

COVID-19

Monday, April 20, 2020

SNOHOMISH COUNTY TO PROVIDES UPDATE ON COVID-19 RESPONSE

Tomorrow morning, Snohomish County leaders will provide an update on the COVID-19 response. Link to view the press conference when it is posted is at right.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY RECEIVES 22 PALLETS OF PPE

Information on the PPE received by Snohomish County DEM today and Project Airbridge utilized by FEMA to distribute critical supplies is at right.

NEW SHD BLOG FOCUSES ON FARMERS MARKETS AND SUMMER EVENTS

Snohomish Health District's [newest blog](#) focuses on guidance for farmers markets and the potential for holding large-scale events this summer.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY DAILY BRIEFING

Snohomish County to Provide Update on COVID-19 Response

County Executive Dave Somers, Health Officer Dr. Chris Spitters, and Snohomish County Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Director Tom Teigen will hold a virtual press conference tomorrow morning to address the county's response to COVID-19.

The video will be posted at noon the same day and available for viewing at <https://www.snohd.org/495/COVID-19-General-Information>.

Snohomish County Receives 22 Pallets of PPE

Approximately 1.2 million surgical masks were delivered to Snohomish County's Department of Emergency Management (DEM) today. DEM's Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) is working to distribute the personal protective equipment (PPE).

FEMA continues to expedite movement of commercially pre-sourced and commercially procured critical supplies from the global market to medical distributors in various locations across the U.S. through [Project Airbridge](#). Airbridge was created to reduce the time it takes for U.S. medical supply distributors to receive PPE and other critical supplies. FEMA covers the cost to fly supplies into the U.S. from overseas factories, reducing shipment time from weeks to days.

New SHD Blog Focuses on Farmers Markets and Summer Events

Snohomish Health District's [newest blog](#) focuses on guidance for farmers markets and the potential for holding large-scale events this summer.

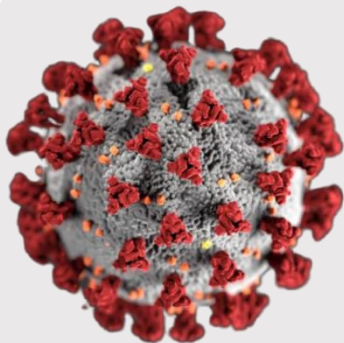
Farmers Markets

Farmers markets are considered an essential service, but there are measures that must be taken to keep people safe and healthy at markets. Snohomish Health District prepared guidance documents for attendees of markets and market organizers. [Find the guidance document here](#) or see the image below.

Summer events and programs

We know that there are many summer events people have been planning for over the course of months, as well as annual summer programs that would usually be gearing up or enrolling participants right now.

At this point, the Snohomish Health District is not recommending cancelation of all summer events. We are, however, recommending that people and organizations have plans for enhanced social distancing, sanitation and hygiene measures. Groups and event planners should be cautious about making plans that extend beyond what is currently allowable. You should also plan to remain flexible, as guidance may need to be revised in the coming weeks and months.



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KEEP THE FARMERS MARKET SAFE AND HEALTHY POSTER

The poster at right is available from the Snohomish Health District website. Click on the photo to access the PDF version.

EVERETT SMALL BUSINESS HELP

Links to Everett for Everett and the recently announced Everett CARES program are at right. The Everett CARES \$1 million grant program will provide aid to Everett small businesses and nonprofits.

Hey, Shoppers!
DO YOUR PART

To Keep the Farmers Market Safe & Healthy

- STAY CONNECTED**
Follow the market & vendors on social media for updates.
- GET IN, GET OUT**
Be ready to order, or look for options to pre-order.
- GOOD HABITS**
Use face coverings and keep your distance.
- DON'T TOUCH**
Let the vendors select and bag items.
- WHEN PAYING**
Use credit cards, digital payments or exact change.
- CLEAN UP**
Wash hands, produce, reusable bags when you get home.
- FOLLOW ALONG**
Read and follow all instructions please.
- SHOP ALONE**
Avoid bringing others and leave pets at home.
- NO EATING/DRINKING**
Please take your purchases home to enjoy.
- IF SICK, STAY HOME**
Do not attend if you are feeling unwell.

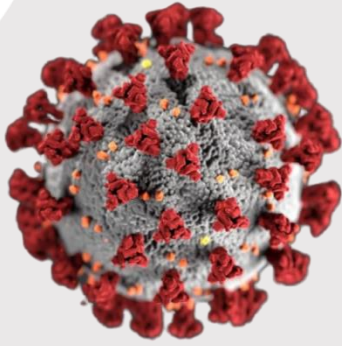
FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO:
WWW.SNOHD.ORG/NCOV2019

 **SNOHOMISH HEALTH DISTRICT**
WWW.SNOHD.ORG

Everett Small Business Help

The City of Everett created EverettforEverett.com, a guide to essential businesses that remain open and operating under physical distancing guidelines. It includes restaurants offering take-out and delivery, resources for senior shoppers, virtual arts and music options, online learning links, and more.

