



CITY OF BISMARCK DAILY BULLETIN

April 17, 2020

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health (BBPH) Update

- **North Dakota’s peak for positive cases is likely still ahead of us. There were an additional 46 positive cases reported in North Dakota, the highest daily increase so far.**
7.2% positive rate for today, total positive rate for the state of ND is 3.6%. Dropped to the 3rd lowest nation behind Hawaii and Alaska (was 2nd lowest prior to today)
- Eighteen of today’s positive cases were under the age of 40. People of any age can contract COVID-19.
- A rapid response team was sent into outbreaks to do testing which is the reason for testing.
- In response to a request from the ND Department of Health, BBPH completed a rapid response testing event this afternoon in for 9 individuals identified as close contacts of employees testing positive at a local employer.
- **ND Smart Restart Plan**
Rena Moch, Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health Director, shared that Governor Burgum announced Wednesday that the state will be focusing on a step by step plan for reopening North Dakota (ND Smart Restart Plan).

STEP-BY-STEP: PLAN FOR REOPENING

- **GOAL:** Create a multi-stage approach to rebuild economic activity that protects lives and restores livelihoods.
- **What we’ll need:**
 - Widespread rapid testing
 - Robust contact tracing
 - Targeted, effective containment
 - Protections for most vulnerable
 - Sufficient health care capacity
 - Ample PPE availability
 - New standard operating procedures for businesses
 - Prepared for second surge

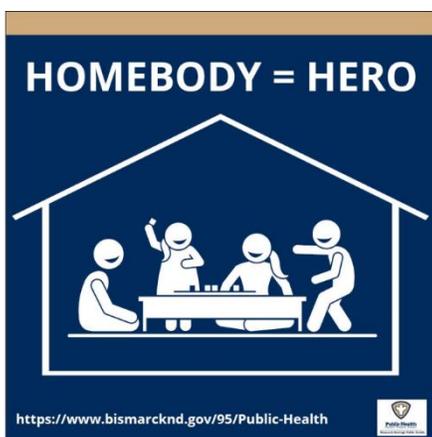
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- Start working on new standard operation procedures to develop a “new normal” for your business implementing prevention measures to mitigate COVID-19. The City of Bismarck has been proactive in implementing operational measures and establishing “new normal” preventive measures such as monitoring temps, keeping employees 6 ft. apart, frequently disinfecting surfaces, etc. and will continue to mitigate COVID-19 as we move through our response efforts.



Hospital Surge Plan

Using less than 1% of total hospital beds at this time, the state is well prepared in the event of an extreme surge. 200-bed facilities have been set up in Fargo (Fargo Dome) and in Bismarck (University of Mary). These facilities are ready for use if a surge occurs. Six additional facilities would be set up if necessary, located in Devils Lake, Dickinson, Williston, Minot, Grand Forks, and Jamestown. Most staffing for these facilities would come from volunteers. [Find the details here.](#)



Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health’s ‘Homebody Hero’ campaign supplies a daily post with a variety of creative ideas designed to serve as a guide for activities that anybody can do at home to help them stay healthy, active and occupied throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Participate in the ‘Homebody Hero’ campaign by following Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health at www.facebook.com/BBPH.gov.

Efforts to promote the Homebody Hero campaign are on-going and Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health Director Renae Moch encourages people to tell friends, family, and anyone who will listen to **STAY HOME!**

COVID-19 Case Reports, North Dakota Department of Health

As of April 17, Burleigh County still has the second highest number of positive cases. There are now 439 positive COVID-19 cases in the state of North Dakota. **Three new cases in Burleigh County were reported, raising the total number of positive cases to 57 in Burleigh County.** Currently, 16 individuals are hospitalized throughout the state. The first, positive, pregnant case in North Dakota was confirmed April 2, 2020. [\(CDC Guidance for Pregnant Women\)](#) There have been 9 deaths in the state related to COVID-19.

