



NEWS RELEASE

CITY OF HOPEWELL

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City of Hopewell COVID-19 Updates

Hopewell, Va., - The City of Hopewell is located within the Crater Health District. The Crater Health District encompasses the localities of: Hopewell, Dinwiddie, Emporia, Greensville, Petersburg, Prince George, Surry and Sussex. The Crater Health District's website is www.vdh.virginia.gov/crater and they can be reached via phone at 804-862-8989.

As of February 8, 2021, the City of Hopewell has had 1,878 cases of COVID-19 since the beginning of the pandemic, with 76 hospitalizations and 21 deaths. The Crater Health District has had 12,310 cases, 462 hospitalizations and 163 deaths. The state of Virginia has had 530,825 cases, 22,167 hospitalizations and 6,820 deaths. The Crater Health District's current status of COVID-19 is now at Substantial Activity - High Burden of Disease.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is recommending these steps to slow the spread of COVID-19: everyone 2 and older should wear a mask; stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arm's length) from others who do not live with you; avoid crowds (the more people you are in contact with, the more likely you are to be exposed to COVID-19); avoid poorly ventilated spaces; wash your hands often; cover coughs and sneezes; clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily; monitor your health daily and be alert for symptoms; and get vaccinated.

Multiple variants of the virus that causes COVID-19 have been documented in the United States and globally during this pandemic. Viruses change constantly through mutation, and new variants of a virus are expected to occur over time. Information about the characteristics of these variants is rapidly emerging. Scientists are working to learn more about how easily they spread, whether they could cause more severe illness, and whether currently authorized vaccines will protect against them. For more information on the COVID-19 variants, please visit the CDC's website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/transmission/variant.html>.

Currently, the state of Virginia and the Crater Health District are in Phase 1b of the COVID-19 vaccination process. Phase 1a includes: healthcare personnel, and residents of long-term care facilities. Phase 1b includes: frontline essential workers, people over 65

years old, people aged 16-64 with an underlying health condition, and people living in correctional facilities, homeless shelters and migrant labor camps.

Residents who fall into the 1a and 1b categories, and who wish to get the COVID-19 vaccine, should register with the Crater Health Department. Residents can register online: www.vdh.virginia.gov/crater, or call 804-541-2391. Please note that the department is experiencing extremely high call volumes, and response times may be delayed. Your patience is appreciated. The City of Hopewell has worked with the Crater Health District to set up a local call center to assist with inquiries about the vaccine process and assist Hopewell citizens with registering for the vaccine wait list.

More information about the COVID-19 vaccines can be found on the CDC's website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>.

Information about COVID-19 and the COVID-19 vaccine can be found on the Crater Health District's website: www.vdh.virginia.gov/crater, on the Virginia Department of Health's website: www.vdh.virginia.gov and on the CDC's website: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus. For questions, please call the Crater Health District at 804-862-8989 or the Hopewell COVID-19 call center at 804-541-2391.

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