

COVID-19

Monday, May 11, 2020

STAY HOME, STAY HEALTHY UPDATES FROM THE SNOHOMISH HEALTH DISTRICT

The Snohomish Health District has provided updates, recommendations and guidance on face covering, summer events and programs, testing, and case counts. Details at right.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY DAILY BRIEFING

Stay Home, Stay Healthy Updates from Snohomish Health District

Residents are encouraged to go outside and enjoy the sunshine. Do so safely by staying close to home, maintaining at least six feet of distance from others who are not household members, and respecting closures or partial closures of parks, playgrounds or other outdoor venues.

Recommendation on Face Coverings

The Snohomish Health District recommends residents wear a cloth face covering when it is challenging to keep a six-foot distance from others outside the home.

For more about their benefits and how to make one, the Health District recently published a blog: [COVID-19 and Cloth Face Coverings](#).

Summer Events and Programs

As [mentioned last month](#), there are many summer events that people have been planning for several months, as well as annual summer programs that would usually be gearing up or enrolling participants right now.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, people should not be planning for summer events the same way they normally would. This illness and the measures needed to limit its spread will require adjustments to plans, even ones that are scheduled for weeks or months in the future.

"The Governor's phased approach for reopening Washington shows events with more than 50 people being not being allowed until Phase 4, which likely won't happen here until mid- to late-summer," said Dr. Chris Spitters, health officer for the Health District. "I encourage people to cancel or postpone events like fairs, festivals, large weddings and overnight camps."

Drive-thru Testing

The Health District and Medical Reserve Corps volunteers had been piloting two rapid test machines recently. During the four days of operations, 145 people were tested between the two locations.

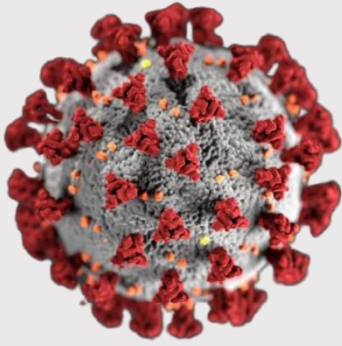
However, the rapid test machines are not meant for high volume testing. They are also not well suited for frequent repositioning between locations. Instead of utilizing the machines for community-based test sites, the Health District will move forward with drive-thru sites that use operations similar to the site open in March.

The Health District had previously reported that a drive-thru testing site would be available in the north end next week. Those plans have been delayed by a week to allow staff to complete needed planning to change the operation set-up slightly.

More information will be released next Friday, including location details and updated registration links. Updates and information will be available at www.snohd.org/drive-thru-testing.

More on Testing

Testing is one of the key elements of the long-term response to COVID-19 and a crucial piece of being able to resume more business and activities. It also continues to be the topic of many questions, as well as confusion or rumors.



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EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFERS CURBSIDE PICKUP FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENT MATERIALS

Edmonds School District has scheduled dates and times for elementary student curbside materials pickup. See the list at right.

EVERETT EXPANDS WATER UTILITY BILL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR LOW-INCOME CUSTOMERS

The City of Everett is making its water utility discount program available to more customers by increasing the maximum household income allowed to qualify for the program. The City also increased the annual assistance available to low-income customers. See the details at right.

To help address some of that, the Health District published a blog today: [COVID-19 and Testing](#).

Case Counts and Updates

Updated case counts are done daily Monday through Friday, with any changes over the weekend included in the Monday updates. The Health District will be making a few adjustments to how data is shown for long-term care facilities and testing.

Daily updates had been including a breakdown of cases and deaths at individual long-term care facilities that had more than 10 cases at its site. Starting today, daily updates will only include the roll-up under the "Type of Contact" table. Beginning next week, the Health District will publish a weekly report for more detailed analysis specific to long-term care facilities.

The other adjustment is the bar graph providing the number of COVID-19 tests completed per day in Snohomish County. Many have asked us to show the numbers for each corresponding day/bar. Adding that would make the chart too complicated and hard to read. Instead, the Health District will start providing a weekly analysis that will complement the daily bar chart. This will give the number of tests per week, total positive and total negative, along with the positivity rate.

