



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO
RIO BLANCO COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE
555 MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 599
MEEKER, COLORADO 81641
970-878-9430

April 29, 2020

Jared Polis, Governor
State Capitol Bldg
200 E. Colfax Ave., Rm. 136
Denver, CO 80203

cc:

Sent via email to:

jill.hunsakerryan@state.co.us
Jill Hunsacker Ryan
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, Colorado 80246-1530

RE: Rio Blanco County Reopening Plan

Dear Governor Polis:

To date, Rio Blanco County has had only one positive case of COVID-19. That positive was report was confirmed on April 2, 2020. Thankfully, the infected individual made a full recovery, and following CDPHE guidelines, has been released from self-isolation. Additionally, 101 tests have been administered within Rio Blanco County and all results have been negative.

Rio Blanco County Public Health Department Director Alice Harvey, has worked diligently throughout this crisis, coordinating with both Pioneers Hospital in Meeker and Rangely District Hospital in Rangely, to be proactive in managing the potential threat of spread of COVID-19 in the event of an outbreak. Both hospitals have established emergency testing and respiratory clinics, as well as detailed management strategies and plans, which can be utilized in the event of an outbreak.

Rio Blanco County is a small community, committed to caring for each other and not enjoying the large tourism numbers of other counties. In short, we self-isolate by the very nature of our county. As you stated in your public address on April 20, 2020, Rio Blanco County's plan for local reopening should be, and is different than other areas of the state.

The Board of County Commissioners for Rio Blanco County firmly believes it makes sense to incrementally loosen restrictions on the businesses of our community. This action will not burden any public health resources inside or outside of Rio Blanco County.

Ms. Harvey, along with our health partners throughout the community have developed the strategy represented in the three documents attached hereto:

1. Ms. Harvey's Policy and Procedure Memo for reopening government offices.
2. A checklist for departments to use and submit on a regular basis.
3. Roadmap to Reopen Power Point presentation recently reviewed and approved in detail by the Board of County Commissioners.
4. Rio Blanco County Suppression Plan.

5. Pioneers Hospital Support Letter.
6. Rangely District Hospital Support Letter.
7. COVID-19 Daily Update.
8. Rio Blanco County Safer at Home Sector Recommendations.

Our public health team will still review and recommend social behaviors, events, types of business that may reopen, and travel into and around the county to control disease transmission. Additionally, the hospital capacity of both Pioneer's Medical Center in Meeker and Rangely District Hospital, remains adequate to address COVID-19 cases as well as other medical issues in the County.

Accordingly, based on sound factual evidence and the fact that Rio Blanco County never declared a state of emergency, the Board of County Commissioners respectfully seeks confirmation of exclusion from the provisions of Executive Order 2020-017, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE Order 20-22), and CDPHE Order 20-24 (the "State Orders"). Rio Blanco County will proceed to implement its own reopening plan; restoring the balance between community health and our economy in the manner and time frame that best meets the needs of our county.

Thank you for reviewing our plan and excluding Rio Blanco County from the State's Orders.

Should you have questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us. Our email address is boce@rbc.us.




Jeff Rector
Chairman



Si Woodruff
Commissioner



Gary Moyer
Commissioner

| | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|
|  | SUBJECT: Reopening of County Public Facilities - Phase 1 | |
| | DEPARTMENT: Public Health & Environment | |
| | EFFECTIVE DATE: 04/24/2020 | |
| Page 1 of 2 | REVISION DATE(S): | |
| WRITTEN BY: Kelly Christian, RN BSN | | DIRECTOR: Alice Harvey, RN, MSN |
| APPROVED BY: RBC BOCC | | |

- Policy
 Procedure
 Guideline
 Plan

POLICY: Employees of Rio Blanco County (RBC) will be allowed to return to work at the physical location of their respective positions on April 27, 2020 as per the Governor’s Executive Order and following the guidance set forth in this policy. Likewise, the general public will be allowed access to RBC facilities while adhering to the guidance outlined in this policy. Because of the ever present threat of COVID-19, it is imperative that certain safety measures are in place prior to the reopening of County facilities.

