FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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From: Public Information Officer Zachary Gately

The Plumas County Public Health Agency reminds residents and visitors who are not yet vaccinated against COVID-19 that face coverings are still required in indoor public spaces and at work.

The highly contagious delta variant of the coronavirus is spreading rapidly and causing the number of COVID-19 cases to increase across the United States. Outbreaks of COVID-19 are occurring mostly in unvaccinated people, leading to rising numbers of hospitalizations and deaths. The number of new COVID-19 cases in California has more than quadrupled in the last two weeks.

Since the delta variant of the coronavirus has been detected in Plumas County and the surrounding area, it is especially important to follow the current prevention guidance from the [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#) (CDC) and the [California Department of Public Health](#) (CDPH).

In California, **masks are required for *unvaccinated people* in indoor public places,** including businesses and workplaces, **and for *everyone* on public transportation, in schools and in healthcare facilities**. (Children less than 2 years old and people with certain medical conditions are exempt from these requirements).

Plumas County Health Officer Dr. Mark Satterfield said "It's heartbreaking to see COVID outbreaks among people who still haven't gotten the vaccine when they can be prevented so safely and easily. In Plumas County we're seeing more outbreaks that affect entire families, including younger children who aren't yet eligible for the vaccine. The best way to prevent this is to get vaccinated as soon as you can and to wear a mask in public until you are fully vaccinated."

Dr. Dana Loomis, Director of Public Health, added, "I understand that some people still have questions about the vaccines, but real-world experience shows that they are very safe and prevent sickness and death from COVID-19, including the new variant strains. Our data suggest that vaccination has been 98% effective in preventing COVID-19 in Plumas County. But for people who don't want to be vaccinated, it's especially important to wear a mask indoors to reduce the risk of getting infected and passing the virus to others, most importantly your family and friends."

Vaccines for COVID-19 are free and easy to get at hospitals in Quincy and Portola, pharmacies in Chester and Quincy, and from the Plumas County Public Health Agency. More information about how to get the vaccine can be found on the Plumas County Public Health Agency web site: https://www.plumascounty.us/2839/COVID-19-Home.

For answers to questions about the safety of COVID-19 vaccines, see our [FAQ](#) or call 530-283-6330 to arrange to talk with our Health Officer, Dr. Satterfield, about your concerns.