Later this month Everett will be launching the [Everett Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security \(Everett CARES\) program](#). This \$1 million grant program, made possible with funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, will provide aid to Everett small businesses and nonprofits. The program will disburse funds to organizations throughout the city with priority given to small businesses and nonprofits owned by, employing or serving low-income communities.



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SNOHOMISH COUNTY PUD ASSISTS CUSTOMERS IMPACTED BY COVID-19

Snohomish PUD offers help to those customers experiencing financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic. Details at right.

WASHINGTON WIC CONTINUES TO BE AVAILABLE

Washington WIC, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children continues to be available by phone or video chat even when physical buildings are closed. Information and links at right.

DSHS TO PROVIDE DISASTER CASH ASSISTANCE FOR SOME WASHINGTONIANS

Beginning Friday, April 17, some Washington residents can apply through the Department of Social and Health Services for emergency cash assistance to help meet their immediate needs. Links to the news release and FAQs are at right.

ESD LAUNCHED AN EXPANSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Details on the expansion of benefits as a result of the federal CARES Act and tips on how best to file for unemployment benefits are at right.

Snohomish County PUD Assists Customers Impacted by COVID-19

In March, Snohomish County PUD announced a [Community Support Plan](#) to help customers experiencing financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic. The plan makes funds available for residential and small business customers affected by COVID-19 who may be struggling to pay their electric or water bills. They have also paused late fees and disconnections for non-payment, made their Budget Payment Plan more flexible, and made enhancements to their Income-Qualified Assistance Program.

Washington WIC Continues to be Available

[Washington WIC](#) continues to be available to pregnant women, new moms, and young children. WIC is the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children. WIC gives families access to nutritious foods, nutrition education and breastfeeding support, health assessments and referrals.

People seeking WIC services do not need to visit a WIC clinic. WIC services are available by phone or video chat even when physical buildings are closed. To find WIC services in your area:

- Call the Help Me Grow WA Hotline at 1-800-322-2588
- Text "WIC" to 96859
- [Visit ParentHelp123's ResourceFinder](#)

Washington WIC has recently added many nutritious food options to help ensure WIC participants can find foods when shopping. WIC clinics can answer questions about these foods. [Download the WIC Shopper app for more information.](#)

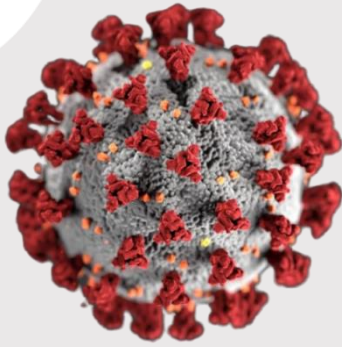
DSHS to Provide Disaster Cash Assistance for Some Washingtonians

Beginning Friday, April 17, some Washington residents can apply through the Department of Social and Health Services for emergency cash assistance to help meet their immediate needs. As a result of Governor Inslee's emergency declaration in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, the federal government has approved implementing the Disaster Cash Assistance Program, or DCAP, in Washington state. [News release](#) and [FAQ](#).

ESD Launched an Expansion of Unemployment Benefits

The Washington State Employment Security Department launched a massive update of its computer systems with the goal of ensuring people can successfully file for expanded unemployment benefits enabled by the Federal CARES Act. Every hour, thousands of people are applying for unemployment benefits which has caused system performance issues. While ESD works to address system performance issues they are reminding customers who are having difficulty applying or filing weekly claims the following:

- You don't have to apply on Sunday – it is not first-come-first served and there is no risk to funds running out. You can apply anytime.
- Payments are retroactive to your eligibility date. This means that, once you have successfully applied and backdated your start date, your first payment will be for all weeks for which you are eligible.
- Weekly claims can be filed Sunday through Saturday every week. They can also be filed over the automated phone system at 1-800-318-6022.



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INSLEE EXTENDS PROCLAMATIONS FOR UTILITY RATEPAYERS AND TRUCK DRIVER HOURS, ISSUES NEW PROCLAMATION THAT IMPACTS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

Last Friday, Gov. Jay Inslee extended proclamations for utility ratepayers and truck driver hours and issued a new proclamation waiving and suspending laws that impact community associations meetings and late fees. More details and links at right.

STATE FUNDS COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAM TO ENSURE COVID-19 INFORMATION GETS TO HARD TO REACH COMMUNITIES

The state Department of Health is funding a \$500,000 community-based outreach campaign to ensure critical health information is conveyed to all people, especially those disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic but less likely to be receiving timely information through government agencies and traditional news media.

