



Bayfield County Administrator

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Mark Abeles-Allison, *County Administrator*

Kristine Kavajecz, *Human Resources Director*

Paige Terry, *Clerk*

TO: Bayfield County Employees
FROM: Mark Abeles-Allison, County Administrator
Kristine Kavajecz, Human Resources Director
DATE: July 28, 2021
RE: July 28 Policy Revision- Bayfield County COVID-19 Personnel
Guidance and Scenarios.

On Tuesday, July 27, 2021, the CDC updated their recommendations to state that ALL persons, whether vaccinated or not, who are in an area of substantial or high transmission, wear a mask when in indoors public areas. Due to the recent spike in cases, Bayfield County has been identified as an [area of substantial transmission](#) (this also includes more than half of all US counties).

As a result, effective immediately, Bayfield County recommends that all staff and visitors to County facilities wear masks when in indoor public spaces including hallways, restrooms, meeting rooms, and when interacting with others that are not from your household.

Fully vaccinated people should be tested 3-5 days following a known exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and isolate if they test positive.

Considering getting a COVID-19 vaccine for you or a family member?

Contact your healthcare provider or pharmacist and schedule an appointment today. There's no shortage of COVID-19 vaccine currently in northern Wisconsin. In most situations, you can get an appointment for the same day.

Examples of COVID vaccinating sites in northern Wisconsin include:

- Brownstone Pharmacy - Call (715)373-5588
- St. Luke's Chequamegon Clinic – Call (715)685-6600
- Essentia Health – Ashland Clinic – Call (715)685-7500
- Walgreens in Ashland – Call (715)685-0202
- Walmart in Ashland – Call (715)682-3660
- NorthLakes in Iron River – Call (715)372-5001
- The Red Cliff Health Center is having a vaccination clinic on August 3, 2021 from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Legendary Waters Resort and Casino, 37600 Onigamiing Dr, Bayfield, WI 54814. For more information contact the Red Cliff Health Center at 715-779-3707.

Want to know more about the different COVID-19 vaccines?

07/28/2021

There are currently three approved COVID-19 vaccines.

1. Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) is a one-shot vaccine series that protects against COVID-19 (efficacy is 66% globally and 72% in the U.S.; about 85% protective against severe disease). Women younger than 50 years old should be aware of the rare risk of blood clots with low platelets after vaccination. This is for persons age 18 and older currently.
2. Moderna is a two-shot vaccine series that protects against COVID-19 (efficacy about 94.1% after both doses). Second dose is 4 weeks after 1st dose. This is for persons age 18 and older currently.
3. Pfizer is a two-shot vaccine series that protects against COVID-19 (efficacy about 95% after both doses). Second dose is 3 weeks after 1st dose. This is for persons age 12 and older currently.

Why Should I Get Vaccinated?

- Getting vaccinated protects you against severe disease and death. While occasionally persons who have been vaccinated may still get sick, they are not as sick nor for as long. **And, in nearly all cases, being vaccinated protects against hospitalization and serious illness.**
- **Being vaccinated protects those who are medically vulnerable in your community and in your life.** If you are vaccinated, you are less likely to become sick. The more people in a community who are vaccinated against COVID-19, the fewer cases of disease the circulate as a whole.
- There are some people who cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons such as allergies or underlying illness. **Getting vaccinated helps to protect them from becoming exposed to illness.**
- **If you are at least 14 days post-vaccination (complete series), you no longer need to quarantine if exposed to a person who is sick with COVID-19 (so long as you have no symptoms).** This means fewer missed days of work, school, etc.

POLICY REMINDERS:

Bayfield County is committed to providing a safe workplace. If you have specific concerns, please bring them to your supervisor so that additional precautions or measures can be considered/implemented where applicable.

1) **MASKS:**

- a. Wearing of masks in public areas of county facilities is **recommended** whether fully vaccinated or not.
- b. Staff that enter private homes and businesses are also recommended to wear a mask.

2) **TELECOMMUTING:** Most staff have returned to on-site work. Telecommuting continues to be an option when needed and as approved by the Department Head.

3) **PROTOCOL IF AN EMPLOYEE IS SICK (applies whether vaccinated or not):**

- a. If an employee exhibits symptoms of illness, they should stay home or may be directed to go home if working on-site. Use the CDC Symptom Checker to help you make decisions about seeking medical care.

