

# COVID-19

Wednesday,  
March 25, 2020

## GOVERNOR SUSPENDS CERTAIN STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS FOR OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PUBLIC RECORDS

Read at the right about the suspension of certain statutory requirements for OPMA and PRA.

## QUESTIONS ABOUT THE “ESSENTIAL CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKERS” LIST

In accordance with the “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” order, Gov. Jay Inslee designated a list of “Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers” to help state, local, tribal, and industry partners as they work to protect communities.

## HOW TO ADDRESS VIOLATIONS OF THE “STAY HOME, STAY HEALTHY” ORDER

Respectfully share your concerns with the business, organization, or individual that is not abiding by the new rules. You can also direct concerns to the Snohomish Health District Environmental Health Division at 425-339-5250. Do not call 911.

## SNOHOMISH COUNTY DAILY BRIEFING

### Gov. Jay Inslee Suspends Certain Statutory Requirements for Open Public Meetings and Public Records

On Tuesday Gov. Inslee signed a proclamation suspending certain statutory requirements in the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) and Public Records Act (PRA) for 30 days.

The OPMA requires public meetings have facilities made available for people to attend. Waving this requirement now works to prevent the gathering of people to further curb the spread of the virus. However, governing bodies may only address “necessary and routine matters” as defined in RCW 42.30.020, or matters necessary to address the COVID-19 outbreak, for the 30 days the proclamation is active.

The PRA mandates public access to agency facilities for review and copying of public records. Many local government offices are closed due to the governor’s emergency proclamation mandating non-essential businesses close or begin teleworking. Those conditions make it difficult for agencies to respond to requests within the five-day deadline. Under this order, the requirement for agencies to respond to or acknowledge all records requested in the PRA mandated timeframe is waived. However, agencies are still expected to continue to respond promptly and to the greatest and fullest extent possible.

You can read the governor’s proclamation here:

<https://www.governor.wa.gov/news-media/inslee-signs-additional-measures-help-mitigate-covid-impacts>.

### Questions About the “Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers” List

In accordance with the “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” order, Gov. Jay Inslee designated a list of “Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers” to help state, local, tribal, and industry partners as they work to protect communities, while ensuring continuity of functions critical to public health and safety, as well as economic and national security.

The Governor’s list builds on Federal and California guidelines, and attempts to balance the needs of health and business while recognizing some of the unique characteristics of the Pacific Northwest economy. For more information, please read the Governor’s Proclamation:

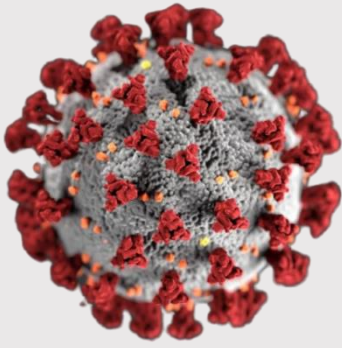
<https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/proclamations/20-25%20Coronavirus%20Stay%20Safe-Stay%20Healthy%20%28tmp%29%20%28002%29.pdf>

For questions and petitions, please refer all inquiries to:

[business@mil.wa.gov](mailto:business@mil.wa.gov)

### How to Address Violations of the “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” Order

If you see someone violating the Governor’s Order to “Stay Home, Stay Healthy,” and if you feel safe, we encourage you to respectfully share your concerns with the business, organization, or individual that is not abiding by the new rules. This is a hectic and confusing time. Our social “norms” have been temporarily upended. This could be an opportunity to educate and engage, while directing them to check out what’s open and what’s closed under the Governor’s Order.



# COVID-19

## **EMPLOYMENT SECURITY RELAXES JOB SEARCH REQUIREMENTS**

Under a proclamation from the Governor, the state Employment Security Department has relaxed rules requiring those seeking jobless aid to also actively go out and seek work.

## **STATE PARKS AND PUBLIC LANDS CLOSING TO PUBLIC**

By tomorrow, Department of Resources and State Parks will be closed to the public to slow the spread of COVID-19.

## **COMMUNITY HELP LINES AVAILABLE**

Direct your residents to these community help lines for assistance and information.

## **CORNERSTONE FOUNDATION PROVIDES FREE RESOURCES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

"Cornerstone Cares" is a new online learning destination launched by the Cornerstone Foundation to access essential training for local governments.

If the individual, business owner or organizer isn't open to the conversation, direct concerns to the Snohomish Health District Environmental Health Division at 425-339-5250. This is the unit that manages complaints about businesses that may have health violations. Keep in mind that during this public health emergency, it may take time for someone to follow-up on a violation.

**Do not call 911 to report.** We need your help to educate, inform and encourage friends, small businesses, community organizations and others to follow these new orders.

