



CITY OF UNALASKA

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

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NEWS RELEASE

March 14, 2020, 1:00 pm, News Release no. 4

Coronavirus COVID-19

LOCAL RISK FACTOR: Low

CITY OF UNALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT: Case counts are unchanged from yesterday, March 13, 2020. The IFHS Clinic in Unalaska has tested one patient for coronavirus, and the result of the test is pending (waiting for results). The individual tested has minimal symptoms, is doing very well and is under quarantine until the test result is received.

STATE OF ALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT *(next update expected Monday, March 16, 2020)*

Current Confirmed Cases of Coronavirus	1
Cumulative Confirmed Cases since 01/01/2020	1
Negative samples tested at State Labs	124
Negative samples tested at commercial/academic labs	19
Cumulative samples since 01/01/2020	143

Due to the President's declaration of a State of Emergency and Governor Dunleavy's Health Mandate closing public schools from March 16-27, **the City of Unalaska will close the Community Center (PCR), the Unalaska Public Library and the Aquatic Center during the same time period.** If school closures continue, recreational facility closures will likely continue and may extend to other city facilities. Regular updates will be provided to the community. 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. Please continue regular hand washing and other protective measures.

The State of Alaska's COVID-19 Health Alert issued March 13, 2020 follows this page.

Please consult these resources for further information:

- CDC - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – www.cdc.gov/COVID19
- State of Alaska Dept. of Health and Social Services – <http://coronavirus.alaska.gov>
- Dial 211 - the State of Alaska 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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****COVID-19 HEALTH ALERT****

Issued March 13, 2020

By: Dr. Anne Zink, Chief Medical Officer, State of Alaska

DHSS strongly advises that all Alaskans read and comply with the following [CDC guidance](#) for workplaces, schools, homes, and commercial establishments:

Practice good hygiene:

- Stop handshaking – use other noncontact methods of greeting.
- Clean hands at the door and schedule regular hand washing reminders by email.
- Create habits and reminders to avoid touching their faces and cover coughs and sneezes.
- Disinfect surfaces like doorknobs, tables, desks, and handrails regularly.
- Increase ventilation by opening windows when able.

Be careful with meetings and events:

- Use videoconferencing for meetings when possible.
- When videoconferencing not possible, hold meetings in open, well-ventilated spaces.
- Consider adjusting or postponing large meetings or gatherings.

Special travel considerations:

- Assess the risks of travel including the location and rapidly changing events.
- At risk individuals and communities with limited health care infrastructure or high-risk populations should consider limiting all non-essential travel.

Handle food carefully:

- Limit food sharing.
- Strengthen health screening for staff working with food and their close contacts.
- Ensure staff working with food and their close contacts practice strict hygiene.

Special consideration for businesses:

- Use booking and scheduling to stagger customer flow.
- Use online transactions where possible.
- Consider limiting attendance at larger gatherings.
- Promote tap and pay to limit handling of cash.

For transportation businesses, taxis, and ride shares:

- Keep windows open when possible.
- Increase ventilation.
- Regularly disinfect surfaces.
- Encourage social distancing during rides.

If you don't feel well:

- Stay at home if you are feeling sick.
- Do not go to work, out in public or around others if you have a fever and for 72 hours after your last fever.
- Consider staying at home if you have a sick family member in your home.

Households with sick family members are recommended to:

- Give sick members their own room if possible, and keep the door closed.
- Have only one family member care for them.
- Consider providing additional protections or more intensive care for household members over 65 years old or with underlying conditions.

Households with vulnerable seniors or those with significant underlying conditions:

Significant underlying conditions include heart, lung, kidney disease; diabetes; and conditions that suppress the immune system.

- Have the healthy people in the household conduct themselves as if they were a significant risk to the person with underlying conditions. For example, wash hands frequently before interacting with the person, such as by feeding or caring for the person.
- If possible, provide a protected space for vulnerable household members.
- Ensure all utensils and surfaces are cleaned regularly.

These recommendations are based on the CDC's guidance, which can be found here:

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html

This is not a mandate.

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