EQUIPMENT: Thermometers, screening forms, adequate staff (to perform screenings), masks, table, chair, pens, clipboards and stickers noting the date of entry (to be worn on employee clothing), hand sanitizer dispensers, cleaning supplies, paper bags, signs.

PROCEDURE: In an effort to balance the concerns of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) with the long-term economic and behavioral health needs of the citizens of Rio Blanco County, the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) in conjunction with Rio Blanco County Public Health (RBCPH) and based on the Executive Orders set forth by the Governor, County owned and operated facilities will reopen as of April 27, 2020 provided all core responsibilities and proposed gating criteria are met (Appendix A). Reopening will occur in three phases. This policy focuses on Phase 1 and guidelines will be implemented prior to Phase 1 and restrictions implemented as follows:

1. SOCIAL DISTANCING

When in public, all individuals should maximize physical distance from others and avoid settings of more than 10 people when physical distancing is not appropriate. Socializing in groups of more than 10 people is discouraged. Employees of RBC are required to adhere to physical distancing requirements of 6 feet. Continue to encourage telework whenever possible and feasible. If possible, employees should return to work in phases, based on number of employees

2. TEMPERATURE CHECKS AND WELLNESS SCREENINGS

Monitor workforce for indicative symptoms and do not allow symptomatic employees to physically return to work until cleared by a medical provider.

At the beginning of each shift, a designated staff member will perform a brief screening of each employee by checking their temperature and asking a series of questions, which include contact with positive COVID-19 cases, health status and travel status (Appendix B). If a thermometer is not available, self reporting of fever will be acceptable. Any affirmative answers on the screening form, or an indication of a fever of 100.4 or above, requires the employee to be further evaluated by a nurse from RBCPH.

3. SANITATION

RBC will ensure a clean working environment by using EPA approved virucidal products to create clean work stations, restrooms and kitchen areas that are sanitized daily.

4. USE AND DISINFECTION OF COMMON AND HIGH-TRAFFIC AREAS

Close or restrict common areas such as break rooms and waiting rooms, or enforce strict physical distancing protocols. Use of common and high traffic areas will be limited to no more than 10 people at any given time. These areas will be frequently cleaned with EPA approved cleaning agents and/or wipes. High touch areas such as countertops, doorknobs, door handles, light switches, armrests on chairs, telephones and copy machines will be cleaned following each use.

5. BUSINESS TRAVEL

Minimize non-essential travel and adhere to Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines regarding isolation following travel.

6. FACE COVERINGS

Face coverings will be required to be used in high traffic and public areas. Face coverings include home made cloth masks, scarves, surgical masks or N95 respirators.

7. VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

All vulnerable individuals should continue to shelter in place (work from home). Consider special accommodations for personnel who are members of a vulnerable population. Employees who are household members of a member of the vulnerable population should be considered for telework, if at all possible as they have the potential to carry the coronavirus home with them and infect others.

Documentation is required of how the County will meet these minimum operational standards. Frequent evaluation is necessary to identify weaknesses in the system and to determine if there is likely recurrence of the coronavirus disease within the community and if reevaluation is needed. All criteria in Phase 1 must be satisfied with no evidence of rebound within the community before advancing to Phase 2.



Rio Blanco County

Phase One Reopening Department Checklist

Please complete this form at the end of each week and email to alice.harvey@rbc.us. This form will serve as documentation for the county that each department is taking all necessary precautions to safely re-open after the required state shut down. Please refer to policy/procedure for additional details.

1. Social Distancing:

- All employees are maximizing physical distancing from others and adhering to physical distancing of at least 6 feet between individuals while in the office.
- All departments are avoiding gatherings of more than 10 people at a time when physical distancing is not appropriate.
- Telework is being encouraged and utilized whenever possible.

2. Temperature checks and wellness screenings:

- Screenings are taking place at the beginning of each employee's shift including a temperature check (or report of subjective fever if no thermometer available), travel status, health status, and contact with positive cases.
- Symptomatic employees are not allowed to physically return to work until cleared by medical provider.
- Employees with positive screening answers are referred to public health for additional evaluation as outlined on screening evaluation form.

3. Sanitation:

- A clean work environment is maintained by using approved products to clean work stations, restrooms and kitchen areas.