Click here to access the [CDC Symptom Checker](#)

The website address is: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/coronavirus-self-checker.html>

Symptoms include:

- Fever of 100.4 or higher or chills
- Persistent Dry Cough
- Shortness of Breath or Difficulty Breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or Body Aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

b. Employee should stay home and contact a medical provider or teledoc at ([1-800-Teladoc](tel:1-800-Teladoc).)

c. Notify the Human Resources Office of the illness.

NOT VACCINATED: Employees that have not been vaccinated and are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 may not return to work until **ALL** of the following conditions are met:

- 10 days from the onset of the symptoms
- 24 hours after the fever ends (without the use of a fever reducer such as Tylenol)
- Symptoms have improved.

VACCINATED: Employees that have been vaccinated and are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19:

- Stay Home and away from others.
- Get Tested
- If your test is positive, isolate at home for 10 days.
- If your test is negative you may return to work.

d. Where you can get tested (not all-inclusive):

- Your personal Physician's Office
- Walgreens (drive thru by appointment)
- Essentia Health (drive thru by appointment)
<https://www.essentiahealth.org/covid-19/covid-19-testing/>
- Request an At-Home Test Kit <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/testing.htm>
- Community Testing Site (dates and locations vary)
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/testing.htm>
- UW Superior Testing Site by appointment:
<https://www.uwsuper.edu/ehs/coronavirus/covidtestingsite.cfm>

4) **PROTOCOL FOR CLOSE CONTACT:**

Close Contact is defined as:

- You were within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more
- You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19
- You had direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them)
- You shared eating or drinking utensils
- They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you

If an employee has had exposure to someone that has symptoms of, or someone that has a confirmed case of COVID19:

NOT VACCINATED:

- The quarantine period is 14 days from the last contact with the person.
- Daily symptom monitoring with the Health Department must be in place for 14 days. Quarantine can end after Day 10 without testing and if no symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring and demonstration of good compliance in monitoring.
- Daily symptom monitoring with the Health Department must be in place for 14 days with demonstration of good compliance in reporting. Quarantine can end after Day 7 if no symptoms have been reported and after receiving a negative test result (test must occur on day 5 or later).

VACCINATED: If you've been around someone who has COVID-19, you should get tested 3-5 days after your exposure, even if you don't have symptoms. You should also wear a mask indoors in public areas. Isolate for 10 days if your test result is positive.

5) **PROTOCOLS RELATED TO TRAVEL:**

Out of county work related travel for conferences, meetings and trainings may resume provided CDC and DHS recommendations are followed.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/large-gatherings.html>

The CDC recommends avoiding attendance at large events and gatherings. If an alternative to in-person attendance is available (such as virtual participation), that option should be utilized. Departments are encouraged to limit participation in large events unless necessary.

Department Heads are responsible for verifying if an event has adequate COVID protocols in place prior to authorizing an employee's participation in the event.

Employees that have not been vaccinated are discouraged from participating in large events.

Employees that are travelling using commercial transportation such as planes, buses, trains, cruises and other forms of public transportation are asked to notify Human Resources before returning to work in a county facility. Following are the guidelines when commercial transportation is used:

Domestic Travel RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS	Not Vaccinated		Fully Vaccinated	
Get tested 1-3 days before travel	✓			
Get tested 3-5 days after travel and self-quarantine for 7 days. Self-quarantine for 10 days if you don't get tested.	✓			
Self-monitor for symptoms	✓		✓	
Wear a mask and take other precautions during travel	✓		✓	

NOT VACCINATED: Take the following steps to protect yourself and others from COVID-19:

- Before you use commercial transportation:
 - Get tested with a viral test 1-3 days before your trip.
- While you are traveling:
 - Wear a mask over your nose and mouth. [Masks are required](#) on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.
 - Avoid crowds and stay at least 6 feet/2 meters (about 2 arm lengths) from anyone who is not traveling with you.
 - Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol).
- After you use commercial transportation:
 - [Get tested with a viral test 3-5 days](#) after travel **AND** stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.
 - Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days.
 - If your test is positive, [isolate](#) yourself to protect others from getting infected.
 - If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
 - Avoid being around people who are at [increased risk for severe illness](#) for 14 days, whether you get tested or not.
 - Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.
 - Follow all [state and local](#) recommendations or requirements.

