Delta County
COLORADO
Public Information

Darnell Place-Wise
Public Information Officer
dwise@deltacounty.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Delta, Colorado, April 8, 2020 – Delta County Officials Announce First COVID-19 Related Death

Delta, CO – Delta County Health Department is reporting the first death from COVD-19 is a Delta County resident. The person was in their 70's, had underlying medical conditions, and had been a resident at an assisted living facility outside of Delta County.

"This is a day that we knew would eventually come, but are never truly prepared for," said Delta County Public Health Director Karen O'Brien, "Our deepest condolences go out to the family and friends of the patient."

Today, Delta County also received an additional positive test result, bringing us to a total of 6; the individual is a male in his 60s who was a close contact with an individual who recently tested positive.

"We know that the recent extension of the Stay at Home order is difficult for our communities and that Social Distancing is becoming more and more difficult with the nicer weather moving in, and a holiday weekend upon us," said Delta County Commissioner Chair Mark Roeber, "We all have a significant role to play in stopping the spread of COVID-19, we are asking that you do your part."

Health officials want to remind Delta County residents of the precautions they can take towards slowing the spread of any virus that could impact their health, including COVID-19.

Protect yourself:

- Stay at home: https://covid19.colorado.gov/stay-home-except-essential-needs
- Practice social distancing
    - Try to keep 6 feet between yourself and other people whenever possible, particularly when you or others are sick. No hugs, no handshakes.
    - Wash your hands regularly, especially before eating or touching your mouth and nose.
  - Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
  - Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
  - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

What to do if you're sick:
- https://covid19.colorado.gov/isolation-and-quarantine
- Self-Isolate. If you develop a fever, cough or shortness of breath you may need to call your healthcare provider. Do not show up at a clinic, urgent care or the emergency department without calling ahead.
- Wear a mask or cover your cough or sneeze.
- Wash your hands frequently and don't share personal items (drinking glass or utensils) with others.
- If possible, sleep in a bedroom and use a bathroom that is not used by other household members.
- Getting rest and drinking plenty of fluids will likely be helpful for recovery.

Public Health officials also recommend residents prepare for an emergency that might require them to stay at home for several days, including having food supplies, water and medications.

The Delta County Information Call Center, available at (970-874-2172) is open for calls Monday – Friday from 8:00a – 5:00p.

If you have general questions about COVID-19, you may call the state's help line, CO HELP at 1-877-462-2911, or email COHELP@RMPDC.org or visit www.deltacounty.com/COVID-19.

For additional information on COVID-19, please visit the following resources:
- Colorado Department of Health and Environment page at: https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/2019-novel-coronavirus
- Centers for Disease Control page at: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html
- For Regional Resources visit Mesa County Health Department's page at: http://health.mesacounty.us

DELTA COUNTY COURTHOUSE
501 Palmer Street; Suite 227
Delta, Colorado 81416-1796

Canyons • Rivers • Mountains
DeltaCounty.com

Phone: 970.874.2108
Fax: 970.874.2114