

City of Fremont Update

Date: May 8, 2020

To: City Employees/ City Boards/ Mayor & City Council

Ricketts Says Goal is 3,000 COVID-19 Tests per Day

Governor Ricketts said the state will ramp up testing with a goal of testing 3,000 Nebraskans per day. So far, nearly 130,000 Grand Island and Omaha residents have signed up for testing and more than 160,000 online assessments have been completed. Ricketts also said the state has six teams of about 200 people conducting contact tracing and an additional 100 people are in training to expand the number of contact tracing teams to 10. The Nebraska National Guard has been helping the state conduct mass testing across the state. Fremont's third mass testing event will be conducted Sunday. Here is the link for the www.TestNebraska.com website.

Many State Directed Health Measures Expire Sunday

On Monday, May 11, many of the State's Directed Health Measures are being eased as the state moves towards reopening businesses across the state. On Monday, many businesses in Dodge, Saunders, and Washington Counties will be able to reopen albeit with restrictions. Restaurants will be able to open dining rooms, but only at 50% of maximum occupancy and tables must be spaced 6' apart and only six people can sit at a table. Beauty, nail and tattoo salons, barbershops, and massage therapists can also open. All other businesses must remain closed until May 31 or until the directives are amended. State Health Directives can be found on the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services website <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/COVID-19-Directed-Health-Measures.aspx>.

Cover Installed on Lagoon #2

The picture on the right is the newly installed cover over lagoon #2. The rubber membrane cover is used to capture the methane gas that is produced as the waste in the lagoon breaks down. The cover will be fitted with a series of weights (not shown in the picture) to keep the wind from blowing the cover off and to help force methane out from under the cover into the scrubbing plant.



Three lagoons are currently under construction and each lagoon can hold up to 6.4 million gallons of industrial waste. All of the methane gas produced by the lagoons will be injected into the City's natural gas lines after the water and impurities have been scrubbed out.

200 Years Ago, Doctor Jenner Stumbled Across a Smallpox Cure

200 years ago, historians estimate that as many as 2 billion people died of smallpox. It is said that either you got it or you did not and then you either survived it or you did not; sound familiar? Today modern epidemiology has eliminated smallpox as a threat to civilization.

There is no job so important and no service so urgent that we cannot take the time to do the work safely!

In 1743, when Thomas Jefferson was born, there was an experimental inoculation procedure for smallpox, but it was quite dangerous and therefore very controversial. The idea was to give healthy individuals a very tiny amount of actual smallpox under quarantine and under controlled conditions and simply hope the person's immune system would be strong enough to fight it off. Survival would immunize that individual for life. Jefferson traveled to Philadelphia in 1766 to be inoculated, because he wanted to protect himself from the disease and study the procedure.

It was not until 1796, when English physician Edward Jenner remembered an English milkmaid say, "I shall never have smallpox for I have had cowpox." Doctor Jenner, without an understanding of how germs work and no knowledge of anything called a virus, realized that cowpox must be closely related to smallpox, and that surviving it seemed to make individuals immune to the more deadly disease. Dr. Jenner inoculated an eight-year-old boy with cowpox and he developed a mild fever; ten days later, he felt fine. Two months later, he inoculated the boy again, but this time with smallpox serum. No disease developed. The smallpox vaccine had been born.

Our term vaccination dates from this event as vaccination comes from the Latin word for cow, "vacca." Today, as scientists search for a vaccination for the Novel Coronavirus, one only has to look back in history to see the common links between viruses and their cures.

Transmission Line Pole Replaced

City crews replaced a transmission line pole on the corner of 20th Street and Luther Road. The 70-foot pole was replaced because of substantial rot found at the ground line. Before replacing the pole, crews de-energized the 69,000-volt transmission lines (six wires on top) and covered up (orange covers in the photo) and/or moved the eight 13,800-volt distribution wires out of the way.

This is one of the City's more complicated (and congested) poles because it has two transmission circuits as well as two distribution circuits on the same pole. These complications cause crews to take extra safety precautions before tackling the job.



COVID-19 statistics. Please note that each underlined title is a hyperlink to that organization's website.

Nebraska [Department of Health and Human Services Dashboard](#)
7,190 positive cases — 33,222 negative tests — 90 deaths

Dodge County **138 positive cases — 672 negative tests**

United States The **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** [website](#):
1,219,066 cases — 73,297 deaths <https://www.cdc.gov/covid19>.

Globally [World Health Organization Situation Report](#)
3,672,238 cases — 245,045 deaths

[Johns Hopkins University of Medicine COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
3,866,642 cases — 270,118 deaths

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