Coronavirus Cases

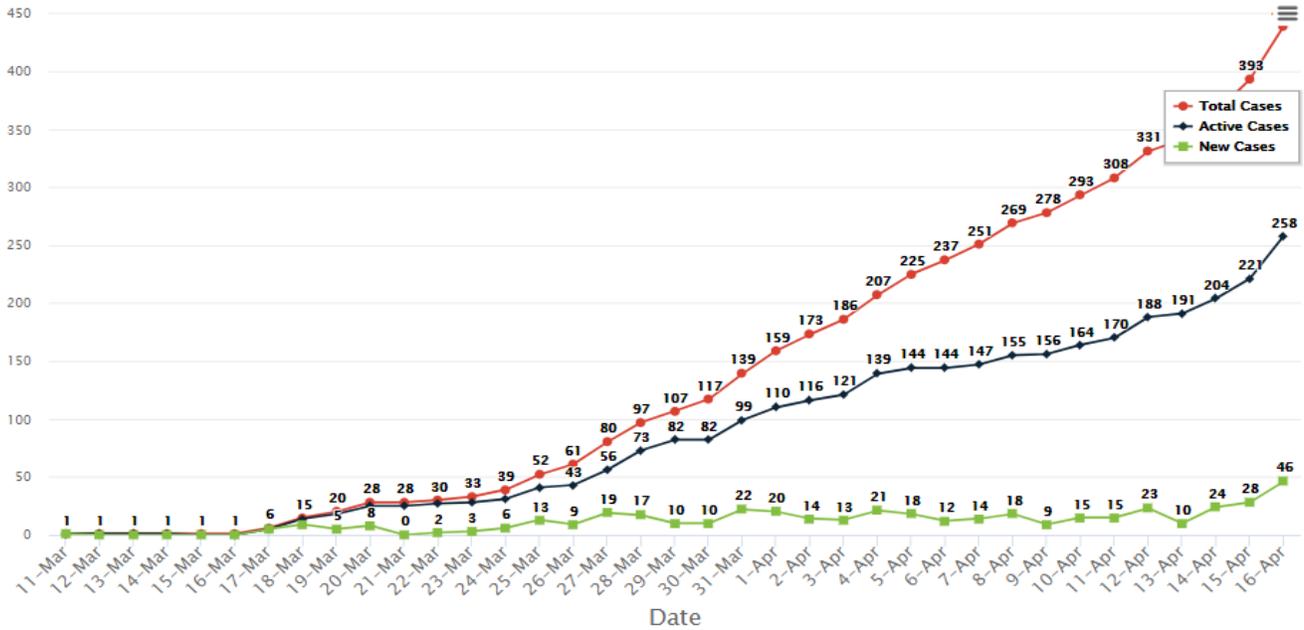
Updated around 11:00 AM daily
Last updated: 4/17/2020 at 11:00 AM



