



City of Red Lake Falls

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Allen Bertilrud, Mayor

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Neil Knaack, Council Member 2nd Ward

Cheryl Matzke, Council Member 3rd Ward
Justin Carriere, Council Member at Large
Briana Ingraham, Council Member at Large

November 13, 2020

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I write to you with an urgent request: for the health and safety of your friends, your family and your community, please wear a mask whenever you are out in public.

I know, it is easy to give in to COVID fatigue or let our guard down about distancing and mask wearing around family and friends that we know. But the truth of the matter, as stated by public health officials, is the virus is out in the community spreading in the most regular of situations at a record-breaking pace. Sure, we could allow ourselves to think we might as well just accept the virus and do nothing while we wait for 'herd immunity' - that would be the easiest thing to do. But we as a community are better than that! We here in Red Lake Falls care deeply about the well-being of our neighbors, including those among us who, because of age or prior health issues are deemed at high risk for death or serious complication from COVID-19. You and I both know that Every. Single. Person. in our community deserves the best that we can do to protect them from the deadly effects this virus wreaks on these vulnerable fellow citizens of our town. And we can ALL do something TO protect them: wear a mask, every outing, every time. Keep your distance and wash your hands regularly. A mask, when worn correctly (over your nose and mouth) protects not only you, but your loved ones, your neighbors, your friends. Teach your children, teens included, how to follow these steps so they don't inadvertently spread the virus to their aging relatives. Let them be a part of the solution and not part of those in their generation spreading the virus to those who can't fight it off as easily.

We are sprinting towards a level that may require more closures and more shut downs. If you don't want to see your fellow business owners and schools be forced to shut down, help slow the spread by listening to the medical professionals across the globe and wear a mask. These front line workers are not only witnessing first hand the quickly filling hospital beds, but also they are seeing patients come in with the lasting, ongoing effects of a virus we still know so little about. Take a look around at your friends, family and neighbors and help them by doing your part now to slow the spread. Please help us, join us as we come together to fight back against the virus claiming the lives of our friends and family by wearing a mask, every outing, every time. You can find Intercounty Nursing COVID guidance and information at: <http://www.intercountynursingservice.com/>.

Thank you for all you're doing to keep our loved ones safe.

Sincerely,
Allen Bertilrud
Mayor, City of Red Lake Falls