For more information please read SHD's [news release](#).

Edmonds School District Offers Curbside Pickup for Elementary Student Materials

Each elementary school in the Edmonds School District is providing the same dates and times for curbside materials pickup:

- Monday, May 11, 2020
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 12, 2020
2 to 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 13, 2020
8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

For those unable to pick up learning materials during these times, please contact your teacher or school office, and other arrangements will be made starting as soon as Thursday, May 14, 2020.

For more information please visit the Edmond School District's [webpage](#).

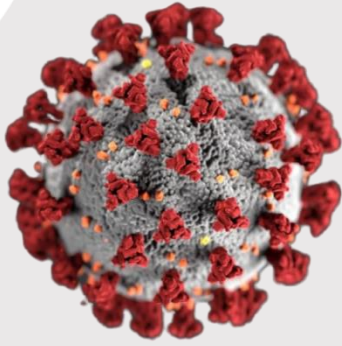
Everett Expands Water Utility Bill Assistance Program for Low-Income Customers

The City of Everett is making its water utility discount program available to more customers by increasing the maximum household income allowed to qualify for the program. The City also increased the annual assistance available to low-income customers. Applicants are now eligible for up to \$500 of assistance per year.

Under the new guidelines, customers with income up to 200% of the [federal poverty level](#) (up from 150%) may be eligible for as much as \$500 (up from \$350) in assistance each year. This is the second time the program has expanded eligibility and assistance levels since the program launched in 2017.

To qualify for the program, residential customers must live within Everett city limits and have:

- A direct water service connection
- Received a disconnection notice or a "friendly reminder" letter
- Income at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level



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EVERETT CARES GRANT PROGRAM UPDATE

Updates on the Everett CARES Small Business Grant and Everett CARES Public Service Grant programs are at right.

EVERETT TRANSIT INCREASING SERVICE

Everett Transit is increasing service effective today. Details at right, including links to the full rider schedule and to sign up for rider alerts.

POP-UP BLOOD DONOR CENTER OPENING IN EVERETT

Bloodworks Northwest is opening a pop-up blood donor center to ensure our area hospitals have the lifesaving blood they need. Details and link to make your appointment are at right.

PET FOOD AVAILABLE AT SOME FOOD BANKS

See the list and link at right for information on food banks that are offering pet food.

The low-income discount program has \$100,000 in assistance available annually. There is no disability or age requirement for the program, and customers do not need to own their property to qualify. Customers may apply each calendar year as necessary.

The City of Everett also offers discounts to seniors and disabled customers. More information about these and the low-income utility discount program is available at everettwa.gov/UB.

Read the full news release [here](#).

Everett CARES Grant Program Update

The deadline for **Everett CARES Small Business Grant** applications is 5 p.m. TODAY. The program will provide \$500,000 in grants to support Everett small businesses impacted by COVID-19. Small businesses can learn more and apply at everettwa.gov/everettcares.

Applications for the **Everett CARES Public Service Grants** open soon for services and programs directly responding to impacts of COVID-19. Funding priorities will focus on housing and food programs serving the hardest hit community members, including under-served populations.

Additional information is available on the [City of Everett CARES Grant Program webpage](#). Additional information on Community Development Block Grant funds can be found on the [City of Everett Federal Funding webpage](#).

Everett Transit Increasing Service

Effective Monday, May 11, Everett Transit is making changes to its service schedule to better serve the community while continuing to minimize the spread of COVID-19. Additionally, Route 70 will offer three trips in the morning and three trips in the evening. Everett Transit is currently fare free and asks Fixed Route riders to board through the back door unless an ADA ramp is needed. They also strongly urge riders to wear a face cover.

View the [full schedule](#) and sign up for [rider alerts](#) to stay informed about future Everett Transit service changes.

Pop-Up Blood Donor Center Opening 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 Thursdays through Saturdays, May 14-30, in partnership with the Everett Silvertips and Seattle Storm. Donating blood is an essential and encouraged activity and ensures our area hospitals have the lifesaving blood they need. Bloodworks Northwest provides 95% of the blood to hospitals in our region. Donations are by appointment only – call 425-740-2909 or [schedule an appointment online](#).

