



July 2021

FLASH REPORT

A Brief Report of Public Health Activity Within Jackson County

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Cooling Shelters in Jackson County

Extremely hot temperatures are expected this weekend into early next week. Daily high-temperature records are expected to be broken, and all-time record highs for June are likely to be tied or broken on Sunday and/or Monday. There is also a chance (~30%) that all-time record highs since weather record-keeping began in this area (in the late 1800s to early 1900s) could be tied or even exceeded Sunday and/or Monday. While it will be cooler overnight into the morning hours, low temperatures will also be warmer than normal.

Although anyone at any time can suffer from heat-related illness, older adults, the very young, people with chronic health conditions, people who work outdoors, athletes, and low-income individuals are at [high risk](#).

The city of Medford, Ashland, and Talent will be opening cooling centers beginning Saturday, June 26. For more information on cooling shelter locations and hours of operation, visit the [Extreme Heat Expected – Cooling Shelters Opening in Jackson County](#).

Jackson County Public Health Vaccination Clinic Update

Jackson County Public Health will be moving its COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic back to the Jackson County Health & Human Services building, located at 140 South Holly Street in Medford, beginning June 29. Jackson County Public Health originally relocated the COVID-19 vaccination clinic due to the Health & Human Services building flooding in March.

Jackson County Public Health COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic will be open from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and closed during the lunch hour from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Moderna and Johnson & Johnson will be available at Jackson County Public Health. Anyone can access the vaccine at Jackson County Public Health; the vaccine is free, insurance information is not required, and walk-ins are welcomed. If you would like to make an appointment, please call 541-774-8209.

Those who need their second dose of the Moderna vaccine and received their first dose at the Expo will now go to Jackson County Public Health, located at 140 South Holly Street in Medford. They can also access the vaccine from other providers in the community.

Due to the extreme temperatures, the COVID-19 mobile vaccination site located at La

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Reporting
Guidelines



Look for the August
edition in the first
week of the month!



<http://jacksoncountyor.org/hhs/Public-Health>

Placita will be closed this Sunday, June 27.

For information on where to get vaccinated in Jackson County, visit <https://jacksoncountyor.org/hhs/COVID-19/Vaccine-Appointments> or call 211 information.

Overdose Alert Remains in Place for Jackson County

Jackson County Public Health issued an Overdose Alert the week of February 28, 2021. Jackson County Public Health has not lifted the current overdose alert, and will keep this in place until further notice. Emergency response personnel have continued to respond to accidental overdoses and there has been an increase in suspect fatal overdoses related to illicit opioids such as heroin and fentanyl.

Pharmaceutical fentanyl is a synthetic opioid, approved for treating severe pain, typically advanced cancer pain. It is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine. It is prescribed in the form of transdermal patches or lozenges and can be diverted for misuse and abuse in the United States.

Cases of fentanyl-related harm, overdose, and death in the U.S. are linked to illegally made fentanyl. It is sold through illegal drug markets for its heroin-like effect. It is often mixed with heroin, other drugs or sold as a counterfeit prescription opioid pill —with or without the user's knowledge. Street fentanyl can be in the form of white, gray, or tan powder, dropped on blotter paper, eyedropper, or nasal sprays.

We are encouraging the medical community, other community partners, family and friends, and people who suffer from opioid addiction to be aware of the increase in overdoses. There are actions that can be taken to reduce the risk of someone overdosing.

- Using illicit opioids, such as heroin and fentanyl increases the risk of overdosing. There is no safe way to use illicit opioids such as heroin or fentanyl, but precautions can be taken that may help reduce the risk. The street drug supply has always been unpredictable and inconsistent. Assume overdose risk no matter what drug you are using.
- Abstaining from drug use is the best way to eliminate the risk of overdose. Ask the person about their willingness to begin medication-assisted treatment or drug treatment. A list of resources can be found on the Oregon Recovers website <https://oregonrecoverynetwork.org/>. Call the SAMHSA's National Helpline 1-800-662-HELP (4357). This is a free, confidential, 24/7, 365-day-a-year treatment referral and information service (in English and Spanish) for individuals and families facing mental and/or substance use disorders. The Jackson County Syringe Exchange Program provides referrals for medication-assisted treatment or drug treatment to people who utilize the program's services.
- It is critical to call 911 when someone is overdosing from opioids. If you use naloxone, the effects are temporary, and the person still needs medical attention. After the medication wears off, the person could fall back into a coma. If you call 911 for someone having a drug overdose, Oregon's Good Samaritan Law protects you from being arrested or prosecuted for drug-related charges

or parole/probation violations based on information provided to emergency responders. If someone is overdosing from using fentanyl, it may take more naloxone to reverse the overdose. It can take about 2-3 minutes for the naloxone to take effect.

- Even people who haven't used in a while are at increased risk of overdosing. It is important to be aware of your tolerance and always use less.
- Have an overdose plan, make sure someone can get to you, and it is safest to use when you are with someone you trust. Always assume there is a risk of overdosing no matter how you consume illicit opioids.
- BE PREPARED. GET NALOXONE. SAVE A LIFE. Even if you do not use illicit opioids, but you know someone who does, you will want to carry naloxone in case you are in the position to use it on someone. Oregon law allows lay people to carry and use naloxone on others. You can get naloxone through these avenues:
 - Any pharmacist in Oregon can prescribe naloxone to you. You do not need a prescription in Oregon to access naloxone through a pharmacy. [List of Oregon pharmacies distributing naloxone.]
 - Anyone who can prescribe medication can send a naloxone prescription to your pharmacy.
 - People who utilize the Syringe Exchange Program can receive free naloxone.
 - Free naloxone is available through Max's Mission and HIV Alliance.
- It is important not to mix drugs because drugs taken together can interact in ways that increase their overall effect and increase the risk of overdosing.

"The mission of Jackson County Health and Human Services is to plan, coordinate and provide public services that protect and promote the health and well-being of county residents.