



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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No Change To DHMs Until August 31

KEARNEY – Two Rivers Public Health Department in Kearney would like to inform residents of the district that a majority of the State will remain in Phase 3 of the Governor’s Directed Health Measures until August 31, even though it was anticipated a move to Phase 4 would take place on August 1. According to Two Rivers Health Director Jeremy Eschliman, “While we would like to see a move toward more relaxed guidelines, recent data on disease prevalence has indicated that it is just not possible at this time.”

On Thursday, July 30, the Two Rivers COVID-19 Risk Dial was moved to *elevated* after being in the *moderate* level since its inception. Eschliman attributed this to several factors. “The positivity rate across the district has been steadily rising since mid-June, from .83% at that time to 14.35% this week,” according to Eschliman. He said one concern includes an increased number of younger individuals testing positive, most under the age of 39, as well as limited accessibility to testing and a rising number of hospitalizations.

Remaining in Phase 3 means event plans will still need to be completed and submitted to the health department for review and approval. There are activities that will still be limited or not allowed, including parades, street dances, or beer gardens. Two Rivers will work with those planning events to help meet guidelines so events and activities can still safely occur.

Two Rivers Public Health Department is strongly encouraging all citizens to practicing proper social distancing, use face masks, pay attention to good hand hygiene including hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer to help prevent the spread of the virus.

More details regarding the Risk Dial, as well as COVID-19 statistics, within the district can be found at www.trphd.org.

ABOUT TWO RIVERS PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Two Rivers Public Health Department engages collaborative partners, community leaders and the public to promote healthy lifestyles, provide preventative education, assure environmental quality, and create more healthy and safe communities for all who live within the district. Follow TRPHD on Facebook and Twitter @2RPHD