

COVID-19

Wednesday, May 13, 2020

NEW SHD BLOG POST: COVID-19 AND PETS

The Snohomish Health District has published a new blog covering COVID-19 and pets. See the link at right.

COVID-19 ERRAND ESSENTIALS

Running errands? Visiting a park? Don't forget your face covering, hand sanitizer, and water.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY DAILY BRIEFING

New SHD Blog Post: COVID-19 and Pets

The Snohomish Health District published a new blog post covering COVID-19 and pets. The blog discusses the following topics:

- When to make an appointment
- Visiting your veterinary clinic
- COVID-19 exposure
- Keeping your pet safe

For more information, please read SHD's [blog post](#).

Don't Forget Your COVID-19 Errand Essentials

Getting groceries is more stressful than usual. A walk to the park requires more forethought than before. The Snohomish County Joint Information Center recommends everyone have and use these three essentials:

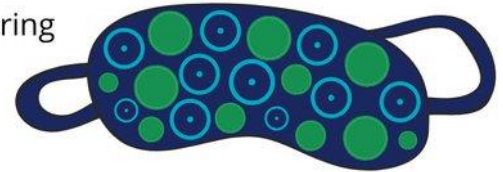
- Face covering
- Hand sanitizer
- Water

CDC guidance: <http://bit.ly/35GdjwW>.

COVID-19 essentials

What to carry when you do head out.

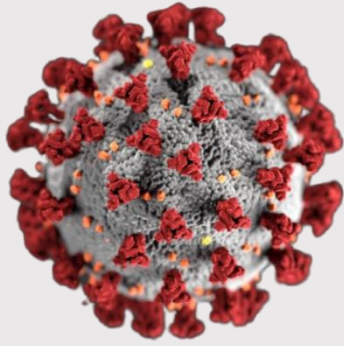
① Face covering



② Hand sanitizer



③ Water



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VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA WESTERN WASHINGTON NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

See the information at right to volunteer.

MEDICAL TEAMS INTERNATIONAL PROVIDES SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

Medical Teams International provide supportive services to help relieve an overburdened healthcare system with emergency dental services. Details at right.

CONNECT CASINO ROAD HAS RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

See the link at right for the updated South Everett Resource Guide from Connect Casino Road.

Volunteers of America Western Washington Needs Volunteers

Interested in volunteering? Please contact ldonovan@voaww.org

More information is available at VOAWW's [website](#).

Volunteers Needed!

**Everett ECEAP Pre-School:
Painting & Playground Projects**

**Monday - Friday
8:00am - 4:30pm**

**Sky Valley VOA:
Painting & Gardening**

**Monday - Friday
9:00am - 3:00pm**

**Everett Food Bank:
Serving & Stocking**

**Monday - Friday
Hours Vary By Day**

**Casino Road Food Pantry:
Stocking & Bagging**

**Monday: 11:00am - 1:00pm
Tuesday: 8:00am - 1:30pm**

**Contact Volunteer Coordinator
Lindsay Donovan at:
ldonovan@voaww.org**



Medical Teams International Provides Supportive Services

All Mobile Dental clinics are cancelled due to health safety concerns surrounding COVID-19. We have transitioned our Mobile Dental vans to help provide supportive services during the COVID-19 outbreak. Emergency Dental Clinics are available in Washington and Oregon. These clinics are helping relieve an overburdened healthcare system with emergency dental services. [See the Emergency Dental Clinic Schedule.](#)

Emergency Dental Clinics in Snohomish County:

Alderwood Community Church
3403 Alderwood Mall Blvd, Lynnwood

Open Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

(Check in begins at 9:00 a.m. and patients are seen on a first-come, first-served basis.)

Lynnwood Food Bank
5320 176th St SW, Lynnwood

Open Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

(Check in begins at 9:00 a.m. and patients are seen on a first-come, first-served basis.)

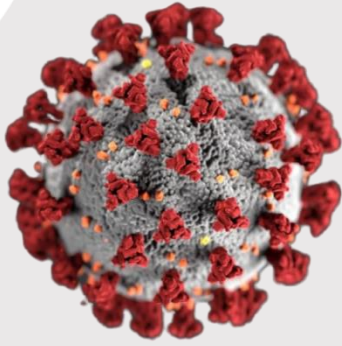
For more information please visit Medical Teams International's [webpage](#).

Connect Casino Road has Resources for Families and Service Providers

Connect Casino Road recently updated their South Everett Resource Guide, which is available in English and Spanish.