4. Use and disinfection of common and high-traffic areas:

- Traffic in common areas such as break rooms, waiting rooms, and copy rooms is restricted as much as possible, including limiting the number of people in the areas at any given time to maintain social distancing.

- Use of common areas are limited to no more than 10 people at any given time.
- High touch areas such as countertops, doorknobs, door handles, light switches, armrests on chairs, telephones and copy machines are cleaned following each use with provided cleaning products.
- 5. Business travel:
 - Non-essential travel is minimized by all employees and CDC quarantine recommendations are followed for anyone returning from travel to high risk areas, as recommended by public health.
- 6. Face coverings:
 - All employees are using face coverings when in high traffic or public areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain.
- 7. Vulnerable populations:
 - All vulnerable individuals, either personnel with high risk medical conditions or those living with household members of this population continue to shelter in place (work from home) on a voluntary basis. Employees are not required to divulge personal medical information unless they choose to do so.
- 8. Hand Hygiene:
 - All employees are adhering to best hand hygiene practices, including frequent hand washing and using of hand sanitizer, especially after touching frequently used items or surfaces.

Date Completed:

Department Name:

COVID-19 HEALTH SCREENING EVALUATION

Name: _____

Date: _____ 2020 Time: _____ a.m./p.m.

| | | | |
|--|-----|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Do you currently have, or have you had in the last 5 - 7 days: | | | |
| Fever | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Current temperature _____ <i>measured/stated no fever</i> | | | |
| <i>If 'yes' to current fever or fever of 100.4 or greater, employee may not enter the building and RBCPH must be consulted.</i> | | | |
| Cough/sneezing | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sore throat | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Shortness of breath | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>If 'yes' to cough, sneezing, sore throat or shortness of breath, employee must put on a mask and RPCPH must be consulted.</i> | | | |

And/or the following within the past 14 days:

| | | | |
|--|-----|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Exposure to someone with <i>documented or suspected</i> COVID-19 | | | |
| | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Recent travel | | | |
| | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
| If so, where? _____ | | | |
| Resides in a community where community-based spread of COVID-19 is occurring | | | |
| | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Identify community _____ | | | |

Signature of employee screener _____

RIO BLANCO COUNTY Roadmap to Reopen

Planning for Success
April 20, 2020

PROPOSED APPROACH *based on Presidents Trump's guidelines for Opening Up America*

Decisions should be based on the following:

- ✓ Up to date data and readiness of community
- ✓ Ability to mitigate risk of resurgence
- ✓ Protection of those most vulnerable
- ✓ Implemented on a statewide or countywide basis at Governor's discretion

PRIORITIES FOR SUCCESS

1. A consistent approach with a consistent message
 - a. It is important for the County to understand the differences in timing based on readiness and capacity.
2. A messaging campaign that brings community members to a place of common understanding and social responsibility
3. Each county in Colorado has its own timeline
 - a. Rio Blanco County has unique needs and a rural lifestyle that lends itself to unique guidelines for COVID-19 mitigation.
4. Incremental steps
 - a. Thoughtfully implemented phases will help to prevent reinstating restrictions due to resurgence.
5. Time and frequent evaluation
 - a. Helps to progress to the next phase of reopening.

CORE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR RBC

| TESTING AND CONTACT TRACING | HEALTHCARE SYSTEM CAPACITY | PLANS |
|---|--|---|
| Ability to set up safe and efficient screening and testing sites for symptomatic individuals and trace contacts of COVID + results | Ability to quickly and independently supply sufficient Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and critical medical equipment to handle dramatic surge in need | Protect the health and safety of workers in critical industries |
| Ability to test syndromic/ILI-indicated persons for COVID and trace contacts of COVID + results | Ability to transport for surge ICU capacity | Protect the health and safety of those living and working in high-risk facilities (e.g., senior care facilities) |
| Ensure sentinel surveillance sites are screening for asymptomatic cases and contacts for COVID+ results are traced (sites operate at locations that serve all community individuals). | | Advise citizens regarding protocols for social distancing and face coverings |
| | | Monitor conditions and immediately take steps to limit and mitigate any rebounds or outbreaks by restarting a phase or returning to an earlier phase, depending on severity |

