

January 8, 2021

Covid-19 What Should You Do?

Press Release

Hello, this is Ron Woody, Roane County Executive, with a January 8th 1:30 pm Covid-19 update. I want to share some information from a couple of meetings with local Mayors and the State Department of Health and State Emergency Management Agency that we have had this week, and also a number of informational emails we received.

First, I want to acknowledge the frustration that everyone has had with communication. Most all County Mayors have had phone systems that have crashed due to the volume of calls. We have also experienced issues with websites that were accepting appointment scheduling. As we previously suggested, to register on Eventbrite, now that system software is no longer being used. Don't go to Eventbrite.

Second, the biggest issue all counties are having is a **limited supply** of vaccines. If there were unlimited supplies, individuals would be going to doctor's offices, clinics, and pharmacies.

We have and will for a period of time have **limited supply**.

The current primary service organization is the Health Department, and from one day to the next, the Health Department does not know if they will get a shipment of the vaccine and if they do, how many doses.

Third, even with all these issues, Tennessee is ranking in the top ten states for doses used and administered. The distribution to the State is controlled by the Federal Government.

What should you do?

I recommend that you go to the State website <https://covid19.tn.gov>. From this site you can:

1. Register your email for new updates.
2. See what phase of vaccination your county (Roane) is in the vaccination process.
3. You can health screen yourself by answering questions to help determine if you may have the virus.
4. Review data about the state and county.

Again, the website is <https://covid19.tn.gov>.

Here is a little bit about our numbers. About one (1) out of every 11 individuals in Roane County have had the virus. Two (2) of our Regional Mayors said this on a call this morning. "You will get the vaccine or the virus, and if you get the virus it may not be too bad."

Remember, due to the limited supply of doses, vaccinations are by appointment only. The local Health Department phone number is 865-354-1220.

RW/ba
C:media

