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For immediate release

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Three additional locations to receive the COVID vaccine announced today, Panhandle residents still encouraged to register through the state system at vaccinate.ne.gov

The Federal Pharmacy Program announced today will include three locations in the Panhandle. Alliance Community Pharmacy and Walmart in Chadron and Scottsbluff will be receiving the COVID vaccine. This is in addition to the current vaccine providers that have been offering COVID vaccines in the Panhandle.

They will be following the same vaccine timeline issued by Governor Ricketts with current eligibility being health care personnel, long-term care, and individuals 65 and older.

“We encourage all Panhandle residents over the age of 18 that have not registered yet to please do so at vaccinate.ne.gov. Each new opportunity to expand access to residents getting the COVID vaccine is the goal but we want people to remain patient as new systems are underway,” said Kim Engel, Panhandle Public Health District Director.

If you have already registered, rest assured, you are on the list and do not need to register again. If you need help registering, call either of these numbers: 833-998-2275 or 531-249-1873. The Spanish version will be coming soon.

This is also accessible at www.pphd.org. Registration is simple and takes less than a couple of minutes.

COVID vaccinations are also available at the Scottsbluff Community-Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) for veterans enrolled in the VA Health Care system. Vaccinations are by appointment only, no walk-ins. Call 308-225-5330 for appointment scheduling.

If you have had COVID, you are still encouraged to get the vaccine once you no longer have symptoms and achieved recovery status. If you received the monoclonal antibody treatment, it is recommended to get the vaccine no sooner than 90 days after treatment.

People who have received both COVID vaccine doses, will not be required to quarantine due to close contact.

If you have received your first dose and have not heard when you will receive your second dose, don't panic, you will be contacted by the vaccine provider that administered your first dose.

Avoid the Three Cs:

- Avoid Crowded Places – Avoid gathering in groups where you cannot maintain 6-foot of distance from others
- Avoid Close Contact – Wear a mask over your nose and mouth or maintain 6-foot distance when you are spending more than 15 total minutes with people you don't live with
- Avoid Confined Spaces – Avoid enclosed spaces with poor ventilation

Current COVID testing access can be found at www.pphd.org.

The Panhandle COVID dashboard is updated weekdays at 4:30 pm MT and available at www.pphd.org. For the most up to date information from the CDC, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Panhandle Public Health District, Region 21, 22, and 23 Emergency Management, and Scotts Bluff County Health Department are working as a unified command on this evolving situation. Essential updates will be regularly communicated to the public and community partners.

Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety, and quality of life for all who live, learn, work, and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Community. Visit our website www.pphd.org.