PROPOSED REGIONAL GATING CRITERIA

Satisfy before proceeding to phased comeback

| SYMPTOMS | CASES | HOSPITALS |
|---|---|---|
| Downward trajectory of influenza-like illnesses reported within a 14-day period | Downward trajectory of documented cases within a 14-day period | Treat all patients without crisis care |
| AND | OR | AND |
| Downward trajectory of covid-like syndromic cases reported within a 14-day period | Downward trajectory of positive tests as a percent of total tests within a 14-day period (flat or increasing volume of tests) | Robust testing program in place for at-risk healthcare workers, including emerging antibody testing |

GUIDELINES FOR PHASE 1

Guidelines for Rio Blanco County

Develop and implement appropriate policies, in accordance with Federal, State and local regulations and guidance, and informed by best practices, regarding:

- ✓ Social distancing and protective equipment
- ✓ Temperature checks
- ✓ Sanitation
- ✓ Use and disinfection of common and high-traffic areas
- ✓ Business travel
- ✓ Face coverings

Documentation is required of how the County will meet these minimum operational standards.

Monitor workforce for indicative symptoms and do not allow symptomatic people to physically return to work until cleared by medical provider.

GUIDELINES FOR PHASE 1

Guidelines for Employees

- ✓ Wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer, especially after touching frequently used items or surfaces.
- ✓ Avoid touching your face.
- ✓ Sneeze or cough into a tissue or the inside of your elbow.
- ✓ Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces.
- ✓ Consider using face coverings while in public.
- ✓ Stay home from work or school and contact your provider for medical advice.

ALL VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS should continue to shelter in place (work from home). By returning to work, employees residing with members of a vulnerable population could carry the virus home to them. Precautions should be taken.

All individuals WHEN IN PUBLIC, should maximize physical distance from others and avoid settings of more than 10 people when physical distancing is not appropriate. Socializing in groups of more than 10 people is discouraged.

MINIMIZE NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL and adhere to CDC guidelines regarding isolation following travel.

GUIDELINES FOR PHASE 1

Guidelines for Employers

Provide clear expectations for employees and customers, including:

- ✓ Protecting employee health
- ✓ Preventing crowds
- ✓ Ensuring effective physical distancing
- ✓ Increasing sanitation
- ✓ Symptom screening of employees
- ✓ Prevent unnecessary contact

Continue to ENCOURAGE TELEWORK whenever possible and feasible

If possible, RETURN TO WORK IN PHASES based on number of employees

Close or restrict COMMON AREAS such as break rooms and waiting rooms, or enforce strict social distancing protocols

Consider SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS for personnel who are members of a VULNERABLE POPULATION.

Guidance will be developed to assist in understanding for:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Physical distancing | Cleaning and sanitation |
| Face Coverings | Hand hygiene |
| Crowd Control | Respiratory etiquette |

SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES

Special types of employers and organizations

SCHOOLS AND ORGANIZED YOUTH ACTIVITIES should remain closed.

VISITS TO SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES AND HOSPITALS are prohibited. Staff must adhere to strict hand hygiene and cough etiquette protocols.

LARGE VENUES (dine-in restaurants, sporting events, places of worship) can operate under strict physical distancing protocols.

ELECTIVE SURGERIES can resume, as clinically appropriate and on an outpatient basis, at facilities that adhere to CMS guidelines.

GYMS can open only if they adhere to strict physical distancing and sanitation guidelines.

BARS are to remain closed.

MOVING FORWARD

Time and frequent evaluation will be necessary to progress to Phase 2.

Clearly identify triggers prior to moving to Phase 2. Ex: all criteria met in Phase 1 plus criteria outlined in Phase 2.

Successful recovery balances the concerns of the disease with the long-term economic and behavioral health needs.



