



ISLAND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Administration

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ISLAND COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE: COMMERCE and WORKERS

March 20, 2020

Island County Public Health wants to keep you as informed as possible about continuing developments surrounding novel coronavirus and our response within the county. On March 18th, Governor Jay Inslee announced substantial measures for Washington State businesses and workers.

New Measures

1. There is a statewide moratorium on evictions of residential tenants for the next 30 days.
2. All public utilities in Washington state were called on to suspend disconnection tariffs for nonpayment during this emergency, waive late fees for customers who are out of work or offer customers payment plans, and expand bill assistance programs for customers who are economically impacted by this emergency.
3. The one-week waiting period to receive unemployment insurance has been waived. This is retroactive to March 8th.
4. The Washington State Department of Revenue will have authority to suspend penalties and interest on certain late tax payments. The state will create payment plans on the core amount businesses owe without filing tax liens in federal courts. This will be retroactive to February 29th. The deadline to pay Federal income taxes has been extended to July 15th.
5. The state Department of Social and Health Services will expand eligibility for the Family Emergency Assistance Program to include families without children.
6. Up to \$5 million of the Governor's Strategic Reserve Funds will be made available as small grants to small businesses across the state to help prevent closure due to COVID-19.
7. Restrictions on hours worked for delivery drivers carrying groceries, medical supplies and equipment, pharmaceuticals, fuel, and pet supplies have been waived. However, drivers must have a current safety rating of "satisfactory" and cannot extend their hours if they feel fatigued, ill, or have been on duty for more than the allowed number of consecutive hours.

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 1-360-678-2301.

Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 9:00 am to 4:00 p.m.