



CITY OF UNALASKA

43 Raven Way • P. O. Box 610

Unalaska, Alaska 99685

www.ci.unalaska.ak.us/coronavirus

<https://covid19-response-unalaska.hub.arcgis.com/>

CONTACT:

Marjie Veeder, City Clerk

Public Information Officer

Tel 907.581.1251, ext. 2104

Email: mveeder@ci.unalaska.ak.us

NEWS RELEASE

Wednesday, September 8, 2021, 11:45am, News Release no. 237

Coronavirus COVID-19

LOCAL RISK FACTOR: MODERATE

The local risk factor was lowered to moderate yesterday. This is pursuant to the Emergency Response Plan, the number of Current Active Cases, and a downward trend of COVID-19 signal in the wastewater stream. If it becomes necessary to raise the risk factor back to high, we will remain at that level for a period of two weeks.

UNALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT: Reporting one (1) new case of COVID-19 today since the News Release on September 1:

Current Active Cases -----17

Industry-Quarantined-----0

Community----- 17

COMMUNITY-WIDE PROTECTIVE MEASURES: Last night the Unalaska City Council adopted a new local mandate, Resolution 2021-59, effective until noon September 15. Face coverings are still required (details follow) and all other protective measures remain advisories, meaning that the protective measures are encouraged, not ordered.

FACE COVERING REQUIREMENT. To help reduce the community spread of COVID-19 and to protect customers, visitors, workers and volunteers of businesses and organizations, individuals shall wear face coverings in certain situations, with limited exemptions, as outlined below. A face covering is a material that covers the nose and mouth. It can be secured to the head with ties or straps or simply wrapped around the lower face. It can be made of a variety of materials, such as cotton, silk, or linen. A face covering may be factory-made or sewn by hand.

- a. Individuals are required to wear face coverings in the following situations:
 - i. Employees or volunteers interacting in-person with any member of the public, customer or visitor;
 - ii. Customers or visitors of any business or organization open to the public;
 - iii. While obtaining services in a healthcare facility;
 - iv. Working in or walking through indoor common areas, such as hallways, stairways, and elevators;
 - v. In any room or enclosed area of a business or organization where other people (except for members of the person's own household or residence) are present and when unable to physically distance; or
 - vi. When driving or riding in a taxi or shuttle service.
- b. The following individuals are exempt from wearing a face covering:
 - i. Persons younger than two years old;
 - ii. Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering. This includes persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a face covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance;

- iii. Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication;
 - iv. Persons who are obtaining a service involving the nose or face for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service, such as medical services; or
 - v. Persons who are seated at a restaurant or other establishment that offers food or beverage service, while they are eating or drinking.
- c. Business owners or operators shall post signage requiring face coverings at building entrances or vehicle doors or windows. A business owner or operator may refuse admission or service to any individual who fails to wear a face covering as required by this resolution.

This mandate is effective through noon on September 15, 2021. City Council will reassess the mandate at their regular meeting on September 14. The full document is available on the City of Unalaska COVID-19 data hub: <https://covid19-response-unalaska.hub.arcgis.com/>

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY?

- Getting vaccinated now is more important than ever. The COVID vaccines will help protect you, your family, and your community against COVID-19, including the Delta variant.
- If you test positive, isolate right away, and notify your contacts. Ask them to get tested and, if they are unvaccinated, to quarantine.
- Monoclonal antibody treatments are effective and reduce the risk of hospitalization. If you have COVID-19 or are a close contact, talk to a healthcare provider about whether treatment may be right for you. The treatments work best when given early.
- Wearing a mask when in indoor public spaces regardless of vaccination status is an important step to take to slow the spread of COVID-19 (masks required in businesses in Unalaska).
- Fully vaccinated persons who are close contacts to someone with COVID-19 do not need to quarantine but should get tested 3 to 5 days after exposure and wear a mask in public indoor areas for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.

ALASKA HOUSING RENT RELIEF: Alaska Housing Finance Corporation announced the availability of another round of rent relief, up to three months of assistance, for eligible Alaskans financially impacted by COVID-19. Check eligibility and apply on their website at this link: <https://www.alaskahousingrelief.org/>

ALASKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – GIVE AK A SHOT PROMOTION: Healthy people are the foundation of a healthy economy, and our economy is suffering. The Alaska Chamber firmly believes that one of the most important tools in realizing economic recovery is vaccinating for COVID-19. Vaccination is the single easiest and safest thing that individual Alaskans can do to help get our economy back on track. This is why the Alaska Chamber is launching the GIVE AK A SHOT PROMOTION set to give out nearly a million dollars to vaccinated Alaskans. Now through Oct. 30, Alaskans vaccinated for COVID-19 (new vaccinations and those previously vaccinated) are eligible to enter the Alaska Chamber's "Give AK a Shot" drawing for a chance to win \$49,000. A total of 18 prize drawings split between two categories (Alaskans aged 18 and older and Alaskans aged 12-17) will be awarded. Winners will be selected randomly and announced each week. Winners in the 18 and older category will receive a \$49,000 cash prize. Winners in the 12-17 category will receive a \$49,000 scholarship presented as an Alaska 529 education savings plan plus \$10,000 cash for their parent or guardian if also vaccinated. Further information about the promotion, entries, eligibility, etc. here: www.GiveAKaShot.com

ENTER TO WIN
GiveAKaShot.com