Rio Blanco County Department of Public Health COVID-19 Suppression Plan

CONDITIONS FOR LIFTING RESTRICTIONS

In order to ensure that disease transmission is under control in Rio Blanco County, as outlined by our Roadmap to Reopen, Rio Blanco County Public Health can attest to the following:

- The number of daily positive COVID-19 cases has remained flat since the first positive case was reported to Rio Blanco County on 04/02/2020; we have had only one case total as of 4/27/20. Local health surveillance data is collected and updated weekly, including the number of individuals tested, patients seen at either hospital or clinic for COVID-19 like symptoms, and self reported via our online symptom tracker form.
- Testing has been available to those who meet state testing criteria since early March through a collaboration between both critical access hospitals and public health via drive through testing on either end of our county. Private testing is now available at each hospital, an Abbott testing machine has been received by at least one hospital for point of care PCR testing, and serology testing options are being explored also. Community testing is now available through public health on an as needed basis, and we will be prepared to test individuals during an outbreak should one occur via a drive through testing clinic or in the community if necessary.
- Rio Blanco County has two critical access hospitals, Pioneers Medical Center and Rangely District Hospital, both which are prepared to care for COVID-19 patients and accommodate all necessary transfer arrangements to higher levels of care as indicated. Please see attached letters of support.
- Rio Blanco County Public Health has participated in the development of community specific outbreak plans, regional medical surge plans, and hospital incident command system teams with local hospitals to ensure community readiness for an outbreak. We have been working with our hospitals to ensure an appropriate amount of PPE is available should normal capacity be exceeded, and we will continue to do so.
- The Rio Blanco County Public Health Department team consists of two public health nurses who do contact investigations on every positive case. Case investigations are completed within 24 hours. Contact tracing is also performed with people who were in direct contact with identified positive cases
- The positive case in Rio Blanco County was traced to a known source, has recovered fully, and no close contact of this case developed symptoms. The quarantine and isolation period has been completed successfully for all of these individuals.

- Outbreak Risks in High-Vulnerability Settings have been minimized by adhering to local, state and federal recommendations; this includes our two long term care facilities and one detention center.
- Rio Blanco County Department of Public Health has been working closely with the private sector to ensure that all prevention recommendations are available, attainable, and sustainable for the future to both industry and business offices in Rio Blanco County. We have, for example, acquired over 300 gallons of hand sanitizer sourced from a local industry partner to distribute to all businesses in the county for no cost.
- Guidelines addressing prevention have been written and distributed to schools, workplaces, and other essential places as outlined in our sector-specific recommendation document.
- Limits have been set for non-essential travel and recommendations have been sent to appropriate individuals discouraging recreational travel to Rio Blanco County at this time.
- Rio Blanco County Public Health is involved in a weekly meeting with members of our community representing our special districts (including schools, hospitals, and recreation), town officials, chamber of commerce members, law enforcement, and other community leaders. We have also been in close communication with the Bureau of Land Management and National Forest Service to ensure all recommendations are consistent across our county.
- Both airports in Rio Blanco County have protocols for handling an exposed or potentially infectious person at the airport.
- Rio Blanco County Public Health has been working closely with both healthcare facilities to implement physical distancing guidelines and best practice infection control guidelines.
- Rio Blanco County Public Health retail food inspector has been working with local businesses to implement physical distancing guidelines and other infection control best practices.
- Rio Blanco County Public Health has a robust public information messaging system, including a reverse 911 alert system, social media campaigns, weekly video updates, weekly newspaper ads, online newspaper ads, monthly Q and A sessions with the local newspaper, an up to date website with surveillance data and recommendations, phone tree/call triage system for public inquiries, and has been attending staff and community meetings virtually to provide education in order to promote education and compliance related to physical distancing and other best practice guidelines as it relates to COVID-19.
- Rio Blanco County Public Health is working with outdoor recreation facilities to implement physical distancing guidelines.
- Rio Blanco County Public Health will be working closely with a multi-jurisdictional team to determine safe guidelines for all summer activities occurring within the county, including summer camps, recreational activities including youth sports, and any fairs or outdoor events that may or may not occur depending upon situational awareness and will be making best practice recommendations in advance.
- Rio Blanco County Public Health is working with faith groups and other social groups to implement physical distancing and best practice guidelines to any activities occurring within the community.

○ Rio Blanco County Public Health has created a comprehensive list of mental health care resources for our residents, and will continue to make mental health a priority as outlined in our 2020 strategic goals during this pandemic.