## **Employment Security Relaxes Job Search Requirements**

On Tuesday, the state Employment Security Department relaxed rules requiring those seeking jobless aid to also actively go out and seek work. According to ESD, "the job search requirement to receive unemployment insurance benefits was made optional on Tuesday, another in a series of measures by Gov. Jay Inslee and the state Employment Security Department to increase access to unemployment benefits for workers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic." The governor also recently issued an order that waived the traditional waiting week for aid, allowing payments to start from the first week of eligibility. More information is available here:

[https://esd.wa.gov/newsroom/covid-19?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://esd.wa.gov/newsroom/covid-19?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

## **Gates to Public Lands, State Parks to Close by Thursday**

The state Department of Resources cutting off access to hiking and camping in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19. City, county, state and some national parks are largely shutting down, too. National Forest land remains open — for now. Full article here:

<https://www.heraldnet.com/news/city-state-federal-parks-mostly-closed-due-to-covid-19/>

## **Community Help Lines Available**

### **211 Washington**

All 2-1-1 call centers in Washington State are currently contracted with the Washington State Department of Health to help address the public's concerns regarding COVID-19. 2-1-1 is aware that individuals are facing concerns about their health, jobs, and day-to-day living. New resources that serve individuals affected by COVID-19 are developing rapidly and 2-1-1 can assist with getting callers connected to needed services. Call North Sound 2-1-1 toll free: 1-800-223-8145

### **Disaster Distress Helpline**

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Disaster Distress Helpline provides 24/7, 365-day-a-year crisis counseling and support to people experiencing emotional distress. Call: 1-800-985-5990, Text: "TalkWithUs" to 66746, or visit:

<https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/disaster-distress-helpline>

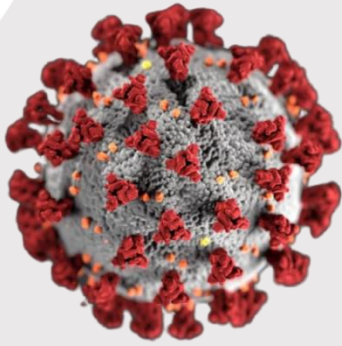
### **Washington State Department of Health - Coronavirus Information**

The Washington State Department of Health has established a call center to address questions from the public. Call Center: 1-800-525-0127, from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week; or visit

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>

## **Cornerstone Foundation Provides Free Education Resources for Local Government Agencies**





# COVID-19

## **FIRE DEPARTMENTS CHANGE INTERACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

The COVID-19 outbreak has changed the way firefighters interact in the community. More information at right.

## **CITY OF SNOHOMISH SUSPENDS REUSABLE BAG REGULATION**

The City of Snohomish is temporarily suspending enforcement of Ordinance No. 2360 relating to Reusable Bags. More information at right.

## **GUIDE FOR SPECIAL STORE SHOPPING HOURS**

A new guide for store shopping hours for seniors and those with compromised immune systems is available at the right.

## **RUMOR CONTROL**

Please email the JIC at [eccjic.activation@snoco.org](mailto:eccjic.activation@snoco.org) if you are aware of any rumors that need to be addressed in our community.

The Cornerstone Foundation is responding to the Coronavirus pandemic, by launching "Cornerstone Cares". This is a free online learning destination where you can access essential training to help navigate this unprecedented pandemic. As a leader in learning, Cornerstone is hoping to help with these **free educational resources for local government agencies**.

The Cornerstone Cares site includes 3 free eLearning playlists:

- 1) Support infection prevention & control of COVID-19
- 2) Promoting Self-Care & Helping you Manage Stress
- 3) Helping you be Productive While Working from Home

For more information, please visit Cornerstone Foundation's webpage: <https://hr.cornerstoneondemand.com/cornerstonecares/?linkId=84565350>

## **Fire Departments Change Interactions in Response to COVID-19**

The COVID-19 outbreak has changed the way firefighters interact in the community. Even in non-emergency situations fire personnel will be adhering to social distancing rules. In responding to medical calls, one firefighter will come to your door dressed in protective gear to ask you a few questions before entering. They may also ask you to wear a mask. Also, we would like to remind everyone that fire stations are closed to visitors at this time.

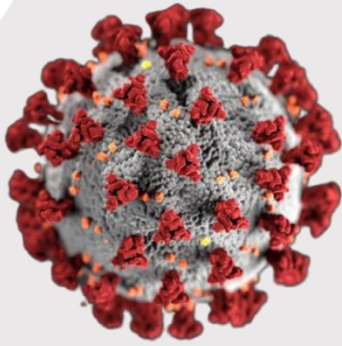
These changes are for your safety and the safety of our first responders.

## **City of Snohomish Suspends Reusable Bag Regulations**

Many local retailers have prohibited the use of reusable bags in light of the COVID-19 outbreak. Accordingly, the City of Snohomish is temporarily suspending enforcement of Ordinance No. 2360 relating to Reusable Bags. Plastic Bags will be made available by retailers until the COVID-19 outbreak is over.