Pet Food Available at Some Food Banks

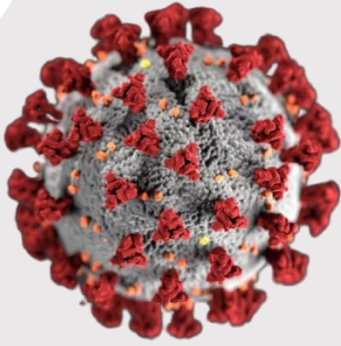
The following food banks in Snohomish County are offering pet food:

- Maltby Food Bank in Snohomish
- Monroe-Sky Valley Food Bank
- Snohomish Community Food Bank
- Carol Rowe Memorial Edmonds Food Bank
- A Century of Hope Catholic Community
- Homage Senior Services of Snohomish County

For more information please read the [full list](#) of pet food banks.

Port of Everett Update

On Tuesday, May 5 — as the Port of Everett reached a seven-week unprecedented period operating at modified service levels — the Marina



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PORT OF EVERETT UPDATE

The Port of Everett has provided an update to its service levels in alignment with the Safe Start phased reopening plan.

SKAGIT COUNTY DRIVE-THRU TESTING UPDATES

Skagit County has expanded access to drive-thru testing. You do not have to be a Skagit County resident to be tested. Criteria to be tested and link to a video is at right.

THREE ADDITIONAL WASHINGTON COUNTIES APPROVED FOR EARLY MOVE TO NEXT PHASE OF REOPENING

Eight counties in Washington state are now approved to move to Phase 2 of the Safe Start plan. Details at right.

welcomed boating and fishing enthusiasts at the reopening of outdoor recreation in Washington state as part of Governor Inslee's "Safe Start" phased reopening plan. In late-April, the resumption of construction projects also received the green light with health and safety measures in place. Here are the Port's current operational adjustments consistent with reopening plans.

- **Boat Launch:** Restoring full access to all 13 lanes of the public boat launch; dawn to dusk
- **Fuel Dock:** Extending winter hours thru May (Thurs. – Sat.; 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.); card payment only
- **Haul Out:** Continuing daily haul out operations 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. by appointment only with remote scheduling; no mast work at this time
- **Restrooms:** Reopening the three main restrooms around the Marina, as well as the restroom near the boat launch; 6 a.m. - 9 p.m., daily
- **Trails & Open Space:** Reopening Edgewater Beach Park in Mukilteo and Union Slough along SR 529; all other Port trails and open spaces to remain open for responsible public use; dawn - dusk
- **Events & Gatherings:** Continued suspension of waterfront events and gatherings until the Governor announces otherwise
- **Port Offices:** The Port Administration and Marina Offices remain closed to the public, but Port staff remain available to serve you remotely via phone and e-mail
- **Projects:** Resumption of public and private construction projects around the Port

Stay up-to-date on all information related to the Port's COVID-19 response, including hours of operation, FAQs, waterfront businesses and more at www.portofeverett.com/covid-19.

Read the full news release [here](#).

Skagit County Drive-Thru Testing Updates

Skagit County has expanded access to drive-thru testing. Anyone who meets the following criteria can seek testing at Skagit Valley College from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday through Friday:

- Works in the meatpacking industry
- Lives/works in a congregated setting
- Close contact of a confirmed case
- Has mild COVID-19 symptoms
- Doctor recommendation for testing
- Healthcare workers/first responders regardless of symptoms
- Pregnant women

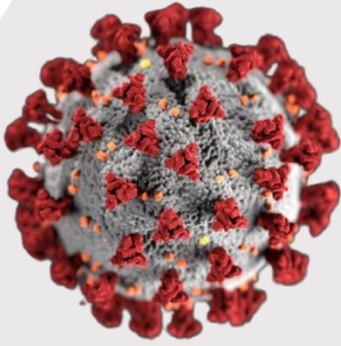
For more information please watch Skagit County's [video](#).

Three Additional Washington Counties Approved for Early Move to Next Phase of Reopening

Today Washington State Secretary of Health John Wiesman approved applications from Wahkiakum, Skamania, and Stevens counties to move into Phase 2 of Gov. Jay Inslee's [Safe Start plan](#).

