



## **ISLAND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH**

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release

### **STATEMENT REGARDING MANDATORY FACE COVERINGS (CORONAVIRUS)**

**Island County, June 24, 2020:**

On June 23, Governor Jay Inslee and Secretary of Health John Wiesman announced a statewide mandatory [public health order](#) requiring people to wear facial coverings in public settings. Wiesman stated, “The science is clear that when we use face coverings, we limit the spread of droplets being passed on to others when we talk, cough or sneeze.” This order goes into effect this Friday, June 26, 2020 and applies to both indoor and outdoor activities. The order will allow for specific exemptions, including but not limited to:

- Individuals with certain medical conditions and children under the age of two, who should not wear a face covering,
- Individuals eating or drinking at a restaurant,
- Individuals communicating with a person who is deaf or hard of hearing; and
- Individuals outdoors in public areas, provided that a distance of six feet is maintained from people who are not members of their household.

As other counties progress through the [Safe Start](#) reopening plan, it is important to continue practicing all other appropriate safety measures, such as avoiding travel to [high-risk areas](#), practicing physical distancing, and frequent sanitation actions.

For additional information:

**Island County Public Health** – [www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/Pages/COVID-19.aspx](http://www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/Pages/COVID-19.aspx)  
Call Center # 360.678.2301, Mondays through Fridays, 8:00am – 4:30pm

**WA State Coronavirus Response (COVID-19)** – <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/>