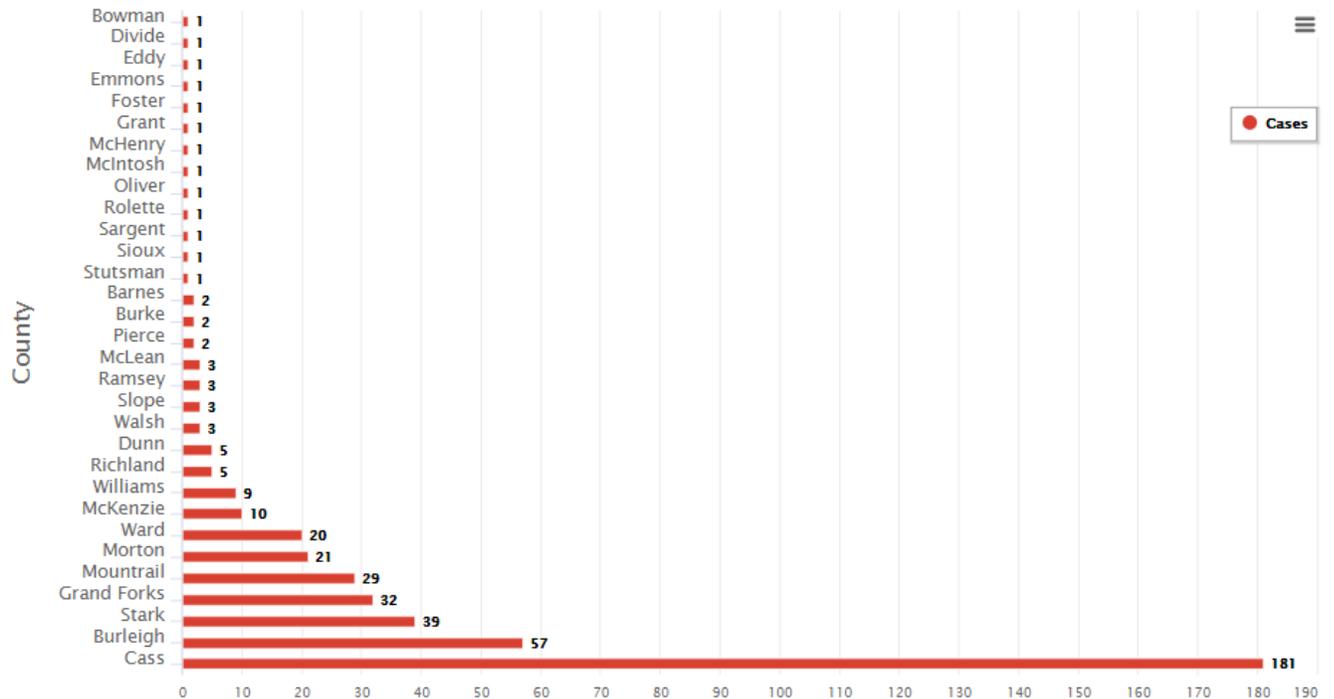


Trending Curve

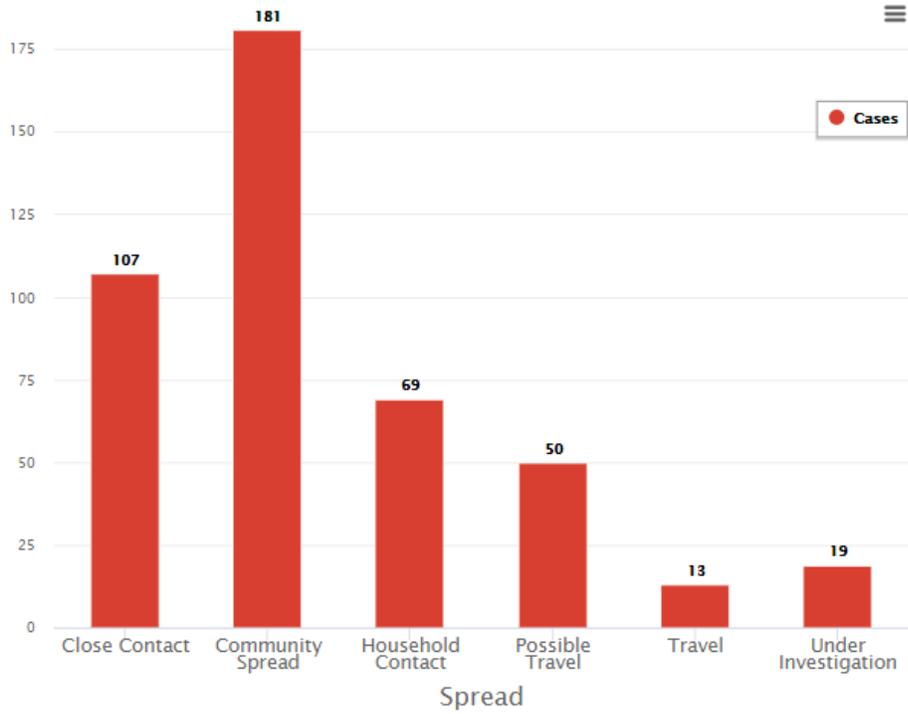
Best viewed on desktop or in landscape mode on mobile (i.e. holding the phone sideways)