This brings the total to 8 counties. Last week, Secretary Wiesman approved variances for Columbia, Garfield, Lincoln, Ferry and Pend Oreille counties.

Businesses in the counties approved to move into Phase 2 must wait to reopen until guidance has been released for their industry on how to keep workers and the public safe. They must comply with all health and safety requirements outlined in that guidance to reopen.



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GOVERNOR INSLEE RELEASES ADDITIONAL SAFE START PHASE 1 GUIDANCE

Links at right for guidance for curbside service for retail outlets, pet walking, and landscaping.

AMTRAK TO REQUIRE FACE COVERINGS TO AVOID SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS

Amtrak is requiring employees and all customers to wear face coverings. Details at right.

CLOTH FACE COVERINGS POLICY FOR WORKERS, VISITORS, AND PASSENGERS AT SEA-TAC AIRPORT

The Port of Seattle is requiring Port employees, workers, passengers, and visitors in the public areas of Sea-Tac Airport to wear cloth face coverings starting May 18. Details at right.

COVID-19 TIPS AND RESOURCES FOR OLDER ADULTS

TVW and AARP teamed up to provide important COVID-19 tips and resources for older adults. Link at right.

Learn more about [county variances](#) and the statewide response to COVID-19 at [coronavirus.wa.gov](https://www.coronavirus.wa.gov).

Governor Inslee Releases Additional Safe Start Phase 1 Guidance

Last Friday, Gov. Jay Inslee released [additional guidance](#) for businesses and services under Safe Start Phase 1, including the ability for retail outlets to provide curbside service, pet walking and landscaping. The specific guidance can be found below:

- [Curbside Retail & E-commerce Memo](#)
- [Curbside Retail Requirements](#)
- [Pet Walking Memo](#)
- [Pet Walking Guidance](#)
- [Landscaping Memo](#)
- [Landscaping Guidance](#)

Amtrak to Require Face Coverings to Avoid Spread of Coronavirus

Beginning today, Amtrak is requiring employees and all customers in stations and on trains and thruway buses to wear facial coverings.

Facial coverings can be removed when customers are eating in designated areas, in their private rooms, or seated alone or with a travel companion in their own pair of seats. Small children who are not able to maintain a facial covering are exempt from this requirement. Customers must supply their own facial covering. Customers can go to [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for detailed instructions on how to make their own mask.

Service may be denied to customers not wearing facial coverings.

For more information please read Amtrak's [news release](#).

Cloth Face Coverings Policy for Workers, Visitors, and Passengers at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport

The Port of Seattle announced that it will require all passengers, visitors, and workers, including Port employees, to wear cloth face coverings in the public areas of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport starting on May 18. The requirement will not apply to certain groups, such as very young children and those who cannot medically tolerate facial coverings.

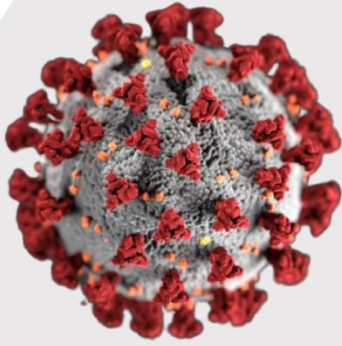
For more information please read the Port of Seattle's [news release](#).

COVID-19 Tips and Resources for Older Adults

The spread of coronavirus across our state has created a very stressful environment for all Washingtonians, especially older people and those with underlying health conditions who are at heightened risk. TVW and AARP teamed up to provide important COVID-19 tips and resources for older adults. [Click here for more information](#).

Senator Patty Murray Announces More than \$23 Million in Public Service Program Funding for Washington State

Over the weekend, [Sen. Patty Murray announced](#) that Washington state will receive \$23 million+ to fund critical public service programs such as AmeriCorps and assist those who want to give back to their communities.



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SENATOR PATTY MURRAY ANNOUNCES MORE THAN \$23 MILLION IN PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM FUNDING FOR WASHINGTON STATE

Over the weekend, U.S. Senator Patty Murray announced that Washington state will receive \$23 million + to fund critical public service programs. Details at right.