100 Pioneers Medical Center Drive · Meeker, CO 81641
Phone: (970) 878-5047 Fax: (970) 878-9872
Eastern Rio Blanco County Health Service District

Ms. Alice Harvey, Director
Rio Blanco County Department of Public Health
Meeker, CO 81641

April 24, 2020

Dear Ms. Harvey;

This letter comes to you as a result of your request for support of Rio Blanco County's plan for "reopening" plan.

Pioneers Medical Center stands ready to provide care for the residents of Rio Blanco County as needed, including providing care for those with suspected COVID-19. PMC currently staffs 10 beds, with six more beds planned for opening at the end of May/first of June. While PMC does not have an ICU, we do have the capability for "venting" for up to two patients and have a transfer plan in place with St. Mary's in Grand Junction. Our staff has been trained to properly care for patients with and to protect from the spread of COVID-19. Plans for surge, as well as alternate care areas within our facility are also in place. We currently have an adequate supply of PPE and testing capabilities.

With that, Pioneers Medical Center attests to our readiness and capacity to respond to COVID 19 and we support Rio Blanco County's plan for reopening.

Should you have questions or concerns, please reach out to us.

Kind Regards,

Cindy Buck
Interim CEO



RANGELY DISTRICT HOSPITAL

225 EAGLE CREST DRIVE

RANGELY, COLORADO 81648

Attachement 6

Attention Governor Polis,

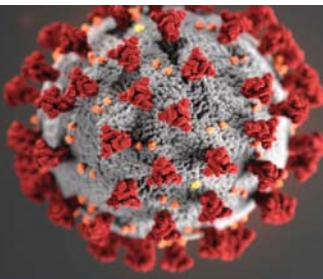
I'm writing on behalf of Rangely District Hospital's board, Rangely District Hospital and in support of Rio Blanco County's efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. First, I would personally like to thank you for all that your team has accomplished the past several months in response to our current situation. It has brought to light many challenges on how to control the spread and still remain calm in uncharted waters.

As a hospital our professionally trained staff is ready and available to assist the county just in case a surge may arise. We activated our hospital's emergency response plan since the beginning of March and have continued to monitor the current pandemic. We have implemented all state policies and regulations. We have the capability of keeping 1 critical patient on a vent and 7 non-critical patients at our facility with maintaining proper staffing. We are in direct communication with St Mary's, Community Hospital, Ashley Regional and Pioneers if we do have to transfer any patients out of our facility. We have a plan in place for a surge of patients and will activate it if necessary.

We have had one positive case within the county at least 3 weeks ago and are considered a low risk area. We have enough PPE for the time being and will continue to monitor our supply. Our facility will be increasing non-essential visits starting May 1st and will continue to keep a close eye on the surrounding area for outbreaks. We stand behind the county and fully support their efforts in obtaining a waiver for the community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Wren".

Kyle Wren, MHA
Chief Executive Officer
Rangely District Hospital
970-629-8165 cell
kwren@rdhosp.org



COVID-19 UPDATE

DAILY/IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Rio Blanco County, Meeker and Rangely Re-Opening

The following reopening guidelines will apply through May 11, 2020. Every two weeks, a re-evaluation of community readiness and capacity will occur and additional recommendations will be made.

DISTANCING GOAL: PHASE 1 → APRIL 27 through May 11

| Sector: | Situational Awareness: |
|---|--|
| General Public Measures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Encouraged to stay at home •Face coverings in public advised •No gatherings over 10 people •Avoid social contact •Sick people may not go to work •Avoid unnecessary travel |
| Vulnerable Populations & Seniors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Stay at home except when absolutely necessary •Work from home |
| Local government offices | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Open with continued strict precautions |
| Critical Businesses | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Open with continued strict precautions |
| Other Business Offices | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Open May 4th with strict precautions & limited public contact •Symptom & temperature checks/screenings recommended for all employees daily •50% Work from home •Staggered shifts if possible •Vulnerable individuals have option to work from home or continue to stay at home. |
| Retail Shops | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Open for curbside delivery & pick-up only |
| Restaurants | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Take-out & delivery only |
| Bars | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Closed |
| Outdoor Recreation Sites | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Based on jurisdiction |
| Real Estate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Showings can begin, no open houses |
| Nursing Homes, Residential Facilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Closed to visitors |
| Elective Medical & Dental Services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Open with strict precautions, dependent on adequate PPE availability |
| Personal Services (salons, barber shops, pet grooming) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Open May 1st with strict precautions |
| Education (Higher Ed & K-12) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Closed |
| Childcare | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Closed |
| Gyms, Spas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Closed |
| Places of Worship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Gatherings of no more than 10 people with strict precautions |