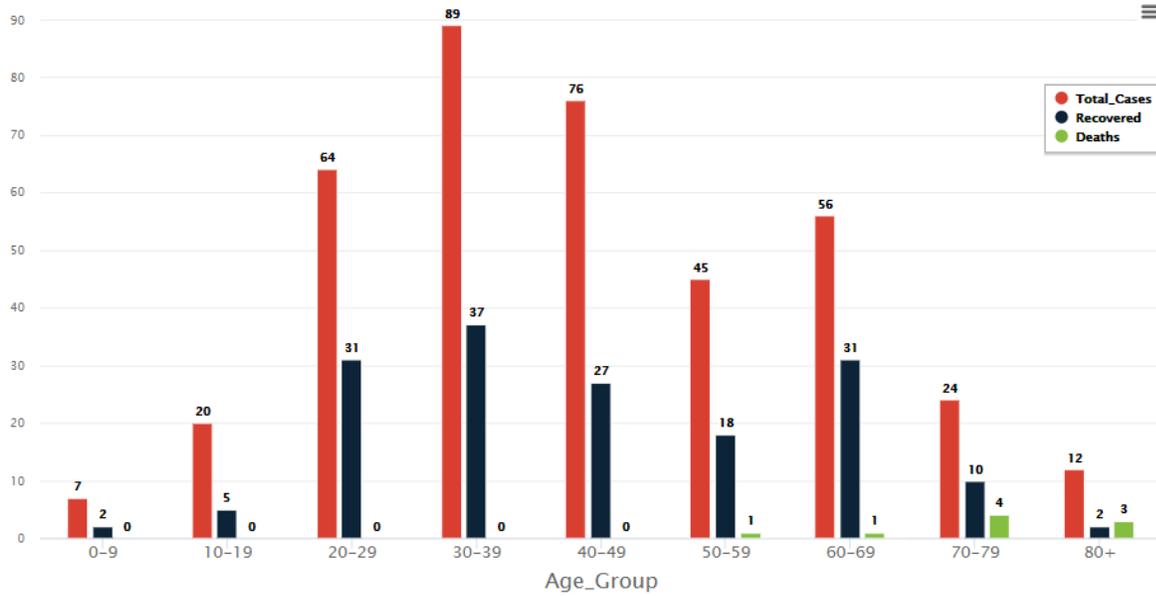
Total Positive Cases by County



Source of Exposure



Cases by Age Group





COVID-19 Recommendations

There is still a need to emphasize the importance of social distancing as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control. Everyone has an individual responsibility for the health and safety of our community during this COVID-19 pandemic. [Learn more about social distancing and how to protect yourself](#)



Are you using a cloth face covering when you're out in public?

That's great! The [CDC recommends](#) wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), **especially** in areas of significant community-based transmission. If you are wearing a cloth face covering, make sure you're washing it regularly to maximize its ability to slow the spread.



Can't find typical disinfectants?

Try these substitutes for hard surfaces:

- ✓ Hydrogen peroxide
- ✓ Isopropyl alcohol with at least 70% alcohol
- ✓ Multi-surface cleaners with the active ingredient **L-Lactic Acid**
- ✓ Bleach

American Red Cross logo

Is your regular disinfectant—or all disinfectants, for that matter—sold out where you live? Here are some alternatives to disinfect hard surfaces! As always, be ND Smart - mix bleach in a well-ventilated area, use gloves and eye protection, and don't use containers that previously held other chemicals.

Contact Tracing

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health (BBPH) continues to assist the state with contact tracing for individuals identified as positive for COVID-19. Individuals identified as close contacts of someone testing positive with COVID-19 will receive a phone call from the

North Dakota Department of Health or the local public health department. You will then be provided with the appropriate steps to take next. Additionally, if a school or daycare is involved, letters will be sent to all parents. [See more information](#)



Facebook Live Updates



Assistant City Administrator Jason Tomanek, along with Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health Director Renae Moch, provided information on the combined response by the City of Bismarck and Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health to the COVID-19 pandemic. Watch future Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health updates [here](#) at 11 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Highlights from today’s presentation included:

- Cloth facial coverings are becoming more common in the community. Just a reminder that cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under the age of 2 years old. They should also not be placed on anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cover without assistance.
- If English is not your first language, CDC does provide a variety of [resources in additional languages](#). COVID-19 information for refugees is available [here](#).

City of Bismarck Mayor Steve Bakken provides a City Update each Monday morning regarding the City’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Be sure to watch Mayor Bakken’s City Update every Monday at 10 a.m. [here](#).



