rough week as we see more cases. If possible everyone really just needs to stay home. People are under the impression that this can't happen to them.

San Juan County Community Partners want to be very clear on the subject of travel to our county: If you are thinking of traveling to San Juan at this time. Please stay home. Please follow the President's advice and our Governor's advice. Avoid unnecessary travel right now. Avoid leisure travel right now. Let's all wait this out together, and we encourage you to come visit us when this is over. For visitors *who are already* in the area, please refer to:

www.utahscanyoncountry.com/covid19-travel or call 1-800-574-4386

Public Health: As of 03/23/2020 San Juan Public Health Department (SJPH) announces the first San Juan County, Utah resident to test positive for COVID-19. **This individual is currently in the Salt Lake Valley and has been staying there for some period of time. The individual experienced travel-related exposure during their time in the Salt Lake Valley, and has not been back to San Juan County since their exposure or during their illness. The person indicated that they do not plan to return to their home in San Juan County until after their infectious period has concluded. Due to privacy laws, SJPH will not be releasing more identifying information about the infected individual.**

Currently, there are still no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in any person physically residing in SJC. This case will be counted as occurring in the Salt Lake Valley for the time-being, but will likely be counted as a San Juan County case in the near future, in accordance with standard practice.

We urge the public to continue practicing social distancing:

- Do not gather in groups of more than 10 people.
- If you are sick, STAY HOME.
- Wash your hands frequently and avoid touching your face.
- Sneeze or cough into the inside of your elbow and disinfect frequently used items and surfaces often.
- All nonessential travel is discouraged.

We continue to expect and prepare for COVID-19 in our community. SJPH will continue to provide regular updates.

The symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to seasonal influenza – namely: fever, cough, and fatigue. These symptoms on their own are not worrisome and should not cause alarm. If symptoms get worse rapidly or you experience difficulty breathing, you should immediately notify your healthcare provider.

Please call your healthcare provider prior to visiting. Calling your provider prior to your clinic visit protects patients, staff, and our community.

Clinics:

UNHS: Currently UNHS is conducting its 'Parking Lot Triage' system. Our intent is to screen patients outside of the facility who are experiencing; coughing, shortness of breath, or have a fever. UNHS recommends the following guidelines when visiting our clinics. These follow CDC and Department of Health guidance.

If you suspect you have the coronavirus (cough, high fever, trouble breathing AND a potential history of exposure), please call and notify us in advance so we can take precautions and possibly triage, check you in, and treat you without you entering the facility. In the next few days, we will begin virtual iPad check-in and virtual conversations with doctors for suspected cases. You'll then be able to use the Pharmacy drive-thru. The intent is to have the entire visit done from your car or outside the clinic.

If you are sick, please do not accompany a healthy patient for your visit, and do not enter the facility except to seek care for yourself or someone you are responsible for. Please avoid our facilities if you are healthy, including the Market Cafe in Montezuma Creek. There will be no visitors allowed to patients who have confirmed or possibly have COVID-19. Wear a mask if you have a cough. Do not wear a mask if you feel healthy. Please wash your hands or use alcohol sanitizer before and after leaving a patient room, exam room, and the facility. UNHS (and all facilities) have a very limited number of tests. Your provider will determine whether or not a test is appropriate based on symptoms and travel history.

These guidelines are being put in place for the safety of you, our patients, caregivers, and community. Elderly are especially vulnerable. Teach them the latest information on social distancing and prevention. Here is a public service announcement explaining Covid-19, it's symptoms, and prevention in Navajo, have your grandparents listen to it.

Hospitals:

San Juan Health: San Juan Health is encouraging our patients to consider telehealth clinical visits using HIPAA compliant Microsoft Teams application when appropriate; please call to discuss this option and support the CDC's guidelines on social distancing. SJH has implemented a restricted visitor policy, as of Monday, March 16th. Dietary services to the general public have been halted until further notice. SJH has implemented an Emergency Department triage protocol to establish safe workflows and to mitigate the spread of any potential COVID-19 cases. San Juan Health's (SJH) Infection Control and Medical Staff will continue to closely monitor the ongoing Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak and implement new protocols in a timely manner.

Blue Mountain Hospital: Blue Mountain Hospital has no confirmed cases of COVID-19. BMH personnel are prepared for the possibility of receiving COVID-19 patients. BMH has implemented a restricted visitor policy and has stopped serving food to the public until further notice. BMH is monitoring and adhering to CDC guidelines. All non-essential meetings have been cancelled and other precautions are being taken. Staff and patient safety are the top priority. BMH will continue to monitor the situation as more information becomes available and take action as appropriate.

EMS: During this time you will see EMS respond with an increase of respiratory protecting masks or other protective gear to ensure your safety as well as the safety of the EMT's. Please do not be alarmed by this. The EMS department will continue to follow all recommendations of the Utah Department of Health, San Juan County Health Department and the CDC to ensure the safety of the people who rely on our EMS Services. To help follow the guidelines of social distancing we will be cancelling all CPR classes and will not be scheduling classes until we feel it is safe to do so. Please note that if San Juan EMS gets overwhelmed with multiple calls our response times may be slower than normal.

