



## ISLAND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

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### Administration

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## ISLAND COUNTY COVID-19 Updated Community Guidance June 9, 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.

**\*\*\*Please note: The COVID-19 call center is no longer operating on the weekend. Staff can be reached at 360.678.2301, Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm\*\*\***

### **New Statewide Facial Covering Requirement**

In addition to the Phase 2 infection prevention measures already in place, the Safe Start plan now includes a cloth face covering requirement. The new facial covering requirement in Washington State went into effect **on June 8**. This is a key piece of the Safe Start plan and a required component of safe reopening.

- All employees in the state are now required to wear a cloth face covering, except when the job has no in-person interaction or when working alone in an office, vehicle, or at a job site.
- Employers must provide cloth face coverings to employees, and/or employees may choose to wear their own face coverings at work, provided it meets the minimum requirements.
- Businesses are encouraged to post a sign asking customers to wear face coverings.
- [Which Mask for Which Task](#) guidance was issued by the Division of Occupational Safety and Health at the state's Department of Labor and Industries. Complete guidance for workers and businesses is available [on Governor Inslee's webpage](#).

### **Preparing for Phase 3**

Island County is **currently in Phase 2 of the Safe Start** plan to reopen Washington. Island County will be eligible to initiate the process to move into Phase 3 on June 13, 2020.

- As laid out by [the Governor's plan](#), a county must be in each phase for a minimum of three weeks. Considering this requirement, June 13 is the earliest that Island County could initiate the process to move into Phase 3.
- In order to progress to Phase 3, the Island County Health Officer, Board of Health, and Board of County Commissioners all need to support advancing to Phase 3. The Island County Board of Health will meet to discuss the Phase 3 application on Tuesday, June 16 from 1pm to 3pm.

- If approval is given by local leaders, Island County is required to submit an extensive application and meet key metrics that will be reviewed for approval by the Washington State Secretary of Health.
- Please continue to follow all Phase 2 guidance, including limiting non-essential travel to areas close to your home and limiting gatherings to no more than five people, outside of your household members, per week.

### **Give and Receive Support**

We all have times when we need support, as well as opportunities to provide support for others. These are difficult times. Economically. Socially. Physically. Now, more than ever, staying informed, making mental health a priority, and connecting to supportive resources is key.

- It is okay to ask for support. Consider calling a friend or loved one and having a more open and honest conversation about how you are doing. COVID-19 has drastically changed our communities, impacting not only physical and financial health, but emotional and mental as well. As we continue to learn more about COVID-19 and adjust our routines, we may notice changes in how we think, feel and relate with ourselves and one other.
- If you are feeling anxious, scared, or are in need of resources, please seek additional support. Some suggestions are listed below:
  - Island County Mental Health line at: 360-678-2346; Monday-Friday 10am – 8pm; Saturday – Sunday 9am – 5pm
  - [Care for Your Coronavirus Anxiety Toolkit](#)
  - [CDC guidance](#) to support your mental health and well-being
- If you are healthy and able to provide support to your community, you may find that you receive as much as you give. Volunteering is [good for your health!](#) Volunteering has been shown to reduce depression and stress and help people live longer. You may also get to learn something new or meet someone new.

### **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**