



ISLAND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Administration

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ISLAND COUNTY COVID-19 Updated Community Guidance

July 15, 2021

For schools (2021/22) please see [this updated information](#).

Starting this month, Community Guidance will be sent out twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month. What this means for the month of July, is that there will be no Community Guidance on July 22nd or July 29th. The next Community Guidance will be published on August 5th.

Island County Public Health wants to make sure that the citizens of Island County have access to reliable guidance surrounding COVID-19. We update guidance weekly to help inform our community. For archived copies of this community guidance, visit the COVID-19 section of our [webpage](#).

Numbers and Data

A case rate of 55.41 cases per 100,000 was calculated for the two-week period of July 2nd, 2021 to July 15th, 2021. Island County has 1,926 confirmed COVID-19 cases, including 29 deaths. *Note, Surveillance numbers will be updated every Thursday. Current numbers are posted on our COVID webpage.

Update from Department of Health (DOH)

Newest numbers: DOH reported a total of 420,214 confirmed cases as of 11:59 p.m. on July 13th. There have been 6,027 COVID-19 deaths in Washington. For the most recent tally of cases by county, demographics, and more, visit the [Department of Health's Dashboard](#) and the [Washington Ready and COVID-19 Risk Assessment Dashboard](#). Race and ethnicity data are included on the DOH dashboards, as well as in specific reports.

VACCINE DOSES GIVEN

Total number of COVID-19 vaccination doses administered in Island County by a vaccine provider:

98,898

Last updated: 7/12/21 at 11:59pm.

[Data provided via WA DOH](#)

Mobile Vaccination Team Events

Island County continues to provide mobile vaccination events.

Current locations are:

- ➔ July 15th to 18th Whidbey Island Fair, Langley 12:00pm to 5:00pm each day.
- ➔ **On July 16th from 1:00pm to 2:00pm - Keith Higman, Island County's Public Health Director, will be at the Whidbey Island Fair to answer questions regarding COVID and COVID Vaccines.**

These vaccination events are open to the public. All three vaccines, Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson, available! Ages 12+ welcome! No appointment, ID, or insurance necessary. Stop by and get your vaccine! Our Mobile Vaccination Team can come to your organization or facility to give vaccines. Pop-up events can be established at most locations for a walk-up style clinic.

Schedule a Mobile Vaccination Clinic or Pop-Up Clinic today by contacting Liz Smith by email at e.smith@islandcountywa.gov or by phone at 360-320-5000. Watch our [webpage](#) for more dates to be added!

Camano Fire Update

After closing for public use in March 2020, Camano Island Fire and Rescue is reopening most of its facilities for public use. Community members can now book public meeting rooms at Station 2, Country Club, and Station 4, Vista/Madrona. Meeting rooms at Station 5, Mabana, and the Camano Fire Administrative Office at Terry's Corner remain closed to the public. In-person public education classes – such as CPR and first aid – also remain on hold. "It's been a challenge to meet community needs while at the same time keeping our crews safe and healthy," Chief Levon Yengoyan said. "We appreciate everyone's continued flexibility and understanding as we begin getting back to this new normal."

To reserve a meeting room, please call 360-387-1512 or email info@camanofire.com.

Read the article from which this information came from [here](#).

CDC & FDA Update

On July 8th, the CDC and FDA released a statement regarding Vaccine Boosters, stating that Americans who have been fully vaccinated do not need a booster shot at this time. The FDA, CDC, and NIH are engaged in a science-based, rigorous process to consider whether or when a booster might be necessary. This process takes into account laboratory data, clinical trial data, and cohort data – which can include data from specific pharmaceutical companies, but does not rely on those data exclusively. The FDA, CDC, and NIH continue to review any new data as it becomes available and will keep the public informed. The FDA, CDC, and NIH are prepared for booster doses if and when the science demonstrates that they are needed.

Read the media statement from which this information came [here](#).

Governor Jay Inslee / Washington State Department of Health Update

On July 13th, Gov. Jay Inslee gave advance notice of the termination of two proclamations related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Advance notice is provided to give stakeholders time to adjust their procedures.

[Proclamation 20-51](#)

This proclamation waives/suspends laws that created barriers to holding community association meetings remotely and also waives/suspends statutes that permit the imposition and collection of fees for late payment of community assessments. This proclamation will expire at 11:59 PM on July 24.

This session the Legislature passed [SB 5011](#) which will allow electronic meeting and notice provisions for community associations. The bill goes into effect on July 25.

Read the full proclamation [here](#).

