



# NEWS

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**May 20, 2021**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Getting Vaccinated Easier than Ever; Doses Near 900,000; Guidance on Masks & Gatherings: Update on County Response to COVID-19**

**Redwood City** – The County of San Mateo continues to work to protect public health and safety in response to the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19.

The County of San Mateo's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) remains open to coordinate countywide response and communications in response to the situation. The EOC's Joint Information Center will provide status reports every Thursday until further notice. Today's report:

### **Getting Vaccinated is Easier than Ever**

First-dose vaccine clinics operated or supported by San Mateo County Health are open to anyone who lives or works in the county in Daly City, East Palo Alto, San Mateo, Half Moon Bay, Pescadero, Menlo Park, North Fair Oaks and South San Francisco. County Health provides a handy calendar at <https://www.smchealth.org/vaccine-clinic-calendar>

No appointments are necessary, but you can sign up and search for specific vaccine clinics with <https://myturn.ca.gov/>

### **San Mateo County Health: All Together Better**

Catch a short video as San Mateo County's Mass Vaccination team rocks out at the San Mateo County Event Center: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWYm3O91D-Y>

Go to [MyTurn.ca.gov](https://myturn.ca.gov) to see where you can get a free, fast COVID-19 vaccination, with or without an appointment.

## **COVID-19 Testing and Contact Tracing**

Testing remains important so public health officials can track the disease and so those who test positive can receive early care. Testing for COVID-19 is available for everyone who lives or works in San Mateo County regardless of symptoms.

Learn more and make an appointment at <https://www.smcgov.org/testing>

## **Face Coverings, Gatherings, Travel: The Latest Guidelines**

The County provides the following information to help residents make decisions and follow health and safety guidelines:

- ▶ Vaccination is the key to continued loosening of restrictions.
- ▶ Fully vaccinated persons need not wear masks outside except in crowds.
- ▶ Unvaccinated persons need not wear masks outside except when physical distance can't be maintained.
- ▶ Masks are required indoors for everyone (except in homes).
- ▶ The Yellow Tier allows most businesses to operate at 50% of capacity indoors (or 50 people).
- ▶ Travel is still discouraged except for those who are fully vaccinated.

Learn more details at <https://www.smcgov.org/press-release/no-face-coverings-required-most-outdoor-settings-fully-vaccinated-people>

## **Wild Places and Friendly Spaces: Most County Parks Open**

When visiting San Mateo County Parks, please follow [California COVID-19 safety guidelines](#).

**Unvaccinated:** Face coverings required outdoors when 6-ft of distance can't be maintained.

**Vaccinated:** Face coverings not required outdoors unless attending a crowded outdoor event.

In compliance with COVID-19 safety guidelines, the Parks main office in Redwood City remains closed until further notice. For assistance please contact the Parks Department by phone at (650) 363-4020 or go to <https://parks.smcgov.org/contact-us>

## **Bay Area Health Officers Support California Face Masking Guidance**

The Association of Bay Area Health Officers, representing 12 Bay Area health officers and their local health jurisdictions, strongly supports the California Department of

Public Health's strategy to continue with current masking guidance until June 15, when the State will align with the CDC's updated masking guidance.

Learn more at <https://www.smcgov.org/press-release/bay-area-health-officers-support-california-face-masking-guidance>

### **Vaccine Doses Administered Near 900,000**

A total of 517,083 individuals have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine shot in San Mateo County as of Wednesday, May 19, 2021. This represents 81 percent of county residents age 16 and older.

Of the total, 404,567 individuals have completed the vaccination series, bringing the total number of doses administered to 889,443.

### **COVID-19 Case Counts**

County Health reports a total of 41,980 total cases of COVID-19 as of Wednesday, April 28, 2021. Deaths attributed to COVID-19 stand at 570.

Additional information such as cases by age group, cases by race/ethnicity and deaths by age is available at <https://www.smchealth.org/data-dashboard/county-data-dashboard>

### **Event: Pandemic Pollution Prevention**

Join Facebook LIVE @CountyofSanMateo on May 27 @ 12 p.m. for "Pandemic Pollution Prevention" as the County's Office of Sustainability and local partners address the issue of the waste we have seen since the COVID-19 pandemic began and how residents can help to reduce that waste as the economy opens.

### **211 Call Center**

Residents with non-medical, non-emergency questions about the coronavirus can call 211 at any time, day or night.

Callers from landlines and cellular telephones located within San Mateo County are connected with a trained service professional from 211, a confidential service available in 180 languages.

You can also text your zip code to 898-211. The system will ask for your age and gender in order to understand your eligibility and needs. You can then ask a question and receive a text response from a 211 operator.

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