



March 24, 2020

11:30 a.m. Strategic National Stockpile Supplies Arrive in Pueblo County

#PuebloCOVID19

PUEBLO, CO. – Pueblo County, along with its South Region partners, received a shipment of supplies Monday afternoon from the National Strategic Stockpile to help the community’s response to COVID-19. The supplies were shipped from the Colorado State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to counties throughout Colorado.

Pueblo County received supplies which were distributed to South Region partners in Huerfano, Las Animas, Custer and Fremont counties. The supplies will then be distributed to health care agencies to include hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities and home health.

The Strategic National Stockpile is the nation’s largest supply of potentially life-saving pharmaceuticals and medical supplies for use during a public health emergency when local supplies run out.

Colorado received the following materials:

- 49,200 N95 masks
- 115,000 surgical masks
- 21,420 surgical gowns
- 21,800 face shields
- 84 coveralls

Pueblo County received masks, gowns, gloves, and face shields which are targeted for distribution at long-term care facilities.

The State Unified Command Group, which is part of the state EOC, distributed the materials to every county health department and tribe through the state where they are needed most. The following factors were used to determine allocation:

- County Population
- Portion of the population that is older than age 65 proportional to the state population
- The number of nursing homes, assisted living facilities and hospitals

- If the county or tribe received supplies previously

Due to the need for personal protective equipment (PPE) is meant for single-use and is recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to be used for COVID-19 testing. In order to preserve these important resources for critical health care need CDPHE is urging the public to not wait for a test for COVID-19. **Not everyone with symptoms will be tested right away. Call your health care provider only if your illness becomes more severe, especially if you are experiencing shortness of breath.**

If you have any symptoms, even mild ones, public health urges you to stay home and isolate yourself until:

- You have had no fever for at least 72 hours (without the use of medicine) AND
- Other symptoms (cough, shortness of breath) have improved AND
- At least 7 days have passed since your symptoms first appeared.
- Anyone in your household you have had close contact with (within six feet of approximately 10 minutes) should self-quarantine for 14 days, even if you haven't been tested for COVID-19.
- If you have a medical emergency, call 911. If you have severe respiratory symptoms especially shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, tell the 911 dispatcher about your symptoms. Do not wait for COVID-19 test to call 911.

Everybody has a responsibility to protect the most vulnerable in Pueblo by:

- **Do not go to the emergency room unless medically necessary.**
- Wash your hands with soap regularly.
- Cough or sneeze into elbow or tissue.
- Stay home when you're sick.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- Clean surfaces frequently touched.

Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment encourages residents to seek out credible, reliable sources of information on COVID-19:

- www.puebloemergency.info
- Pueblo's COVID-19 Hotline 719-583-4444

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