



ISLAND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Administration

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ISLAND COUNTY COVID-19 Updated Community Guidance May 27, 2020

Island County Public Health wants to make sure that the citizens of Island County have access to reliable guidance surrounding COVID-19. We will be updating our guidance to the community weekly and hope that you use this to help inform and empower yourself and our community.

Transitioning into Phase II

On May 23, Island County received approval to advance into Phase II of the Governor's Safe Start [reopening plan](#). We are cautiously optimistic as we look to the future and consider what reopening means for our community. Continue to follow proper social distancing, masking and hygiene measures.

- An individual business is only allowed to reopen after it can implement the state guidelines for a safe start. The [WA State Coronavirus Response Safe Start webpage](#) provides customized guidelines for businesses to follow as they begin reopening services under Phase II.
- While various outdoor recreation opportunities are reopening to the public, camping remains prohibited within Island County at this time. The Governor's office has recently released [updated guidance](#) pertaining to outdoor tennis facilities, paddle sports, guided fishing, zoos, and more.
- Community members who wish to report a business in potential violation of Phase II orders should submit comments to the [Governor's web portal](#). Please demonstrate patience and understanding while our community transitions into Phase II. Education and outreach remain a priority as we continue to support Island County residents and local businesses.

Island County COVID-19 Testing

Island County Public Health, in a collaborative effort with WhidbeyHealth and various partners, opened COVID-19 testing to all Island County residents 18+ years of age on May 12. Over 2,600 individuals have been tested throughout Camano Island, and South, Central, and North Whidbey Island. Many significant contributions made this testing effort possible, including community participation, volunteer service, diligent staff, and robust partnerships.

- At this time, all results received for COVID-19 tests collected between May 12 and 21 have been negative. Updates will follow as results are received.
- Staff have attempted to contact all pre-registered participants tested from May 12-16 with test results. Individuals tested the week of May 18, both pre-registered and not, will only be called with notification of positive test results.

- Pre-registered participants have online access to results through the [WhidbeyHealth hospital patient portal](#).

Support Our Community

As we move towards reopening Island County, consider the safety, health, and happiness of our fellow community members.

- Continue wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. Wash cloth face coverings and hands frequently.
- Regular self-checks regarding social media habits may help support mental and emotional well-being. Limiting the amount of time spent on social media, following things that bring joy, and spreading facts not fear could minimize additional feelings of worry, anxiety, and exhaustion. Social media can be an effective tool for sharing helpful information, when used appropriately. Encourage others to spread reliable information from credible sources, which may include:
 - [Island County Public Health](#)
 - [Washington Governor Jay Inslee](#)
 - [Washington State Department of Health](#)
 - [The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- Practice patience and compassion with others as we adjust to the many ongoing changes taking place. In addition to practicing safe social distancing and hygiene measures, respectful communication and consideration are essential parts of supporting our fellow community members and local businesses.

Contact Us

If you have questions or concerns about COVID-19 in Island County, start by visiting our [website](#) or our [Facebook](#) page.

Public can contact the Island County call center at **360.678.2301**.

Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.