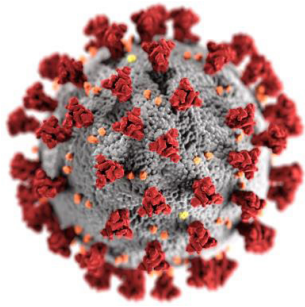




Sandoval County Now E-newsletter

May 2021



Coronavirus (COVID-19) Sandoval County Information and Resources [Click here for website](#)

COVID-19 Public Health Requirements

- Foremost, please stay home if you are sick. Period.
- Masks are mandatory in public, non-compliance can result in a \$100 fine
- Mandatory 14-day isolation period for all out-of-state travel and/or visitors
- Practice social distancing -- be aware of your surroundings and others near you
- Adhere to the six-foot rule and stay at home except as needed for grocery shopping, medical assistance and exercise
- Limit group contact to five or fewer people
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash

New Mexico Department of Health:

- New Mexicans with COVID-19 related questions should call the coronavirus hotline at 855-600-3453
- Non-COVID-19 related questions or concerns, call 833-551-0518
- NMDOH COVID-19 Public Dashboard -- the data dashboard includes county-by-county breakdowns of positive cases by age, gender and ethnicity.

Up-to-date information about state mandates and information: www.newmexico.gov.

Information and resources from the CDC regarding coronavirus COVID-19: www.cdc.gov.

CDC fact sheets to read and/or download, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/factsheets.html>

Sandoval County moves into the Turquoise

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Department of Health on Wednesday announced the updated statewide COVID-19 map for the two-week period beginning May 5, with 30 New Mexico counties at the Turquoise Level, at which there are the fewest restrictions on commercial and day-to-day activities amid decreased virus risk. The majority of the state's counties remain at the least restrictive levels.

As of May 5, two counties are at the Green Level and one county remains at the Yellow Level; zero counties are at the Red Level.

Eight counties advanced to a less restrictive level since the most recent update to the map criteria: Bernalillo, Catron, Doña Ana, Hidalgo, Otero, Sandoval, San Juan, and Valencia.

Even as New Mexico rapidly vaccinates eligible populations with all available supply, it is



important that New Mexicans still seek out COVID-19 tests if they feel symptomatic, if they have traveled, if they have spent time unmasked in the company of others – particularly non-household members and particularly indoors. Getting tested not only helps slow the spread; it helps counties maintain their risk levels and advance to less restrictive levels when the viral risk in the community is sufficiently reduced. Please seek out COVID-19 testing at togethernm.org.

The state's county-by-county system uses key health metrics – the per-capita daily incidence of new COVID-19 cases, average COVID-19 test positivity within county borders and county vaccination rate – to determine the level of public health risk and requirement for each county. A county that meets one criterion may operate at the Yellow Level; a county that meets two may operate at the Green Level. A county that has met all three criteria, or two of three for two consecutive biweekly map updates, may operate at the Turquoise Level. Additionally, counties that reach the Turquoise Level will move to a four-week update, as opposed to biweekly.

Counties that may operate at the Turquoise Level as of May 5 are: Bernalillo, Cibola, Colfax, Curry, De Baca, Doña Ana, Eddy, Grant, Guadalupe, Harding, Hidalgo, Lea, Lincoln, Los Alamos, Luna, McKinley, Mora, Otero, Quay, Rio Arriba, Roosevelt, Sandoval, San Juan, San Miguel, Santa Fe, Sierra, Socorro, Taos, Torrance, and Union.

Counties that met both of the health metric thresholds and may operate at the Green Level as of May 5 are: Catron and Valencia.

Counties that met one of the health metric thresholds and may operate at the Yellow Level as of May 5 are: Chaves.

No counties must currently operate at the Red Level.

The color-coded tier system – Red Level, Yellow Level, Green Level and Turquoise Level – enables counties to shed restrictions and provide local communities the flexibility to operate more day-to-day activities as soon as public health data show the virus is retreating within their borders.

As of May 5, the health metrics used to determine a county's risk level are:

A new per-capita rate of new COVID-19 cases of no greater than 10 per 100,000 inhabitants over the most recent 14-day reporting period

An average positivity rate less than or equal to 7.5 percent over the most recent 14-day reporting period

A county with a fully vaccinated rate at or above a target (40% as of May 5) that increases 5% every other week as more vaccinations are completed

The public health order, the red-to-green framework and frequently asked questions are all available at cv.nmhealth.org/redtogreen, where New Mexicans can also view the test positivity rate and new case incidence for each county.

The categories and definitions for each risk level are available below and available at cv.nmhealth.org/redtogreen.

TURQUOISE LEVEL:

Counties at the Turquoise Level have three of the following or two of the following in two consecutive reporting periods: 1) a new COVID-19 average daily case incidence rate of no greater than 10 cases per 100,000 inhabitants during the most recent two-week period, 2) an average percent of positive COVID-19 test results less than or equal to 7.5%, or 3) a fully vaccinated rate at or above 40%.