[Proclamation 20-82](#)

This proclamation delayed implementation of [SB 5323](#), which passed the Legislature in the 2020 session and established a statewide prohibition on retailers' issuance of single-use plastic bags. The delay was necessary due to supply issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This proclamation will expire at 11:59 PM on September 30, upon its expiration the plastic bag ban as passed the legislature will go into effect.

Read the full proclamation [here](#).

Read the article from which this information came from [here](#).

On July 12th, Gov. Jay Inslee issued an update to the emergency order addressing institutions of higher education (IHEs), [Proclamation 20-12](#).

The updated order removes the requirement that IHEs obtain an attestation of vaccination status from non-vaccinated students and makes other technical changes. The order goes into effect immediately, and will remain in effect until rescinded or otherwise amended. These changes are being made at the request of state community and technical colleges in order to simplify administrative procedures.

Read the full proclamation [here](#).

Read the article from which this information came [here](#).

Office of the Insurance Commissioner Update

On July 9th, Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler has extended two emergency orders. His [order requiring health insurers to waive copays](#) and deductibles for any consumer requiring testing for the coronavirus (COVID-19) and his [order protecting consumers from receiving surprise bills](#) for lab fees related to medically necessary diagnostic testing for COVID-19 are both extended until Aug. 8, 2021.

Read the article from which this information came from [here](#).

On July 7th, Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler issued [a data call of 124 auto insurance companies](#) for recent rebates given to policyholders during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kreidler is requesting claims data for private passenger auto claims from 2016-2020 and how the insurers applied any COVID-19-related refunds in 2020. Responses are due July 30.

"I want to see what premiums consumers paid during the pandemic and the companies' claims costs," said Kreidler.

"We know that people drove less and had fewer accidents. If this resulted in fewer claims, then insurers need to look at the rates they charged. If they're excessive, they should make it up to their policyholders."

Read the article from which this information came from [here](#).

Masking Update

On July 9th, the CDC updated its guidance, regarding mask wearing for fully-vaccinated individuals, for K-12 Schools and Early Care & Education/Child Care Programs.

Read the full article about guidance for K-12 Schools [here](#).

Read the full article about guidance for Early Care & Education/Child Care Programs [here](#).

Masking for Businesses: Is it clear who must wear masks when customers walk into your business? Many customers have difficulty discerning the protocols to follow without a sign on the door, letting them know. We have flyers [here](#) that you can print out to clear up the confusion. They are available in both English and Spanish.

Vaccine Information

- Many providers have open appointments with walk-ins available.
- Johnson & Johnson is a one-shot vaccine.

- Pfizer and Moderna are a two-shot series, make sure your second dose is completed.
- Pfizer is currently approved for those 12 and older. If you are a young adult, search for Pfizer on the [vaccine locator](#).

Are you or someone you know experiencing vaccine hesitancy? The Washington State Department of Health is a great resource for addressing vaccine hesitancy. Visit the Washington State Department of Health's [resource page](#) about "Addressing Vaccine Hesitancy" for more details.

Island County Public Health

Island County is participating in the distribution of Everlywell COVID test kits. This is a free resource to the public. To be eligible, individuals must be Island County residents that are having a hard time locating COVID-19 testing (this includes timely access). The Everlywell test kits can only be picked up at our Camano and Coupeville offices. Please call the COVID-19 Call Center at 360-678-2301 to have the qualifying survey completed, or complete the survey here: [Cognito Forms](#). Once the survey is completed, there will be a follow-up call to ensure eligibility, and then a pick-up location for the test kit will be chosen.

The Island County Public Health COVID-19 webpage is an excellent resource with links for specific guidance updates. Click [here](#) to find the resources you need.

Thank You

Island County Public Health would like to continue to thank our community. This has impacted us all over the past year and we have come together as a community. #IslandCountyProud moving forward, together!

More Information

If you have questions or concerns about COVID-19 in Island County, start by visiting our [website](#), [Facebook page](#), or email us at PubHealth@IslandCountyWa.gov. If you would like to speak to someone directly about COVID-19, the COVID Call Center can be reached at **360-678-2301**; Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 4:30pm. We also offer our COVID-19 Information Line: **360-678-5111 ext. 6000**. This is a pre-recorded message in English and Spanish for community members to call for general information about COVID-19.

The [WA DOH COVID-19 Vaccine website](#) remains the most up-to-date source of information regarding the safety, phasing and availability of COVID-19 vaccine in Washington, as well as the [Centers for Disease Control](#).

Community Guidance will be sent out via GovDelivery using a COVID-19 specific distribution list. To continue receiving Community Guidance, sign up by visiting Island County's webpage at <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/Pages/COVID-19.aspx>. Scroll to the bottom of the page to "Sign up for email updates" and enter your email address.