



October 20, 2020

To the Wray Community:

The past months have presented many changes and challenges. We are all feeling the fatigue and heaviness of the pandemic. I continue to be grateful to live, work, and raise my family in this great community.

Unfortunately, October has brought a surge of new COVID-19 cases across the country, and cases have recently been on the rise in Wray. Due to this rise, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) recently revoked the Yuma County variance conditions to Safer at Home public health orders. The result of the revocation, places Yuma County on the statewide COVID-19 Dial, level determinants, and guidelines and restrictions.

In addition, the CDPHE has moved Yuma County from Level 1: Protect our Neighbors, to Safer at Home Level 2: Concern. This level determination results in changes to capacity limits and restrictions. Overall status and CDPHE restrictions can be found on the CDPHE COVID-19 Dial Dashboard. More information can also be found at www.cityofwray.org, or by contacting City Hall at 970-332-4431.

I am disappointed in the loss of our locally administered variance. We are now at a greater risk of CDPHE moving Yuma County and the City of Wray to progressively more restrictive capacity limits and requirements.

For the health and vitality of the Wray Community, I believe it is imperative that:

1. Local businesses remain open and operating at the highest capacity possible;
2. Our students receive the education they deserve with in person instruction in our schools;
3. Our hospital and local health care providers are able to maintain resources necessary to provide care to members of our community.

We are all feeling the fatigue of the pandemic and there are many aspects of the pandemic that are out of our control. Please consider the decisions we can be in control of:

1. If you, or members of your family are sick, stay home;
2. Frequently wash your hands;
3. Reconsider attending or hosting large gatherings;
4. Practice social distancing

Wray has a deep history of overcoming unique challenges, doing so while demonstrating integrity and innovation, and finding collaborative solutions that best meet the needs of our community. Our businesses, hospital, and schools need our community spirit now as much as ever. Let's pull together to make choices that keep our kids in school, our businesses open, and our health care community thriving. As strongly as ever, I believe in Wray!

James DePue
Wray City Manager