VACCINATED: Take the following steps to protect others if you use commercial transportation:

- During Travel
 - Wear a mask over your nose and mouth. **Masks are required** on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.
 - Avoid crowds and stay at least 6 feet/2 meters (about 2 arm lengths) from anyone who is not traveling with you.
 - Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol).
- After Travel
 - Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.
 - Follow all [state and local](#) recommendations or requirements.

You do NOT need to get tested or self-quarantine if you are fully vaccinated or have recovered from COVID-19 in the past 3 months. You should still follow all other travel recommendations.

CDC recommends delaying travel until you are [fully vaccinated](#), because travel increases your chance of getting and spreading COVID-19. If you are not fully vaccinated and must travel, follow CDC's recommendations for unvaccinated people.

This guidance applies to travel within the United States and U.S. territories.

6) PAY OPTIONS FOR QUARANTINE WHEN UNABLE TO TELECOMMUTE:

If an employee is quarantined (either by a medical provider or Human Resources) or ordered to isolate (by a medical provider), and is unable to telecommute, they may choose from the following options for payroll purposes:

1. May use available vacation or comp time.
2. May use available sick leave:
 - If the employee has been a close contact of an active COVID case
 - The employee is experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID19 and is awaiting test results
 - The employee is diagnosed with COVID19
 - The employee is caring for an immediate family member that is quarantined/isolated because of COVID19.

Note: If an employee is unable to telecommute during the quarantine period following travel or participation in events or activities, they are not eligible to use sick leave (unless during first year of employment). Unpaid leave will only be approved if all other eligible paid leave time has been exhausted.

Scenarios for Bayfield County Employees during COVID-19 Pandemic (Effective 7/28/2021)

This following chart contains answers to common questions and scenarios for employees and was prepared using data from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and the Centers for Disease Control. Responses below are in accordance with guidance provided to Bayfield County employees as of July 28, 2021 and are subject to change at any time based on new or clarified Federal, State, or local administrative guidance. If you have additional questions, please contact your supervisor or Human Resources.

Scenario 1: I am feeling sick and experiencing <u>symptoms</u> consistent with COVID-19 as identified by the CDC. These provisions apply even if an employee has a negative COVID test.	
Questions	Answers
1 What should I do?	<p>Employees feeling sick and experiencing symptoms <u>consistent with COVID-19</u> should notify their supervisor immediately and stay home from work. Your supervisor may inquire about your symptoms for further information. Employee is required to telecommute if physically able to. Employees will likely be referred to Human Resources to determine whether quarantine/isolation is applicable and the related timeline.</p> <p>Employees are advised to speak with their health professional and should continually monitor their symptoms.</p>
2 What are my options for reporting my time?	<p>Employees have several options for reporting time for work missed as outlined below. Please reach out to HR with any questions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Eligible to use leave as outlined in Item 5. Once able to return to work or telecommute, these options are no longer available. 2) After all paid leave is exhausted, employee is eligible to use Unpaid Leave and may file for <u>unemployment</u>.
3 I have NOT had my COVID Vaccination. When am I able to return to work?	<p>Employees that <u>have not</u> been vaccinated and are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, may return to on-site work ONLY after these three things have all happened:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You have no fever (less than 100.4°F) for at least 24 hours without use of medicine that reduces fevers, AND • Other symptoms have improved (for example, cough has improved), AND • At least 10 calendar days have passed since your symptoms first appeared
I have had my COVID Vaccination. When am I able to return to work?	<p>Employees that <u>have</u> been vaccinated and are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay Home and away from others. • Get Tested • If your test is positive, isolate at home for 10 days. • If your test is negative you may return to work.
Scenario 2: I have tested positive for COVID-19.	

