



CITY OF UNALASKA

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www.ci.unalaska.ak.us/coronavirus

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NEWS RELEASE

Wednesday, September 1, 2021, 11:45am, News Release no. 236

Coronavirus COVID-19

LOCAL RISK FACTOR: HIGH

UNALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT:

Current Active Cases ----- 30
Industry-Quarantined ----- 0
Community ----- 30

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN: Unified Command has updated the community's Emergency Response Plan. Changes were necessary due to the wide availability of vaccines for COVID-19 and new information learned about the virus. There are now four levels outlining thresholds of risk: Low, Moderate, Substantial and High Risk. Based on today's count of active cases and the continued spike in wastewater surveillance, the community is at **HIGH RISK**, which is defined as widespread COVID-19 cases within the community. Generally, this is defined as 30 or more cases, which are community acquired, travel acquired, and/or household acquired, with consideration for the inclusion of industry-related cases that are a part of the community or who have traveled commercially and test positive upon arrival. The full plan is available on the City Website <https://www.ci.unalaska.ak.us/citymanager/page/covid-19-emergency-response-plan> and the COVID Data Hub <https://covid19-response-unalaska.hub.arcgis.com/>.

WASTEWATER TESTING: COVID signal in the wastewater stream continues to increase, showing a steep upward trend.

UNALASKA COVID-19 DATA HUB: Please visit (and bookmark) the City's COVID-19 Data Hub for case counts and other information, available 24/7: <https://covid19-response-unalaska.hub.arcgis.com/>.

CITY COUNCIL / COMMUNITY-WIDE PROTECTIVE MEASURES: The City Council will meet in a special session at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, September 7 to reassess the local mandate containing community wide protective measures. Information about the meeting and how to participate can be found on the City website: <https://www.ci.unalaska.ak.us/citycouncil/page/special-city-council-meeting-september-7-2021>

IF YOU TEST POSITIVE, NOTIFY YOUR CLOSE CONTACTS IMMEDIATELY: If you test positive for COVID-19, both State DHSS and our local IFHS Clinic recommend that you promptly notify anyone with whom you have had "close contact" in the two days before you test positive or from the time you develop symptoms, whichever is earlier, and until you go into isolation after getting the positive result. "Close contact" is defined as anyone with whom a person with COVID-19 has spent more than a cumulative 15 minutes within a 6-foot space in a 24-hour period. The State's contact tracing team is incredibly busy with the huge increase in cases around the State of Alaska, so the sooner people know about possible exposure, the quicker they can quarantine or isolate and get tested if needed. Public health officials will continue to contact those who test positive as soon as they can, but having people notify their own close contacts will help prevent COVID-19 from spreading in our community.

GUIDANCE FROM ALASKA DHSS: Here are the protocols to follow in the event you are exposed to COVID-19, depending on your vaccination status and whether or not you have symptoms, or if you are symptomatic and have no known exposure:


Feeling Sick or Exposed to COVID-19

Now What?

This guidance applies to the general public. But if you live or work in a high-risk setting such as a correctional institution, health care facility, an assisted living facility, or a fish-processing plant, talk to someone at your facility for guidance.

	UNVACCINATED	VACCINATED*
If you test positive for COVID-19	ISOLATE Until cleared by public health (usually 10 days, but may vary depending on symptoms), monitor your symptoms, and contact your health care provider if symptoms become worrisome.	
If you are exposed to COVID-19 and have NO symptoms	GET TESTED and QUARANTINE Until cleared by public health (7-14 days) depending on testing and location.	GET TESTED and MONITOR Carefully for symptoms for 14 days. Wear a mask. Quarantine not required.
If you are exposed to COVID-19 and have ANY symptoms	GET TESTED and ISOLATE - If positive, keep isolating. - If negative, stay home while you have symptoms or until you are finished with QUARANTINE, whichever is longer. Talk to a health care provider and consider testing again.	GET TESTED and ISOLATE - If positive, keep isolating. - If negative, stay home while you have symptoms. Talk to a health care provider and consider testing again.
If you have ANY symptoms of COVID-19 and no known exposure	GET TESTED and STAY HOME - If positive, isolate for 10 days - If negative, stay home while you have symptoms. Talk to a health care provider and consider testing again.	

*A person is fully vaccinated if two weeks have passed since receiving the second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or a single dose of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine.



Further information is available on the DHSS website at this link:
<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/epi/id/pages/covid-19/nowwhat.aspx>

Next Scheduled News Release: Wednesday, September 8, 2021