## **Special Store Shopping Hours for Seniors and Others**

Please encourage your residents to avoid shopping during these times unless they are a senior or have compromised immune systems.



# COVID-19

## CONFIRMED AND PROBABLE CASES OF COVID-19 IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Please note: The statistics are also available on the Snohomish Health District website:

<https://www.snohd.org/499/COVID-19-Case-Count-Info>

## ESSENTIAL LINKS AND PHONE NUMBERS FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

- Snohomish Health District  
<https://www.snohd.org/484/Novel-Coronavirus-2019>
- Snohomish County  
<https://snohomishcountywa.gov/5589/COVID-19-Response>
- Washington State  
<https://coronavirus.wa.gov/>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
<https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>
- Snohomish County COVID-19 Phone Line: **425-388-3944**
- Washington State COVID-19 Hotline: **1-800-525-0127, then press #**

SEATTLE AREA **Special Senior Shopping Hours**  
*For Seniors and those with compromised immune systems*

Updated 23 MAR 2020

**GROCERY STORES**

<b>SAFeway</b> Tuesday & Thursday <b>7:00 am – 9:00 am</b>	<b>WinCo FOODS</b> Tuesday & Thursday <b>6:00 am – 7:30 am</b> <i>* NEW as of March 23, 2020</i>	<b>COSTCO WHOLESALE</b> Tuesday & Thursday <b>8:00 am – 9:00 am</b> <i>* Must have a Costco membership</i>	<b>Red Apple</b> Tuesday & Thursday <b>7:00 am – 9:00 am</b>
<b>Albertsons</b> Tuesday & Thursday <b>7:00 am – 9:00 am</b>	<b>PC COMMUNITY MARKETS</b> Everyday <b>7:00 am – 8:00 am</b>	<b>target</b> Wednesday <b>7:00 am – 8:00 am</b>	<b>THRIFTWAY</b> Tuesday & Thursday <b>7:00 am – 9:00 am</b>
<b>QFC</b> Monday thru Thursday <b>7:00 am – 8:00 am</b> <i>* NEW as of March 23, 2020</i>	<b>TRADER JOE'S</b> Monday <b>9:00 am – 10:00 am</b> <i>* NEW as of March 23, 2020</i>	<b>Walmart</b> Tuesday <b>6:00 am – 7:00 am</b>	metropolitanmarket. (tm) Everyday <b>7:00 am – 8:00 am</b>
<b>FredMeyer</b> Monday thru Thursday <b>7:00 am – 8:00 am</b> <i>* NEW as of March 23, 2020</i>	<b>WHOLE FOODS</b> Everyday Westlake <b>7 am – 8 am</b> Broadway & W Sea. <b>8 am – 9 am</b>	<b>UWAJIMAYA</b> Everyday <b>8:00 am – 9:00 am</b>	<b>BIGLOTS!</b> Everyday <b>9:00 am – 10:00 am</b>

**DRUG STORES**

<b>BARTELL DRUGS</b> No Dedicated Hours	<b>CVS</b> No Dedicated Hours	<b>RITE AID</b> Monday <b>8:00 am – 10:00 am</b>	<b>Walgreens</b> Tuesday <b>8:00 am – 9:00 am</b> <i>* NEW as of March 23, 2020</i>
--	----------------------------------	--	--

Special Senior shopping hours available during COVID-19 outbreak quarantine. Hours subject to change.

## Rumor Control: Fact or Fake Resource

The Snohomish County Joint Information Center (JIC) has put together a Fact or Fake resource to address rumors in the community:

<https://infogram.com/rumor-control-32420-1hkv2n1zrkwp6x3?live>

Please email the JIC at [eccjic.activation@snoco.org](mailto:eccjic.activation@snoco.org) with rumor concerns.

FEMA has also launched a Coronavirus Rumor Control page:

<https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus-rumor-control>

## Confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 in Snohomish County (as of March 25, 2020)

Case Count	Last Updated: 2:00 p.m.
Confirmed	634
Probable	31
Deceased	16
Community Acquired / Close Contact	565

Jurisdiction	Last Updated: 2:00 p.m.
Arlington	30
Bothell	59
Brier	<5
Darrington	<5
Edmonds	52
Everett	178
Gold Bar	<5
Granite Falls	<5
Index	0
Lake Stevens	19
Lynnwood	78
Marysville	60
Mill Creek	19
Monroe	14

Mountlake Terrace	18
Mukilteo	13
Snohomish	41
Stanwood	40
Sultan	<5
Tulalip	<5
Unknown/Other	21
Woodinville	6
Woodway	<5

*Numbers less than 5 are suppressed to protect medical privacy. Not all cases are within city limits and totals may include nearby unincorporated Snohomish County.*