For more information, please visit Connect Casino Road's [webpage](#).





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WSU EVERETT DRIVE-UP FOOD DRIVE

WSU Everett will host a drive-up, socially distanced food drive for the Cougar Food Pantry this Friday, May 15, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Details at right.

BOTHELL POLICE HOSTS DRIVE-THRU FOOD DRIVE

Bothell Police will host a drive-up, socially distanced food drive for local food banks this Friday, May 15, and Saturday, May 16 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily. Details at right.

POP-UP BLOOD DONOR CENTER OPENS IN EVERETT

See the link at right to schedule your blood donation at the Edward D. Hansen Conference Center at the Angel of the Winds Arena. If you donate, you will receive a pair of tickets to an upcoming Seattle Storm and Everett Silvertips game when they resume.

T-MOBILE PARK TO HOST FREE COVID-19 TESTING TWICE A WEEK THROUGH THE END OF MAY

Beginning this week, T-Mobile Park will host free drive-thru COVID-19 testing. Details and link to schedule an appointment are at right.

WSU Everett Drive-Up Food Drive

WSU Everett will host a drive-up, socially distanced food drive for the Cougar Food Pantry this Friday, May 15, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. It will take place outside of campus at 915 N. Broadway. If you can't make it, please consider donating online at <http://foundation.wsu.edu/student-support>.

Bothell Police Hosts Drive-Thru Food Drive

Please help the Bothell Police Department help those in need. Local food banks could use some replenishing. Drop off your food or cash donations at the Bothell Police Department, 18410 101st Ave NE, Bothell, 98011, this Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. An officer will be waiting to assist you with your donation.

Pop-Up Blood Donor Center Opens in Everett

If you are healthy and can donate blood, Bloodworks Northwest has a [pop-up donor center coming to the conference center at the Angel of the Winds Arena May 14 - June 6](#). In partnership with the Everett Silvertips and Seattle Storm, every donor will receive a pair of tickets to an upcoming Storm and Silvertips game for when it is safe for games to resume!

Donating blood is an essential and encouraged activity and ensures our area hospitals have the lifesaving blood they need. Donations are by appointment only: call 1-800-398-7888 or [schedule an appointment online](#).

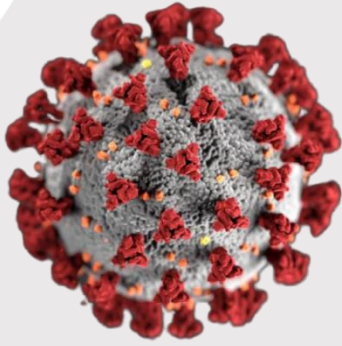


T-Mobile Park to Host Free COVID-19 Testing Twice a Week Through the End of May

T-Mobile Park will host free COVID-19 drive-thru testing beginning this week, which is made possible through a partnership between QFC and Fred Meyer, the City of Seattle and the Seattle Mariners.

The site can test 250 people per day. Kroger Health, which is donating all professional services and tests at the drive-thru site, plans to offer the testing Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every week of May.

To schedule an appointment please visit [here](#).



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NEW REGIONAL DISEASE SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM FOR COVID-19

Participate in the Seattle Coronavirus Assessment Network (SCAN). More details at right.

GOV. INSLEE ANNOUNCES CONTACT TRACING INITIATIVE

Information on the contact tracing initiative announced yesterday by Gov. Jay Inslee is at right.

GOV. INSLEE ISSUES GUIDANCE FOR PARTIALLY RESUMING IN-STORE RETAIL AND ADDITIONAL MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS IN PHASE 2

Gov. Jay Inslee issued guidance yesterday for partially resuming in-store retail and additional manufacturing for counties granted variance under the Safe Start Phase 2 [recovery plan laid out last week](#).

Snohomish County remains in Phase 1 of the Safe Start Plan. Links to the guidance documents are at right.

New Regional Disease Surveillance Program for COVID-19

The greater [Seattle Coronavirus Assessment Network](#)—or SCAN—is a first-of-its-kind [disease surveillance platform](#) for COVID-19 that allows participants to use a self-swab test to collect their own nasal samples and send them to a lab without leaving home. SCAN can help detect cases of COVID-19 and guide public health responses.

For more information please visit SCAN's [webpage](#) and read Bill Gates [blog post](#).