Rio Blanco County Department of Public Health SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS BY SECTOR for PHASE I “SAFER AT HOME”

These recommendations will be applied throughout phase I to guide each sector as they re-open. All re-openings will occur in steps- the timeline for these steps will be determined every two weeks through a re-evaluation of local community readiness, disease status and capacity.

Public gatherings

- Allow public gatherings of no more than 10 people
- Maintain at least six feet distance from each other
- No festivals or other large gatherings until June 1st, at which time the situation will be evaluated to determine when large gatherings can resume.
- Large venues shall remain closed (concert facilities, sporting event facilities, etc.)

Offices (after May 4th)

- Encourage telework, wherever possible
- Maintain at least six feet distance from customers and each other
- Desks, work stations, and other work areas should be separated by at least six feet. If fixed stations exist, separate employees or clients by leaving one station in between. Workstations separated by walls that are six feet or higher can remain as they are
- Implement or maintain physical barriers for high-contact settings (e.g. reception areas)
- Implement physical distance protocols in common areas (separate tables and chairs by at least six feet)
- Place markings on the floor to maintain at least six feet distance in customer lines; try to establish one-way passage as much as possible
- Only essential travel is allowed
- Consider return to work in phases as applicable
- Implement or maintain flexible sick leave policies and practices
- Consider accommodations for high-risk individuals or populations
- Employees and contracted workers whose duties include close contact with members of the public shall wear a non-medical cloth face covering over the nose and mouth
- All employees are encouraged to wear a non-medical cloth face covering over the

nose and mouth while in spaces where social distancing is difficult (common areas, public areas, etc), except where doing so would inhibit the individual's health

Retail and personal services (as of May 1st)

- Spas shall remain closed
- Critical businesses that were open under the stay at home order should maintain the same precautions and physical distancing practices
- As much as possible, continue curbside delivery while phasing into public opening
- Personal services (salons, tattoo parlors, dog grooming, etc.) and non-critical businesses can open under the following guidelines.
 - Spread people out so there is at least six feet distance between individuals throughout
 - Limit the number of clients to 30% of the facility's fire code capacity
 - Separate workstations (tables, chairs, etc.) by six feet. If fixed stations exist, separate clients by leaving one station in between. Workstations separated by walls that are six feet or higher can remain as they are
 - Implement or continue early opening for high-risk individuals
 - Implement or maintain physical barriers for high-contact settings (e.g. cashiers)
 - Implement or maintain one-way entry/exit and aisles
 - Employees and contracted workers whose duties include close contact with members of the public shall wear a non-medical cloth face covering over the nose and mouth
 - Implement or maintain curbside services in businesses as a preferred method
 - Stagger shifts if feasible to decrease the number of employees at the business
 - Maintain at least six feet physical distancing in waiting areas
 - Place markings on the floor to maintain at least six feet distance in customer lines
 - Implement touchless payment methods when possible
 - Encourage the public to wear cloth face coverings to enter the businesses

Restaurants (for future opening of dining areas, date TBD)

- Bars shall remain closed, including those that are part of restaurants
- Continuing take out and delivery is highly encouraged
- As much as possible, continue curbside delivery while phasing into public opening
- Self-serving stations shall remain closed (drinking stations, bulk dry, etc.)
- Spread people/tables out so there is at least six feet distance between individuals throughout
- Limit the number of clients to 30% of your fire code capacity
- Place markings on the floor to maintain at least six feet distance in customer lines
- Implement touchless payment methods when possible
- Implement or maintain physical barriers for high-contact settings (e.g. cashiers)
- Stagger shifts if feasible to decrease employee numbers at the business

