



ITASCA COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ITASCA RESOURCE CENTER
1209 SE 2nd Ave, Grand Rapids MN 55744
Hearing impaired number TDD: 218-327-5549
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www.co.itasca.mn.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BOOSTER DOSES OF PFIZER NOW AVAILABLE IN COUNTY

LOCAL COVID RATES SURGING

(Grand Rapids, Minn. – Oct. 1, 2021) – COVID vaccines in Itasca County are free and widely available and 58 percent of residents (22,854) have received at least a first dose. Over the past two weeks (between Sept. 15 and 28), however, only 23 more residents received their first vaccination while 351 (nearly all unvaccinated) were diagnosed with COVID.

Itasca County lost two more neighbors recently due to COVID, two males in their 80s, raising to 73 the number of residents who have died.

The picture in Itasca County continues to worsen, with 201 new cases in just the past seven days and the 14-day case rate jumping to 74.3 new infections per 10,000 residents.

Vaccines continue to be extremely effective at preventing serious illness in Itasca County, with less than one percent of those vaccinated being infected. Adding to its effectiveness, booster doses of Pfizer vaccine are available locally for anyone at least six months out from their second dose and who meet one of the following criteria:

- individuals 65 years of age and older,
- individuals 18 through 64 years of age at high risk of severe COVID-19, or
- individuals 18 through 64 years of age whose frequent institutional or occupational exposure to SARS-CoV-2 puts them at high risk of serious complications of COVID-19 including severe COVID-19.

First, second and booster doses of vaccines may be accessed locally at the following:

Thrifty White Pharmacy – Make appointment at www.thriftywhite.com

WalMart Pharmacy – Make appointment at <https://www.walmart.com/cp/flu-shots-immunizations/1228302>

Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital – <https://granditasca.org/covid-19/COVID-19-vaccine-information> (maybe double check this info with Cassi).

Essentia Health Deer River – Schedule via mychart or call (833) 494-0836

Scenic Rivers Bigfork – offered Tuesdays and Wednesdays, call 218-743-3232, ext. 5

Itasca County Public Health is offering single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccines through October.

Indian Health Service, Cass Lake – call 218-335-3200, ext. 2

Itasca residents with questions or concerns may leave them at the Itasca County COVID message line, with calls returned 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Itasca COVID line number is 218-327-6784.

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Itasca County Public Health media contact: Kelly Chandler, 218-327-6144
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