Gov. Inslee Announces Contact Tracing Initiative

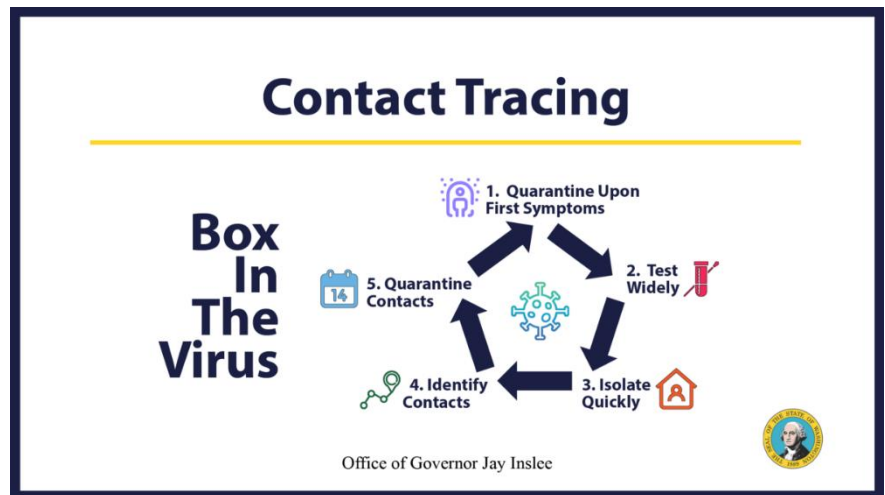
Gov. Jay Inslee announced the launch of a statewide contact tracing plan yesterday that will allow more businesses to open and more people to be active in public while helping to slow and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

“Contact tracing is another tool in our toolbox for tackling COVID-19 in Washington,” Inslee said. “While we need to continue physical distancing, this will allow us to get a better handle on who gets sick and how the virus is spread, which is vital to re-opening our economy.”

Local health departments will lead these efforts and the state Department of Health and its partners will support this work.

The information collected is only used by public health professionals and is confidential. It will not be shared. Contacts will not be told the name of the person who may have exposed them to COVID-19.

Read the rest of the story on [the governor's Medium page](#).

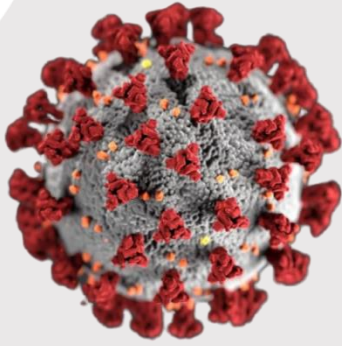


Gov. Inslee Issues Guidance for Partially Resuming In-Store Retail and Additional Manufacturing Operations in Phase 2

Yesterday, Gov. Jay Inslee issued guidance for partially resuming limited in-store retail and manufacturing operations for counties granted variance under the Safe Start Phase 2 [recovery plan laid out last week](#).

Guidance documents:

- [Memo: Partially Resuming Limited In-Store Retail Operations](#)
- [Phase 2 Limited In-Store Retail Operations COVID-19 Requirements](#)
- [Memo: Resuming Additional Manufacturing Operations](#)
- [Phase 2 Manufacturing Facility COVID-19 Requirements](#)
- [Full list of guidance for all current businesses](#)



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GOV. INSLEE ISSUES DIRECTIVE TO FREEZE STATE HIRING, PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

Gov. Inslee issued a directive to freeze all hiring, personal services contracts, and equipment purchases. Link at right.

GOV. INSLEE EXTENDS THREE PROCLAMATIONS RELATING TO COVID-19

Links to the three extended proclamations are at right.

COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR LEGIONELLA AND BUILDING WATER SYSTEM CLOSURES

Has your building been closed to the public or limited access to help slow the spread of COVID-19? Read the guidance from DOH on how to prevent Legionella growth in building plumbing and associated equipment. Link at right.

KREIDLER WELCOMES PREMIUM FORGIVENESS FOR SOME HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES

Two health insurers doing business in Washington are providing short-term premium forgiveness to many of their policyholders. Details at right.

Gov. Inslee Issues Directive to Freeze State Hiring, Personal Service Contracts and Equipment Purchases

Gov. Jay Inslee issued a [directive](#) to executive and small cabinet agencies today to freeze all hiring, personal service contracts and equipment purchases. The directive aims to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Washington's economy and financial outlook.

Exemptions from the directive will be granted if needed for filling vacancies in critical areas or personal service contracts or equipment purchases are necessary to continue critical service or operations. The governor also calls upon higher education institutions, boards and commissions, and other separately elected officials to impose similar restrictions.

