



## ISLAND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

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## ISLAND COUNTY COVID-19 Updated Community Guidance July 28, 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.

### **Adjusted Phase 3 Limits**

Island County is currently in Phase 3 of the Governor's Safe Start Reopening plan. Adjusted restrictions will continue to go into effect over the next two weeks.

- The number of individuals allowed in social gatherings during Phase 3 has been reduced to 10 people per week. Live entertainment is currently banned in indoor and outdoor settings. See the [announcement](#) for full details.
- Effective July 30, a reduced occupancy limitation will be placed on restaurants and centers for fitness, entertainment, and recreation, with [additional restrictions](#) applying to each facility.
- Effective August 10, wedding and funeral receptions will be prohibited, with ceremonies limited to maximum occupancy of 20% (both indoor and outdoor), or up to 30 people, whichever is less, as long as social distancing can be observed. Note: the previous effective date of August 6 has been [changed](#) to August 10 at 12:01 AM.

### **Face Covering Order Expanded**

A statewide mandatory [facial covering order](#) is currently in effect. This requirement applies to both indoor and outdoor activities taking place in public spaces, with certain exceptions.

- On Saturday, July 25, the [order expanded](#) to require face coverings in all common spaces, such as elevators, hallways and shared spaces in apartment buildings, university housing and hotels, as well as congregate setting such as nursing homes.
- [Businesses must](#) require all employees and customers to comply with the statewide face covering order. Potential violations may be reported through the Governor's new [online portal](#).
- Cloth face coverings act as a simple barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people, thereby [reducing the risk of COVID-19 spread](#).

## **Connect with DOH**

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) recently launched the Community Recovery-Oriented Needs Assessment, or the CORONA survey. The survey is an effort to assess the behavioral, economic, social, and emotional impacts and the needs of communities across the state as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.

- The CORONA survey results will inform immediate, long-term, and ongoing actions that DOH and local health jurisdictions can take to address the impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak on Washingtonians.
- Visit [www.wacoronasurvey.com](http://www.wacoronasurvey.com) to take part in the survey. To take the survey by phone, call 855-530-5787—interpreters are available to assist. The survey is voluntary and confidential.

## **Increased COVID-19 Spread**

COVID-19 transmission is increasing throughout Washington State. Do your part to prevent further spread.

- According to the July 23 WA Dept. of Health (DOH) [Situation Report](#), COVID-19 transmission continues to increase across most of Washington State. Though continued growth is expected, reproductive estimates are generally lower than those of the [previous report](#).
- Avoid all non-essential travel. At this time, all surrounding counties remain in Phase 2 of the Safe Start Reopening plan. Travel associated with these counties may result in increased risk of COVID-19 transmission. Before necessary traveling, research destinations to assess exposure risk using the [Phase and Risk Assessment Dashboard](#) and [COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#).
- Continue to limit group gatherings, stay six-feet away from others, stay home if you are sick, wash your hands often, and wear a face covering in public spaces.

## **Embrace Available Resources**

As we do our best to navigate through this challenging time, it is particularly important to give and receive support in the ways that we are able to. Some available resources are listed below.

- Island County has been awarded funds under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”). Individuals and families impacted by COVID-19 should complete the [online referral form](#) or call the Human Services Help Line at 360.678.2346 to learn more.
- The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC) will [offer services remotely](#) until Sept. 30. In lieu of in-person visits, WIC may enroll new applicants, provide nutrition education and breastfeeding support and issue food benefits by phone or video chat.
- The U.S. Small Business Administration [Paycheck Protection Program \(PPP\)](#) has resumed accepting applications. The new deadline to apply for a PPP loan is Aug. 8. This is a loan designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep workers on the payroll.
- Visit the Washington State Department of Commerce [website](#) to locate drive-in Wi-Fi hotspots that provide free, temporary emergency internet access for Washingtonians.

## **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**