City of Bismarck News

- **Fire Danger Rating Raised to High for the Bismarck Area**
With the arrival of warmer temperatures, low humidity, low moisture, and windy conditions, the Fire Danger Rating in the Bismarck area is set at High. A High fire danger rating means that all vegetation fuels will ignite readily, and fires start easily from most causes. See more information [here](#).
- **Bismarck-Mandan Business Impact of COVID-19 Survey Round 2**
As the COVID-19 situation has evolved with the passage of the CARES Act and the extension of business closures through April 30, owners and managers of businesses in the Bismarck-Mandan area are asked to respond a 7-minute survey at this [link](#) by April 21. Please take a few minutes to respond today!
- **Bismarck offers residents free disposal at landfill in lieu of Spring Clean-up week**
Instead of Spring Clean-up week this year, Bismarck residents who display their recent 2020 Bismarck water bill will have free disposal at the City landfill to dispose of their items during the week of April 20-25, 2020, from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday – Saturday. [Find more information here](#).
- **Bismarck offers virtual option for public meeting attendance and participation**
Due to ongoing public health concerns related to COVID-19, the City of Bismarck is encouraging citizens to provide their comments for consent agenda, and regular agenda items on the Bismarck City Commission agenda by alternative methods. View the details [here](#).



- **City of Bismarck Arbor Day event postponed**
The annual Arbor Day event scheduled to take place on Friday, May 1, has been postponed until fall due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Once a new date has been determined, the city will announce it to the public through the [City website](#), social media and local media sources.
- **Building Inspections Services Division COVID-19 protocol developed**
The City of Bismarck Building Inspections Services Division is working hard to continue to provide inspections services during this unprecedented time. [More details here](#).
- **Reminder from Bismarck Fire Department that burning yard waste is prohibited**
The Bismarck Fire Department reminds residents that the City of Bismarck's Code of Ordinance prohibits the burning of yard waste within City limits. Yard waste includes: leaves, dry grass, weeds, and brush. Please refer to the Bismarck Public Works Department's [webpage](#) for information about the proper disposal of yard waste.
- **Find the City departments providing essential services and how to reach them [here](#).**
- **The Downtowners Association and the City of Bismarck have partnered to establish temporary curbside pickup zones in Downtown Bismarck**
Please help to support our local businesses as you continue to follow the health guidelines for safety during COVID-19. There are currently 8 zones in Downtown Bismarck. [View the map](#).
- **We encourage the public to follow Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health and the City of Bismarck on our social media sites** for essential information. For the most updated and timely information related to COVID-19, visit the City of Bismarck web site at www.bismarcknd.gov and follow us on <https://www.facebook.com/BBPH.gov/>, <https://twitter.com/BBPublicHealth>, www.facebook.com/bismarcknd.gov and www.twitter.com/BismarckNDGov.
- **Emergency Alert Feature is Now Activated on the City of Bismarck Website.** This Emergency Alert Feature provides you with the latest news and information on COVID-19 and the actions the City of Bismarck is taking in response to it. To receive real-time updates via text and email from the alert system on your handheld devices [sign up for "Notify Me"](#).
- **Stay Connected with the City of Bismarck Mobile App** Download Bismarck's mobile app to stay connected to official city resources, news, and information from your smart phone, tablet or other hand-held devices. [Sign up today!](#)
- **Remember that live meeting coverage of government meetings** is available for viewing on Government Access Channels 2 & 602HD or listen to the meeting at Radio Access 102.5 FM Radio, or stream [Government Access](#) and [Radio Access 102.5](#).

Executive Orders

- Apr. 15, 2020
Governor Burgum extends business restrictions for 10 days, outlines path forward for reopening
Governor Doug Burgum signed an [amended executive order](#) that extends closures on certain businesses through April 30, and outlined a path forward for them to reopen as the number of COVID-19 cases in North Dakota continues to climb. [Learn more.](#)
- Apr. 13, 2020 **Burgum allows for changes to maintain critical services for vulnerable youths during COVID-19 pandemic**
Governor Doug Burgum today signed an [executive order](#) allowing for changes necessary to maintain critical operations for vulnerable youths being served in Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities and Qualified Residential Treatment Programs during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Apr. 10, 2020 **Tufte issues order to provide essential workforce exemptions**
State Health Officer Mylynn Tufte issued an order Friday expanding on Governor Doug Burgum's executive order requiring individuals who are family or household contacts to quarantine for 14 days. To align with new CDC guidance, Tufte's order allows for essential workforce exemptions for individuals who are household contacts of people testing positive for COVID-19. [More here.](#)
- Find [more Executive Orders](#) related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Find more information about the state's COVID-19 response [here](#) and find [recent news releases](#).