"While this is not going to be easy, I ask each agency to use common sense, good judgment and creativity to accomplish the ultimate goal of this directive: to capture immediate savings through spending reductions not related to the public safety and essential health and welfare of Washingtonians," the directive states.

The [directive](#) is effective May 18, 2020.

Gov. Inslee Extends Three Proclamations Relating to COVID-19

Gov. Jay Inslee announced the extension of three proclamations in response to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

A May 11, 2020, [letter](#) from the Legislature extends proclamations [20-28](#) and [20-31](#) until May 31, 2020.

The statutory waivers and suspensions cited in [20-33.1](#) are extended until May 18, 2020.

- [20-28.3](#): Open Public Meetings Act and Public Records Act (The PRA 5-day waiver was modified to exclude all requests made electronically.)
- [20-31.2](#): DCYF Child Care and Background Checks
- [20-33.3](#): DCYF Visitation and Remedial Services

For more information, please read the Governor's [news release](#).

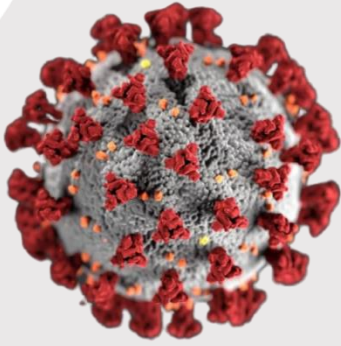
COVID-19 Guidance for Legionella and Building Water System Closures

Many buildings are closed to the public or have limited access to help slow the spread of COVID-19. The resulting drop in building water use increases the risk for [Legionella](#) growth in building plumbing and associated equipment like cooling towers, pools, decorative fountains, hot tubs and other equipment. To prevent Legionella growth, these systems must be actively managed and maintained. For more information please read the Washington State Department of Health's [guidance](#).

Kreidler Welcomes Premium Forgiveness for Some Health Insurance Policies

Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler said he welcomes the effort of two health insurers doing business in Washington to provide short-term premium forgiveness to many of their policyholders.

Premera Blue Cross, based in Mountlake Terrace, said it would provide a one-time, up to 15% premium forgiveness totaling up to \$20 million for its policyholders in the small- and large-group commercial markets where employers buy plans for their employees. This would affect over 200,000 policyholders and apply no later than August.



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IRS UPDATES FAQ AROUND ECONOMIC IMPACT PAYMENT

Link to the updated FAQ on the Economic Impact Payment program is at right.

IRS AMENDS FSA ARRANGEMENTS TO PROVIDE RELIEF

The IRS has released guidance to allow temporary changes to Section 125 cafeteria plans. Details and link at right.

CDC WARNS OF “SUPERSPREADER EVENTS” LIKE CHOIR PRACTICE IN SKAGIT COUNTY WHICH LED TO HIGH COVID-19 EXPOSURE

Link to the full CDC report on the consequences of the early March Skagit County choir practice is at right.

FEMA ANNOUNCES EXERCISE STARTER KIT FOR ORGANIZATIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ON RECONSTITUTING OPERATIONS

FEMA has developed a kit with sample documents your organization can use to navigate the complexities of returning to full operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. Link at right.

UnitedHealthcare, based in Minnesota, also announced a nationwide \$1.5 billion premium forgiveness through a one-time discount on customer bills. The company's effort affects about 18,500 consumers in Washington who receive healthcare coverage in the small- and large-group commercial markets.

UnitedHealthcare said it will provide premium credits ranging up to 10% to Washington customers in May.

The short-term premium forgiveness is the result of consumers postponing elective surgeries and other medical care during the coronavirus pandemic. Insurance companies have seen claims decline during this period.

Read the full release [here](#).

IRS Updates FAQ Around Economic Impact Payments

The Internal Revenue Service on Tuesday released an updated FAQ on the ongoing Economic Impact Payment situation.

For more information, visit [“What people really want to know about Economic Impact Payments.”](#)

IRS Amends FSA Arrangements to Provide Relief

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) released guidance to allow temporary changes to Section 125 cafeteria plans. These changes extend the claims period for health flexible spending arrangements (FSAs) and dependent care assistance programs and allow taxpayers to make mid-year changes.

The guidance issued addresses unanticipated changes in expenses because of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and provides that previously provided temporary relief for high deductible health plans may be applied retroactively to January 1, 2020, and it also increases for inflation the \$500 permitted carryover amount for health FSAs to \$550.

For more information, please read the IRS' [news release](#).