- In-room dining shall follow strict physical distancing
- Group parties should be limited to no more than six people. People within a party should be family members or acquaintances who have previously been in contact with each other and there is limited risk of disease transmission
- Don't allow public sharing of utensils or condiments
- Buffets shall have an employee serving the food, no self-serving allowed
- Maintain physical distancing (six feet) in waiting areas
- Employees and contracted workers whose duties include close contact with members of the public shall wear a non-medical cloth face covering over the nose and mouth
- Encourage the public to wear cloth face coverings to enter the businesses

Elective, Medical and Health Services

- Visitation to hospitals and senior living facilities is prohibited at this time
- Elective surgeries can resume
- Elective health services can reopen with while adhering to the following precautions
 - Use adequate PPE that protects the provider and the client
 - Implement one-way entry/exit and aisles
 - Use an appointment system to minimize the time in waiting rooms
 - Maintain physical distancing (six feet) in waiting rooms
 - Implement or maintain physical barriers for high-contact settings (e.g. front desk)
 - Encourage the public to wear cloth face coverings to enter the businesses
 - Employees and contracted workers (other than providers) whose duties include close contact with members of the public shall wear a non-medical cloth face covering over the nose and mouth

Recreation (subject to individual jurisdiction such as BLM, NFS, and Rec Districts)

- Parks facilities conducive to gathering including shelters, picnic areas, courts, and playgrounds will remain closed
- Swim beaches shall remain closed
- Park facilities that enable social distancing such as trails, green space and golf will remain open
- Maintain physical distancing in outdoor settings (6ft while hiking, 15ft while running or biking)
- Open outdoor recreation facilities where adequate controls can be implemented to ensure physical distancing (six feet)
- Limit public gatherings to no more than 10 people
- Camping should be limited to one family per campsite
- No group camping allowed, in individual campsites or group campsites
- Perform frequent cleaning and disinfection of bathrooms and high-touch surfaces
- Only essential travel allowed; avoid traveling outside of your county or local community for recreation

Education

- Higher education, K-12, and organized youth activities shall remain closed
- Limited in-person learning for specific settings (e.g. technical college)
- Limit classrooms to no more than 10 people
- Maintain at least six feet distance from each other
- Child cares can reopen with the following precautions
 - Perform frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection (concentrate on high touch surfaces like playgrounds, toys, tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.)
 - All employees shall wear a non-medical cloth face covering over the nose and mouth while working with children
 - Maintain at least six feet distance from coworkers
 - Implement physical distance protocols in common areas (separate tables and chairs by at least six feet)
 - Symptomatic children should be excluded from care
 - To the extent possible, limit the sharing of utensils, toys, and classroom materials
 - To the extent possible, limit shared spaces to one classroom at the time (e.g. playgrounds)

Real Estate

- In-person home showings can resume
- Maintain at least six feet distance from customers and each other
- Cloth face coverings are highly encouraged
- Prior to a showing, ensure clients are not experiencing respiratory symptoms
- Open houses are prohibited at this time

Places of worship

- Continue online or drive-by services as much as possible
- When offering on-site services:
 - Limit the number of participants to 30% of your fire code capacity
 - Operate with strict physical distancing practices
 - Spread people out so there is at least six feet distance between families throughout
 - Place markings on the floor to maintain at least six feet distance where lines form
 - Implement or maintain one-way entry/exit and aisles
 - Implement touchless offering options as much as possible
 - Encourage employees and the public to wear cloth face coverings
 - Discourage people from attending if they are experiencing any symptoms

- Perform frequent cleaning and disinfection of bathrooms and high-touch surfaces
- Outside services are recommended if possible while maintaining social distancing.

Gyms (after opening, date TBD)

- Can open with minimal operations IF the following physical distancing and cleaning practices are possible
 - Limit the number of clients to 30% of your fire code capacity
 - Spread people out so there is at least six feet distance between individuals throughout
 - Implement one-way entry/exit
 - Perform frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection of bathrooms and high-touch surfaces
 - Require clients to disinfect equipment after every use
 - Discourage people from attending if they are experiencing any symptoms
 - Group classes are not allowed
 - Sport courts should remain closed
 - Locker rooms should remain closed
 - Saunas, pools (indoor and outdoor) and shared spaces should remain closed
 - Food/drink bars shall remain closed