North Dakota State Government

- Apr. 17, 2020 **WIC is Open for Business**
The Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) continues to be open for business during the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has allowed North Dakota WIC to make changes in how services are offered. [Visit the North Dakota WIC website](#) for more information.
- Apr. 17, 2020 **North Dakota Development Fund Board Votes to Extend Initial Payment Suspension**
The North Dakota Department of Commerce announced that the North Dakota Development Fund (NDDF) Board voted to extend the initial 30-day loan suspension for an additional two months. The initial suspension was announced on March 19 in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The extension suspends all payments for both principal and interest for all outstanding NDDF loans for an additional 60 days, effective April 16. [View details here.](#)



- Apr. 16, 2020 **Theodore Roosevelt National Park Closed Through May 9th to Slow the Spread of COVID-19**
Effective immediately, Theodore Roosevelt National Park will be closed to recreational use until further notice. The National Park Service is working service-wide with federal, state, and local authorities to closely monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and will lift the closure as soon as possible. Find the [details here](#).
- Apr. 14, 2020 **North Dakota COVID-19 Community Impact Survey**
The North Dakota Department of Commerce wants to understand how the Coronavirus pandemic is impacting communities and individuals across our state. Our hope is that tracking this information will help our agencies and partner organizations identify additional resources we may be able to leverage to support North Dakotans during this challenging time. [Take the Survey](#)
- **Links for Recent ND News Related to COVID-19**
[North Dakota Department of Health](#)
[ND Response](#)

Local Information

- The Burleigh County Courthouse is restricting public access due to COVID-19. Contact them at 701-355-1350 or website <https://www.bismarcknd.gov/93/Municipal-Court> for instructions regarding alternate communications (phone, email, website, mail, drop box).
- Effective March 23, 2020, Bis-Man Transit restricted public access to its facility and implemented changes to Capital Area Transit (fixed-route) and Paratransit service until further notice. Call 701-258-6817 or visit <https://bismantransit.com/> for more information.

Information and Resources

- [Daily Bulletin](#)
- [City of Bismarck website](#)
- COVID-19 information [NDDoH website](#)
- COVID-19 Hotline 7 am-8 pm, 7 days a week: 1-866-207-2880
- [Centers for Disease Control](#)
[Español](#)
- Mental Health Resources
 - [Behavioral Health Resources and Services](#)
 - [FirstLink Help Line 211](#) or Dial 2-1-1
 - [ND Human Services COVID-19 Behavioral Health Resources](#)
 - West Central Human Service Center 24-Hour Crisis Line Call 701-328-8899 or toll-free 1-888-328-2112
- [Disaster Distress Helpline](#)
 - Call 1-800-985-5990
 - Text "TalkWithUs" to 66746



- [Resources for Veterans](#)
 - Fargo VA Call Center 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. daily. 701-293-3700 Ext. 2319
- [Where to Go for Help Resources](#)
- [NDResponse.gov](#)
- [ND Response: COVID-19 Personal, Family and Community Support](#)
- [North Dakota COVID-19 Community Impact Survey](#)
- [COVID19 Resources for Business](#)
- Department of Commerce [resources for businesses](#)
- [ND Attorney General Consumer Protection consumer complaints](#) call toll-free 1-800-472-2600
- [Federal Trade Commission Tips for Coronavirus Scams](#)
- [Missouri River system Game and Fish boat ramp access status](#)
- Follow us on www.facebook.com/BBPH.gov and www.twitter.com/BBPublicHealth
- www.facebook.com/bismarcknd.gov and www.twitter.com/BismarckNDGov
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