Essential businesses (non-retail): No capacity restrictions but operations must be limited to only those absolutely necessary to carry out essential functions

Essential retail spaces: 75% of maximum capacity for indoor spaces and 100% outdoor

Food and drink establishments (if NM Safe Certified): 75% of maximum capacity for indoor dining; 75% of maximum capacity for outdoor dining

Close-contact businesses: 75% of maximum capacity; no restrictions on outdoor spaces

Large entertainment venues: 33% of maximum capacity for any indoor/enclosed space on premises; 75% of any outdoor space on premises

Recreational facilities: 50% of maximum capacity of any indoor/enclosed space on the premises; 75% of any outdoor space on premises

Bars and clubs: 33% of maximum capacity of any indoor/enclosed space on premises; 75% of any outdoor space on premises, where applicable

**All other businesses: 75% of maximum capacity indoors; no restrictions on outdoor spaces

Houses of worship: May operate at 100% capacity indoors or outdoors should they so choose

Places of lodging: No maximum occupancy restrictions for those that have completed NM Safe Certified training; 50% of maximum occupancy for all others; 15 guests maximum for vacation rentals

Mass gatherings limit: 150 persons

Going through the process again (Kaktus Brewery owner talks about reopening business)

By Stephen Montoya

BERNALILLO – its standing room only on a sunny Friday afternoon in April, as Kaktus Brewery Owner, Dana Koller, prepares to open his business for a second time.

Koller had to close his brewery back in November of 2020 because of social distancing guidelines mandated by the state during the start of the pandemic.

Since then, instead of offering packaged beer for take-out, Koller said he decided to use



that time to remodel the brewery in preparation for a new beginning.

“I can still remember opening for the first time in 2013,” he said reminiscing.

In fact, Koller said, he and his business partner Mark Matheson transformed a two car garage into what is now the Kaktus Brewery.

“It took about two years to build it out and after that the rest is kind of history,” he said.

Now, Koller said the brewery has a fresher look with new tables and a covered patio that extends outward over the stage area that was once open.

Other additions include a back patio with new outdoor furnishings with a bar, and pavement settings in place of the gravel that used to be in the front patio area.

“We would like to pay ourselves more, but every year we always talk ourselves into reinvesting into the company and that is what’s made these upgrades possible,” he said.

Besides the upgrades at the brewery, Koller said he is still pushing for sustainability practices in health and wellness at the brewery.

“This comes from an environment where we want the best ingredients for our beer and we also want the best ingredients for our food,” he said. “Our rule of thumb is we won’t serve anything we wouldn’t eat or drink ourselves.”

This means all of Kaktus Brewery’s food is sustainably farmed, antibiotic free, with no fillers or artificial flavors, he said.

“This also promotes what I call a circular economy,” Koller said. “This means we get some use out of all of our products.”

For example, the spent grains used to brew the beer at the Kaktus Brewery are sent to local farmers so they can feed their livestock.

“We are stepping that up this year pretty aggressively, now that I get to come back to the business full-time,” he said. “This means we can bring our chickens back on to the property and people can feed them, which is really fun.”

Koller said he is also working on getting more landscaping done and building a rain harvesting system that he will use to irrigate the property with.



“We want to get certified in the near future to use our own crops and eggs as part of our farm-to-table efforts,” he said.

Without the town of Bernalillo and people like Mike Kloepfel, Director of Economic and Community Development for the town of Bernalillo, Koller said the brewery would have had a very difficult time trying to stay afloat.

“It was already challenging trying to get through the pandemic, but without the support we received from different grants and loans, it would be hard to say where this business would’ve

ended up,” he said.

Koller said he took advantage of two (Paycheck Protection Program) loans, an SBA loan and a Cares Act Loan to keep the brewery running.

“We took on another \$40,000 in debt to stay alive and make improvements, he said, which is always good if you can pay it back.”

Koller said he’s heard several of his competitors announce that they were going out of business permanently, which was the catalyst for him to push forward and keep going.

Koller also got licensing for wholesale and package distribution in case he wouldn’t be able to reopen to the public.

“We weren’t that excited about changing our business model, but this was something we were prepared to do in case things continued,” he said. “But we were able to weather the storm and now we are excited to be reopen for business.”

Jack Torres, Mayor of the town of Bernalillo, said he is happy to see many of the local businesses in his area still moving forward.

“I think right now, everybody’s in that ‘what’s next,’ sort of atmosphere,” he said. “We’re starting to sort of see some daylight though, and I find that promising.”

Torres said having a vaccine site at the town of Bernalillo Recreation Center has helped many of the town’s residents feel confident, which has shown at the local business level.

“I am glad to see Dana (Koller) is still up and running since a few of our local businesses haven’t made it through, unfortunately,” he said.

