

Columbus County
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COLUMBUS COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE

Columbus County, NC – With the Columbus County Health Department dealing with a surge of COVID-19 cases over the last 3 weeks, we will no longer be providing bi-weekly COVID-19 updates. At this time, we will transition to sharing the NCDHHS COVID-19 Dashboard for county residents to track the number of COVID-19 cases and deaths in Columbus County. We will periodically provide updates on the number of people that have recovered from COVID-19 in Columbus County along with any other important information about COVID-19 and Columbus County. The NCDHHS COVID-19 Dashboard can be found using the following website: <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/dashboard>.

The Columbus County Health Department is currently in phase 1a of the NC COVID-19 vaccination plan. In phase 1a we are vaccinating health care workers caring for and working directly with patients with COVID-19, including staff responsible for cleaning and maintenance in those areas, health care workers involved in administering the COVID-19 vaccine, and long-term care staff and residents—people in skilled nursing facilities and in adult, family and group homes. Beginning January 11, 2021, the Columbus County Health Department will move to phase 1b of the NC COVID-19 vaccination plan. Moving into phase 1b, we will begin vaccinating Group 1. Phase 1b, Group 1, includes anyone 75 and older that would like to receive his or her first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Beginning January 7, 2021, anyone in this group can call 910-640-6615 extension 7006 to schedule an appointment to receive their COVID-19 vaccine.

It is critical for Columbus County residents to understand that the community transmission of COVID-19 is widespread in Columbus County. The Columbus County Health Department is urging county residents to take the measures necessary to protect themselves, their families, and their community from COVID-19. If you leave home, practice your Ws: Wear, Wait, Wash. Wear a mask over your nose and mouth. Wait 6 feet apart and avoid close contact. Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer.

Public Health continues to work with our health and safety partners in the community to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and will continue to provide frequent updates. The Columbus County Health Department regularly updates our Facebook page with accurate and current information regarding COVID-19 and Columbus County. For more information regarding, prevention, symptoms, reputable sources, and other important information please see our previous COVID-19 updates and press releases at [Facebook.com/columbuscountyhealth](https://www.facebook.com/columbuscountyhealth). For information, you can also reach the Columbus County Health Department at 910-640-6615.

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