CDC Warns of “Superspreader Events” like Choir Practice in Skagit County Which Led to High COVID-19 Exposure

Following a 2.5-hour choir practice attended by 61 persons, including a symptomatic index patient, 32 confirmed and 20 probable secondary COVID-19 cases occurred (attack rate = 53.3% to 86.7%); three patients were hospitalized, and two died. Transmission was likely facilitated by close proximity (within 6 feet) during practice and augmented by the act of singing.

For more information, please read the CDC's [report](#).

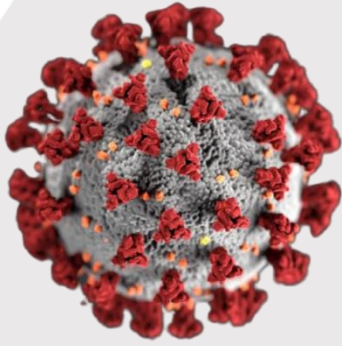
FEMA Announces Exercise Starter Kit for Organizations and Local Governments on Reconstituting Operations

FEMA has developed an Exercise Starter Kit with sample documents your organization can use to conduct your own planning workshop to navigate the complexities of returning to full operations during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The Exercise Starter Kit includes a sample facilitator guide and conduct slides that are designed to be adapted and customized for your own needs. Suggested discussion questions for the workshop build upon reconstitution planning principals and relevant White House guidance for employers included in the [Guidelines for Opening Up America Again](#).

For more information, please read FEMA's [Exercise Starter Kit](#).

CISA Combats COVID-19 Disinformation





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CISA COMBATS COVID-19 DISINFORMATION

CISA launched a webpage to help reduce the risk of sharing inaccurate information. [Link at right.](#)

CENSUS BUREAU'S STATISTICS IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM OFFERS FREE RESOURCES TO KEEP KIDS LEARNING AMID SCHOOL CLOSURES

Links to the free Census Bureau Toolkits at right.

CONFIRMED AND PROBABLE CASES OF COVID-19 IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Please note: The statistics are also available on the [Snohomish Health District website.](#)

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

- [Snohomish Health District](#)
- [Snohomish County](#)
- [Snohomish County COVID-19 Response & Community Resource Hub](#)
- [Washington State](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- Snohomish County COVID-19 Phone Line: **425-388-3944**
- Washington State COVID-19 Hotline: Call **1-800-525-0127** or text **211-211 for help.** For information to be texted to you, text **Coronavirus** to **211-211.**

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) is responsible for protecting the nation's critical infrastructure from physical and cyber threats.

CISA launched an overview of coronavirus disinformation and steps that can be taken to reduce the risk of sharing inaccurate information with friends and family. For more information please read CISA's [COVID-19 Disinformation](#) page.

Census Bureau's Statistics in Schools Program Offers Free Resources to Keep Kids Learning Amid School Closures

The U.S. Census Bureau's Statistics in Schools (SIS) program released [four parent/caregiver toolkits](#) that include valuable resources for parents and guardians to use at home with students from pre-K through high school. These new toolkits provide fun Census Bureau interactives that school-age children can enjoy at home while e-learning. All of the resources included in these kits are designed to teach students about their community and their country through statistics.

For more information, please read the Census Bureau's [news release](#) and check out the [toolkits](#).

Confirmed and Probable Cases of COVID-19 in Snohomish County (as of May 13, 2020)

Case Count	Last Updated: 2:00 p.m.
Confirmed	2,730
Probable	280
Deceased	120

Jurisdiction	Last Updated: 2:00 p.m.
Arlington	114 (93 recovered)
Bothell*	197 (146 recovered)
Brier	19 (17 recovered)
Darrington	<5 (<5 recovered)
Edmonds	305 (223 recovered)
Everett	866 (583 recovered)
Gold Bar	<5 (<5 recovered)
Granite Falls	23 (19 recovered)
Index	0
Lake Stevens	114 (96 recovered)
Lynnwood	585 (394 recovered)
Marysville	230 (172 recovered)
Mill Creek	48 (39 recovered)
Monroe	73 (58 recovered)
Mountlake Terrace	99 (74 recovered)
Mukilteo	53 (50 recovered)
Snohomish	138 (117 recovered)
Stanwood	92 (72 recovered)
Sultan	8 (<5 recovered)
Tulalip	18 (9 recovered)
Unknown/Other	<5 (<5 recovered)
Woodinville*	12 (11 recovered)
Woodway	7 (7 recovered)

Numbers less than 5 are suppressed to protect medical privacy. Unknown includes cases still under investigation. *Counts are for portions in Snohomish County only.