

Stillwater County Board of Commissioners  
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### **COVID-19 Travel Advisory**

Columbus, MT – On March 16, 2020, in Resolution 2020-09, the Board of County Commissioners declared Stillwater County an emergency area based upon the COVID-19 pandemic pursuant to Title 10, Chapter 3, Part 4 of the Montana Code Annotated. Stillwater County continues to monitor the spread of Covid-19 throughout the State. The Commissioners have relied on our Unified Command team to provide updates and information that will help us make decisions that are in the best interests of our County residents. Our hope is for Stillwater County to have 0 cases of Covid-19. We will continue to work hard and monitor the situation as things change in the coming month in an attempt to keep Stillwater County functioning as close to normal as possible while adhering to the state and federal guidelines we receive.

As cases continue to increase throughout the State, the County may take more measures in an attempt to protect the public health of Stillwater County residents. The Commission and Public Health ask that all residents be mindful of their surroundings and maintain the social distancing minimum of 6 ft. at all times. If you choose to recreate in our County’s open spaces, please do so safely and responsibly. If a parking lot appears to have a large number of vehicles in it, please utilize a different area. Also, please remember that this is not a time for our school-aged children to have sleepovers or hold social gatherings of any kind. We ask that parents strongly discourage these events even if they are being held outside.

The Board of County Commissioners previously declared Stillwater County an emergency area under it’s authority in §10-3-402, MCA. When deemed necessary in an emergency or disaster area, the governing body is given statutory authority to manage the ingress and egress to and from an incident or emergency or disaster area. Given the continued increase in COVID-19 cases throughout Montana and across the nation, the consensus of the Board of County Commissioners is that there may be a need to consider travel restrictions. At this time, the Commission is issuing a travel advisory to all Stillwater County residents recommending that our residents avoid all nonessential travel to and from activities and/or shopping in Yellowstone and Gallatin Counties at this time. This advisory will be in effect until April 10<sup>th</sup>, and is subject to change and extension if deemed necessary. If you are a County resident that has essential travel to these areas, the Commission asks that you limit your stops and be mindful of your surroundings. Please attempt to utilize businesses that are open in our County to fill your shopping needs at this time. Also, if you choose to recreate, please do so in your local area.

If we work together, we can limit the exposure to our residents and help Stillwater County keep our cases of COVID-19 at 0.

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Mark Crago, Chairman

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Tyrel Hamilton, Member

Absent for signature  
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Dennis Shupak, Member