

Links to Information for the Coronavirus Vaccine and Other Topics Related to the Water and Wastewater Industry

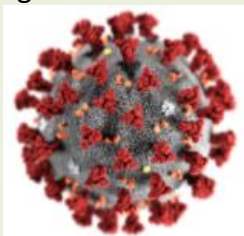
CDC COVID-19 Vaccines Page – click on image:



What to expect at your vaccine appointment – click on image:



General Coronavirus information as gathered and updated by WEF – click on image:



## UTILITIES ENCOURAGED TO ADVOCATE FOR COVID-19 VACCINE PRIORITY

Unless something goes wrong, municipal utilities and their workers typically operate under the public's radar. That can be a blessing and a curse for these essential workers who are responsible for everything from safely delivering water and treating wastewater to garbage hauling and street maintenance. The COVID-19 pandemic underlined how truly essential these employees are to their communities as they kept communities operational while it seemed like much of the world stopped.

The Federal government has designated water and wastewater utility employees essential workers, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) [COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Playbook for Jurisdiction Operations](#) lists these employees as eligible for Phase 1-B distribution priority.

In Montana, public utility workers are currently designated as 1-C priority, but consideration should be given to possibly increasing their prioritization to receive the vaccine. The Montana Section of AWWA and Montana WEA encourage utility managers to contact their state public health authorities to request priority access to vaccines for your staff as soon as they are available.

On a national level, AWWA, WEF, and other water associations created a [template letter](#) for utilities to use when contacting their State and local health authorities. Questions can be directed to [Kevin Morley](#) ([kmorley@awwa.org](mailto:kmorley@awwa.org)), Federal Relations Manager for AWWA.

It truly is a matter of public safety that we advocate for our essential workers in the utility sector to keep our communities functioning properly as we continue to respond to the impacts of COVID-19.