Law Enforcement: The San Juan County Sheriff's Office is concerned and working on two fronts in dealing with Covid-19. The first front is the effort to keep jail staff and inmates healthy. This includes our very important dispatchers. The San Juan County Jail has suspended all visitations to the jail; all volunteers have also had their visits to the jail terminated. The jail has a plan to have an area available for quarantine if needed. The county jail has a backup plan to feed the inmates if we lose jail cooks to quarantine. We have tele-health capabilities set up and working so that inmates can see a medical doctor without leaving the facility for initial doctor visits. The corrections officers have access to protective equipment.

The second front is the law enforcement and public safety efforts. The patrol deputies are responding to law enforcement incidents. They have safety equipment if needed. We have currently cancelled trainings, except for the cadets we have in POST academy classes and we have encouraged deputies to follow all safety guidelines.

We are not doing fingerprinting for the public at this time at the sheriff's office.

County: Please if you need to do Vehicle Registration at this time we highly recommend utilizing online capabilities secure.utah.gov or by mail.

San Juan County Libraries remain closed at this time.

We have implemented a **Notice to Visitors** due to recent public health concerns; it is recommended that visitors are able to answer "no" to all of the questions below before visiting our offices. Have you, or someone living in your household, someone you have been in close or frequent contact with, or someone you are caring for been diagnosed with COVID-19 (Coronavirus) or had any contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19? In the last 14 days, have you or someone living in your household, or someone you have been in close or frequent contact with, or someone you are caring for returned from, or made a travel connection through a CDC Level 3 or Level 2 country or State Department Level 3 or Level 4 country? Do you currently have or have you had within the last 24 hours, any cold or flu symptoms with a fever greater than 100.4 or acute respiratory distress (e.g., shortness of breath and coughing.)

Economic Development: Economic Development:

Regular Updates: <https://www.utahscanyoncountry.com/covid-19>

- **Local businesses and community members please complete this survey in an effort to share SJC business needs with policy makers:** <http://bit.ly/3b7RRCD>
- **Local Business Hours & operation** can be found here: <http://bit.ly/33tdCKI>
 - This includes business that are open, limited hours, adjustments to services, and etc. If you are not listed and would like to be please email ssmith@sanjuancounty.org.
- **Sign up for our daily email:** <http://bit.ly/2WtNzBE>
- **Congressman Curtis Financial Relief for Businesses, Workers & Families:** <https://www.utahscanyoncountry.com/media/uploads/files/COVID%20one%20pager.pdf>
- **Senator Lee's Small Business Resources (under 50):** [https://www.utahscanyoncountry.com/media/uploads/files/Families%20First%20Coronavirus%20Response%20Act%20-%20Small%20Businesses%20%5B2%5D\(1\).pdf](https://www.utahscanyoncountry.com/media/uploads/files/Families%20First%20Coronavirus%20Response%20Act%20-%20Small%20Businesses%20%5B2%5D(1).pdf)
- **Senator Lee's Mid-Size Business (50-449) Resources:** <https://www.utahscanyoncountry.com/media/uploads/files/Families%20First%20Coronavirus%20Response%20Act%20-%20Mid-Sized%20Businesses.pdf>

SBA Disaster Relief Funding: Loan Application guide for SJC Businesses <http://bit.ly/2QsQiXV>

USDA Disaster Assistance: <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-assistance-program/index>

Visitor Services (Utah's Canyon Country):

Visitor Services

BLM Canyon County District, Monticello Field Office is implementing a soft closure. Please see this website for regular updates:

<https://www.blm.gov/alert/utah-operations>

Cities:

Blanding: Currently, the Blanding Visitor Center, and Wellness Center are closed temporarily due to COVID-19. The Justice Court is open. The City Office is open but we are asking residents to only visit in person if their issue is critical, time-sensitive, and must be done in person. City utilities are fully operational and we anticipate service delivery continuing uninterrupted. We will follow CDC and local and state health department recommendations in considering any future actions.

Bluff: The Bluff Town Council closed the Bluff Community Center and Fire Mesa Kitchen to all social events and rentals last week in anticipation of the state of emergency order. The Bluff Town Council is working with the Bluff Volunteer Fire Department, EMS and Business Owners of Bluff to ensure that communication lines remain open. Takeout food choices are limited but available. Many overnight rentals and motels have temporarily close.

Monticello: The City of Monticello continues to carefully monitor the status of the COVID 19 and its effects. We will continue to carefully follow all guidelines as issued by the CDC and State and County Departments of Health. Effectively immediately the Hideout Community Center will be not be open for rental or other public uses. This step has been taken to assure group meeting guidelines are followed and to protect the public, especially our senior population and their Center that is in the same building. Our Welcome Center is closed until further notice. All other city services will continue without interruption.

School District: Student, staff, and community safety is the number one priority for San Juan School District. In response to the Covid-19 pandemic we are adhering to all guidelines put out by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Utah Department of Health. We will continue to closely monitor all developments and take appropriate action.

San Juan County Aging Department:

To go meals are still in place for the congregate meal and home delivered meals are still being delivered at this time. Clark's Market and Blue Mountain Foods have extended a special shopping hour every day for the seniors it is 7-8 am, San Juan Pharmacy and The Main Street Drug and Boutique are offering curbside pickup and free delivery in town for seniors. If you are a home bound senior and you are in need of groceries please contact your local senior center for assistance. La Sal 435-686-9990, Monticello 435-259-2656, Blanding 435-459-3179, Bluff 435-672-2390