Koller said his main customer base has been very supportive and have come back pretty fast upon the brewery reopening.

“To be honest I feel we are doing fairly well,” he said. “The numbers are showing us signs of early success and if things keep going the way they are I believe we don’t have anything to worry about.”

Box

Kaktus Brewery

471 South Hill, Bernalillo, NM 87004

505-818-7285

www.kaktusbrewery.com

Sandoval County Bureau of Elections Warehouse gets new camera system



BERNALILLO – It’s been a long time coming, but now after nearly a decade, the Sandoval County Bureau of Elections Warehouse is getting a new surveillance camera system. According to Sandoval County Clerk, Anne Brady-Romero, this should’ve been in place many years ago. “We are just beginning to catch up where we need to be as a Class A County,” she said. “This is the kind of thing I wanted to make sure got done when I was elected into office.” Brady-Romero said she wanted to push for this initiative after Sandoval County Commissioner F. Kenneth Eichwald said he wanted the county elections to be “Crystal Clear”. “This is how we take that first step to adhere to his wishes,” she said. Seven surveillance cameras are currently being installed on the inside of the BOE Warehouse, with five more being installed on the exterior of the building. The cost for this project was over \$32,000 and will take several days to complete. “Increasing election security is a priority for my office and this project is one of the first projects, I am overseeing” she said.



1st 100 Days

in your service

January 1,
April 11, 2021

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MISSION

Your Records.
Your Elections.
Our Responsibility.

Our responsibility to maintain accurate and accessible records. Our responsibility to faithfully, and impartially administer your elections and protect your Fifteenth Amendment.



- Developed Job Aids for uniformity in compliance with State Statute for every function in the Records Division.
- 90% complete with the Digitization project of Marriage Licenses.
- Developed Cash Handling Procedures and trained staff.
- Staff is attending training and weekly coaching for quality improvement.
- Corrected UCC recording fees and plats to be in compliance with State Statute.
- Negotiating electronic records transfer for companies purchasing the records via FTP.
- Implemented a ticketing system to better serve the Constituents doing business at the Office.
- Implemented a sign-in process at the Bureau of Elections warehouse to be compliant with State Statute
- Surveillance Cameras will be installed at the Bureau of Elections Warehouse this fiscal year.
- Began outreach with Native American leadership within the County.

Sandoval County Office and Department Availability



- Assessor's Office

Open Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed 12pm - 1pm. Appointments recommended.

- Bureau of Elections

Open with limited staff.

- County Clerk's Office

Open Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Appointments are recommended due to limited staff. Wedding licenses will be available by appointment only from 9 a.m to 4 p.m. Monday - Friday. Call 505-867-7572 for an appointment.

- Human Resources

Open Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Due to limited staff, please call or email with inquiries.

- Planning and Zoning

Open Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed between 12-1pm. Submittals can be processed electronically or dropped off at window. Individual meetings must be approved by Director.

- Probate Court

The Sandoval County Probate court will be operating at a reduced level starting July 16, 2020.

Read Notice

Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.

- Treasurer's Office

Is open for normal business hours from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. The Treasurer's Office will be closed for lunch from 1 p.m.- 2 p.m. during non-tax season. The Treasurer's Office will return to an 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. with no lunch closure during the first half of tax season (November 10 - December 10) and the second half of tax season (April 10 - May 10).

2021



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County Holiday / Observances:

- January 1 - New Year's Day
- January 18 - Martin Luther King Day
- May 31 - Memorial Day
- July 5 - Independence Day
- September 6 - Labor Day
- November 11 - Veterans Day
- November 25-26 - Thanksgiving Day
- December 24 & 27 - Christmas

To be taken within the Calendar year.

- (2) 8 hour Administrative Leave Days

Board of Finance

Start time of 5:00 p.m.

Sandoval County Commission

Meetings

Start time of 6:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Commission

Start time of 4:30 p.m.

County Pay Days

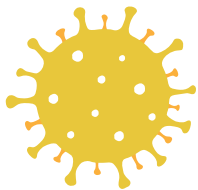
All meetings held in the County Commission Chambers located at: 1500 Idalia Road, Building D - 3rd Floor Bernalillo, NM 87004

TALK

COVID
Crisis Counseling

Call Now
505-954-1057
It's Free & Anonymous

Step 1



Concerned

Step 2



Feeling
Anxious &
Overwhelmed

Step 3



Call Us
& Talk

Step 4



Feel Better



If you or someone you know
is experiencing overwhelming anxiety or
grief, reach out to talk to someone
free and anonymous at
505-954-1057
Help is available.

You are not alone.
Reach out anytime & anywhere.

Free and anonymous talk counseling.

Call 505-954-1057

TALK: COVID Crisis Counseling



HUMAN SERVICES
DEPARTMENT

Behavioral Health Services Division
New Mexico Crisis and Access Line