NEW CDC WEBPAGE FOR PEOPLE WHO NEED TO TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTIONS

The CDC created a new webpage for people who need to take extra precautions. Link at right.

IRS: ACT BY WEDNESDAY FOR CHANCE TO GET QUICKER ECONOMIC IMPACT PAYMENT

The last chance for taxpayers to obtain a direct deposit of their Economic Impact Payment is noon Wednesday, May 13. People should visit [Get My Payment](#) on [IRS.gov](#) by noon Wednesday, May 13, to check on their payment status and, when available, provide their direct deposit information.

New CDC Webpage for People Who Need to Take Extra Precautions

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) created a new webpage for people who need to take extra precautions. Guidance is available for the following people:

- [People at Higher Risk for Severe Illness](#)
- [Older Adults](#)
- [People with Asthma](#)
- [People with HIV](#)
- [People with Liver Disease](#)
- [More for People at Higher Risk](#)
- [People with Disabilities](#)
- [Pregnancy and Breastfeeding](#)
- [People Experiencing Homelessness](#)
- [Racial and Ethnic Minority Groups](#)

For more information please visit CDC's new [webpage](#).

IRS: Act by Wednesday for Chance to Get Quicker Economic Impact Payment

With a variety of steps underway to speed Economic Impact Payments, the Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service urged people to use [Get My Payment](#) by noon Wednesday, May 13, for a chance to get a quicker delivery.

The IRS, working in partnership with Treasury Department and the Bureau of Fiscal Services (BFS), continues to accelerate work to get Economic Impact Payments to even more people as soon as possible. Approximately 130 million individuals have already received payments worth more than \$200 billion in the program's first four weeks.

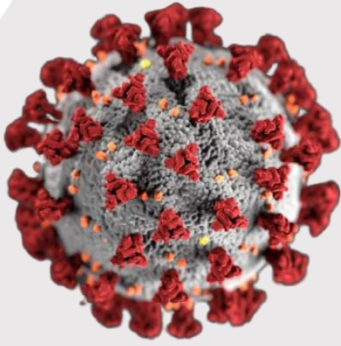
Starting later this month, the number of paper checks being delivered to taxpayers will sharply increase. For many taxpayers, the last chance to obtain a direct deposit of their Economic Impact Payment rather than receive a paper check is coming soon. People should visit [Get My Payment](#) on [IRS.gov](#) by noon Wednesday, May 13, to check on their payment status and, when available, provide their direct deposit information.

After noon Wednesday, the IRS will begin preparing millions of files to send to BFS for paper checks that will begin arriving through late May and into June. Taxpayers who use [Get My Payment](#) before that cut-off can still take advantage of entering direct deposit information.

Confirmed and Probable Cases of COVID-19 in Snohomish County (as of May 11, 2020)

Case Count	Last Updated: 2:00 p.m.
Confirmed	2,703
Probable	268
Deceased	119

Jurisdiction	Last Updated: 2:00 p.m.
Arlington	113 (83 recovered)
Bothell*	196 (132 recovered)
Brier	18 (13 recovered)
Darrington	<5 (<5 recovered)
Edmonds	299 (193 recovered)
Everett	859 (529 recovered)
Gold Bar	<5 (<5 recovered)
Granite Falls	23 (15 recovered)



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CONFIRMED AND PROBABLE CASES OF COVID-19 IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

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

Starting May 8, total number of cases and deaths associated with long-term care facilities will be provided daily Monday-Friday, and a breakdown by individual long-term care facilities will be updated weekly.

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**.

Index	0
Lake Stevens	109 (92 recovered)
Lynnwood	578 (357 recovered)
Marysville	227 (151 recovered)
Mill Creek	47 (34 recovered)
Monroe	72 (54 recovered)
Mountlake Terrace	98 (71 recovered)
Mukilteo	52 (47 recovered)
Snohomish	135 (106 recovered)
Stanwood	92 (70 recovered)
Sultan	8 (<5 recovered)
Tulalip	17 (8 recovered)
Unknown/Other	<5 (<5 recovered)
Woodinville*	12 (10 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.