1	What should I do?	Employees who have tested positive for COVID-19 may telecommute if physically able. Please let your supervisor know if you have tested positive for COVID-19.
2	What are my options for reporting my time?	Employees have several options for reporting time for work missed as outlined below. Please reach out to HR with any questions. 1) Eligible to use leave as outlined in Item 5. Once able to return to work or telecommute, these options are no longer available. 2) After all paid leave is exhausted, employee is eligible to use Unpaid Leave and may file for unemployment .
3	When am I able to return to work?	Employees that have tested positive for COVID-19, may return to on-site work ONLY after these three things have all happened: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You have no fever (less than 100.4°F) for at least 24 hours without use of medicine that reduces fevers, <u>AND</u> Other symptoms have improved (for example, cough has improved), <u>AND</u> At least 10 calendar days have passed since your symptoms first appeared

Scenario 3: I am feeling sick but am NOT experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19.

1	What should I do?	Employees who are ill must notify their supervisor and stay home. If working remotely, employee may continue to do so if physically able to. The employee may be asked to participate in a screening with Human Resources to determine whether quarantine is applicable.
2	What are my options for reporting my time?	Employees should report time not worked as normal sick time on their timesheet.
3	When am I able to return to work?	Generally, employees should be symptom free before returning to work. Please consult with your supervisor and follow the Sick Leave section of the Employee Handbook.
4	Examples	Toothaches, Migraines for persons that have a history of them, Consistent Menstrual Symptoms, backache. <i>Employees must contact Human Resources for a screening if they are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID19, even if they seem to be normal occurring symptoms.</i>

Scenario 4: I have had close contact with a person that has symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or has been diagnosed with COVID-19.

1	What should I do?	Employees who have had close contact with a person with COVID-19 or that has symptoms consistent with COVID-19 must immediately notify their supervisor. What counts as close contact? You were within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more. This time does not need to be all at once, it can be over the course of a day. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19 You had direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them) You shared eating or drinking utensils They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you
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		<i>Employees that have been in closed proximity to a confirmed case of COVID-19 for any period of time are encouraged to report/discuss this with Human Resources and/or the Health Department.</i>
	I have had my COVID Vaccination:	<p>Vaccinated persons with an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get tested 3-5 days after your exposure, even if you don't have symptoms. • Wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until your test result is negative.
	I have NOT had my COVID Vaccination:	<p>These employees should quarantine for 14 calendar days from the date of exposure, or longer if necessary, during which they should monitor their symptoms. Employee may telecommute if physically able to.</p> <p>Quarantine can end after Day 10 without testing and if no symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring.</p> <p>Quarantine can end after Day 7 after receiving a negative test result (test must occur on day 5 or later) and if no symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring.</p>
2	What are my options for reporting my time?	<p>Employees have several options for reporting time for work missed as outlined below. Please reach out to HR with any questions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Eligible to use leave as outlined in Item 5. Once able to return to work or telecommute, these options are no longer available. 2) After all paid leave is exhausted, employee is eligible to use Unpaid Leave and may file for unemployment.
3	When am I able to return to work?	Employees may return to on-site work once they complete a screening and are authorized to return to on-site work by Human Resources.
Scenario 5: I have been advised by HR that I must quarantine because of using commercial transportation:		
1	What do I need to know?	If it is determined that the employee was at higher risk for exposure to COVID-19, they may be required to telecommute or quarantine for up to 10 days upon return. If able to work remotely, employee may do so with approval from your supervisor. Employee may be allowed to quarantine on-site in certain circumstances.
2	What should I do?	<p>Employees are asked to notify their supervisor and Human Resources if they travel somewhere using public transportation (plane, train, bus, cruise, ferry). If an employee knows they plan to travel, they are asked to notify their supervisor as far in advance as possible so that arrangements can be made if telecommuting or quarantine are required.</p> <p>Employees should monitor their temperature and watch for COVID-like symptoms daily for at least 10 days upon return.</p>
3	What are my options for reporting my time during the quarantine period?	Must use earned paid leave balances, such as Vacation, and/or Comp Time. Employees are able to take the time unpaid if they do not have any remaining applicable paid leave balances.
4	How long is the quarantine period if I have NOT had my COVID Vaccination:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days. ○ If your test is positive, isolate yourself to protect others from getting infected. ● If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel. ● Avoid being around people who are at increased risk for severe illness for 14 days, whether you get tested or not.
	<p>How long is the quarantine period if I have had my COVID Vaccination?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms. ● You do NOT need to get tested or self-quarantine if you are fully vaccinated or have recovered from COVID-19 in the past 3 months.