



CITY OF UNALASKA

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Unalaska, Alaska 99685

www.ci.unalaska.ak.us/citymanager/page/coronavirus-covid-19

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NEWS RELEASE

March 25, 2020, 2:00 pm, News Release no. 15

Coronavirus COVID-19

LOCAL RISK FACTOR: High.

CITY OF UNALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT: There are no confirmed cases in Unalaska.

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| Patients tested by IFHS | 6 |
| Confirmed Negative Tests | 4 |
| Confirmed Positive Tests | 0 |
| Pending Test Results | 2 |

STATE OF ALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT: There are 42 confirmed cases around the state as of 3pm yesterday.

SOCIAL DISTANCING: The importance of maintaining 6 feet distance between yourself and others cannot be overemphasized! Droplets from coughs & sneezes spread infection! Stay six feet away from other people and don't congregate in groups. Pursuant to the State's Health Mandate #9, no gatherings of more than 10 people may take place, and if a gathering does take place, people must be six feet apart from each other.

STATE TRAVEL QUARANTINE: Effective today, the Governor ordered all travelers to quarantine for 14 days after arrival in Alaska and to monitor for symptoms. Upon arrival in any community in Alaska from another state or nation, you must:

1. Proceed directly from the airport to your designated quarantine location, which is the location identified and affirmed by you on the mandatory State of Alaska Travel Declaration Form.
 - a. If you are a resident, your designated quarantine location is your residence.
 - b. If you are a visitor or worker, your designated quarantine location is your hotel room or rented lodging.
2. Remain in your designated quarantine location for a period of 14 days, or the duration of your stay in Alaska, whichever is shorter.
 - a. You may leave your designated quarantine location only for medical emergencies or to seek medical care.
 - b. Do not visit any public spaces, including, but not limited to: pools, meetings rooms, fitness centers or restaurants.
 - c. Do not allow visitors in or out of your designated quarantine location other than a physician, healthcare provider, or individual authorized to enter the designated quarantine location by Unified Command.
 - d. Comply with all rules or protocols related to your quarantine as set forth by your hotel or rented lodging.
 - e. If you are required to self-quarantine and there are other individuals in your residence, hotel room, or rented lodging, you are required to comply with social distancing guidelines.

Failure to follow this order is punishable by a fine of up to \$25,000, or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both pursuant to Alaska Statute 12.55.035 and Alaska Statute 12.55.135.

CITY'S "HUNKER DOWN" ORDER: Last night the Unalaska City Council approved Resolution 2020-17, effective at noon today, which orders, in part, as follows:

1. Everyone currently in the City of Unalaska (the "City") shall stay at home as much as possible, except:
 - a. to work in certain critical jobs (*see full document for the list of critical businesses*);
 - b. to buy, sell or deliver groceries or other important goods;
 - c. to receive or provide health care; and
 - d. to get fresh air without contacting others.

On the limited occasions when individuals leave home, they should maintain social distancing of at least six feet from any person outside their household, whenever possible. Individuals are also encouraged to practice recommended hygiene, including regular hand washing.

2. Everyone in the City must follow all health mandates issued by Governor Dunleavy, the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), and the Center for Disease Control (CDC).
3. It is strongly recommended, in accordance with Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidance, that certain individuals within the City should take even greater precaution.
 - a. Anyone particularly at-risk from COVID-19 should reduce exposure by staying at home, not physically going to work, and not doing their own shopping if possible. People particularly at risk of complications from COVID-19 include those 60 years and older and individuals of any age with a serious underlying medical condition. Household members of those who are at elevated risk should implement these more stringent guidelines as well, to the extent possible.
 - b. Anyone more likely to be contagious with COVID-19 should not leave home except to obtain medical care or to get fresh air. People who are more likely to be contagious include individuals exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 (including coughing, shortness of breath, and fever).
4. **Traveler Quarantine Order.** Any person traveling into the City by vessel or airplane that came from outside of Alaska or that came from a community with known cases of COVID-19, is required to self-quarantine for 14 days upon arriving at their destination and monitor for symptoms of illness. During travel and following the quarantine period, appropriate social distancing measures must be followed.
 - a. Public Health Exception. People performing essential public health duties shall quarantine except as necessary to protect the health and safety of others.
 - b. Critical Business Exception. People that are engaged in critical business or occupations are exempt from the quarantine requirement. Critical business or entities include fishing and fish processing. People traveling for fishing or fish processing or other critical businesses are required to follow all state and federal quarantine mandates and recommendations.

The full document (Resolution 2020-17) is available on the City Website or by email on request to the City Clerk.

CITY FACILITY CLOSURES: City of Unalaska buildings are closed to the public, except the landfill and the lobby at Public Safety. Employees will be working in each department, with staggered and modified shifts, to ensure social distancing while continuing to deliver critical city services. Contact us at the numbers below:

- LANDFILL is open Tuesday through Saturday, 9am to 6pm
- PAYMENT DROP BOX Drop utility or other payments (checks only-no cash) in our drop box, which is located in "arctic entry" space between the two sets of main doors, on the right hand side
- PAYMENTS BY PHONE Call 581-1251 and press "1" to make a payment with a credit or debit card, Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm
- CONTACT NUMBERS
 - Emergency 911
 - City Hall 581-1251 Clerk/City Manager/Administration/HR/Planning/Finance
 - Fire & EMS 581-5330 Non-emergency
 - PCR/Library/Pool..... 581-1297
 - Ports 581-1254
 - Public Safety 581-1233 Non-emergency
 - Public Works & Utilities..... 581-1260

PROTECT YOURSELF; PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY: The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus. Because the virus is spread primarily person-to-person, protective measures like closing schools and public places are taken to limit contact between people so that the spread of disease can be reduced. We all need to pitch in and try to prevent cases in our families and in our community with these actions:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Use 60% alcohol content hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available
- Do not touch your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Stay six feet away from other people (droplets from cough & sneeze spread infection)
- Cover your mouth and nose with tissue when you cough or sneeze; throw the tissue away; and then wash your hands
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care; all household members should self-quarantine and minimize contact with others
- If symptomatic
 - Wear a mask when around others, including visiting the clinic
 - Call the clinic before coming in (581-1202)

CRISIS LINES: If you are distressed, want to talk about your troubles or needs you may have, help is available! Please call:

- USAFV 24-Hour Crisis Line (907) 581-1500
- USAFV Toll-Free 24-Hour Crisis Line (800) 478-7238
- APIA Behavioral Health Crisis Line (907) 359-2743

RESOURCES FOR INFORMATION:

- CDC - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – www.coronavirus.gov
- State of Alaska Dept. of Health and Social Services – <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/COVID-19/default.aspx>
- Dial 211 - the State of Alaska telephone information line for non-clinical questions
- City of Unalaska – www.ci.unalaska.ak.us/citymanager/page/coronavirus-covid-19
- Call the City of Unalaska public safety recorded message line for daily updates: 581-6080

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