- E-services is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The busiest times tend to be in the morning. We recommend trying during off hours.
- If you are having difficulty filing your application, please visit our help page <https://esd.wa.gov/unemployment/help>.

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

Inslee Extends Proclamations for Utility Ratepayers and Truck Driver Hours, Issues New Proclamation that Impacts Community Associations

Last Friday, Gov. Jay Inslee extended proclamations for utility ratepayers and truck driver hours and issued a new proclamation waiving and suspending laws that impact community associations meetings and late fees.

Truck Driver Hours Extension

[The original proclamation](#) on March 18 waived/suspended the restrictions on truck driver hours through April 17. The new proclamation extends this waiver through May 15 in correlation with the federal restriction extension issued by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. [Read the proclamation](#).

UTC Ratepayer Assistance Extension

[The original proclamation](#) on March 18 waived and suspended certain laws relating to the operation of utilities in order to provide relief to utility payers through the state Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC). It was extended to May 4 by the Legislature.

This new proclamation, which is retroactive to March 23, the date that the [Stay Home, Stay Healthy](#) was issued, expands upon the prior proclamation to prohibit all energy, landline phone, and water providers in Washington from:

- disconnecting any residential customers due to nonpayment (except at the request of the customer);
- refusing to reconnect any residential customer who has been disconnected due to nonpayment; and
- charging fees for late repayment or reconnection of these services. The proclamation strongly encourages utilities to adopt flexible credit and billing practices and work with customers to set up payment arrangements.

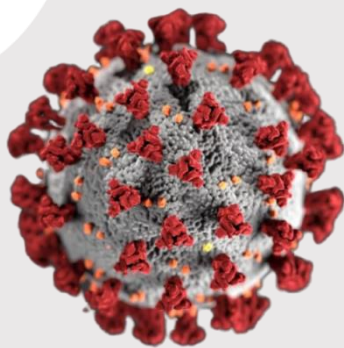
The updated proclamation is effective through May 4. **Please note:** this proclamation does not relieve utility customers from their obligation to pay utility bills. [Read the proclamation](#).

Community Associations Meetings and Late Fees

This proclamation waives and suspends laws that create barriers to holding community association meetings remotely and also waives/suspends statutes that permit the imposition and collection of fees for late payment of community assessments. [Read the proclamation](#).

State Funds Community-Based Program to Ensure COVID-19 Information Gets to Hard-to-Reach Communities

The state Department of Health [has made information available in at least 26 languages](#) and strives to ensure educational materials are appropriate for many cultures. However, community-rooted efforts led by trusted messengers are often the most effective in communicating critical health information. In an effort to make sure all Washingtonians have the information they need to stay healthy; the state is funding a



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ALIEN EMERGENCY MEDICAL MATERIALS ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN MULTIPLE LANGUAGES

The Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) published Alien Emergency Medical (AEM) materials in 15 languages. The materials are designed to help connect everyone to health care resources. Link at right.

LISTEN TO PREVIOUS COVID-19 UPDATE TELEBRIEFINGS FROM STATE JIC

Recordings of past State JIC telebriefings are now available. Links at right.

DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT INVOKED TO PRODUCE TESTING SWABS

President Trump invoked the Defense Production Act in response to the Country's shortage of swabs. More details at right.

GUIDELINES FOR OPENING UP AMERICA AGAIN

Late last week, the White House released Guidelines for Opening America Up Again. The guidelines are a phased approach based on the advice of public health experts. More details and link at right.

\$500,000 community-based outreach campaign. Community-rooted organizations will provide emergency language and outreach services to groups disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic but less likely to be receiving timely information through government agencies and traditional news media. [Read the full release.](#)

Alien Emergency Medical Materials are Now Available in Multiple Languages

The Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) published Alien Emergency Medical (AEM) materials in 15 languages. The materials are designed to help connect everyone to health care resources.

For more information please visit HCA's webpage to access [AEM's assessment and treatment for COVID-19](#) in multiple languages.

Listen to Previous COVID-19 Update Telebriefings from State JIC

Recordings of past State Joint Information Center (JIC) telebriefings are now available.

- Kathy Lofy, MD & Cathy Wasserman, PhD, MPH provide an overview on [COVID-19 data posted on the Department of Health website](#). DOH has been continually adding new data to its online dashboard which now includes hospitalization rates, negative test rates and demographic information regarding race/ethnicity.
- Assistant Secretary Bill Moss and Candace Goehring from DSHS and Dr. Charissa Fotinos with HCA discuss the [state of long term care facilities](#) in the state.

Defense Production Act Invoked to Produce Testing Swabs

President Trump invoked the Defense Production Act in response to the Country's shortage of swabs, which are necessary to test for COVID-19.

Puritan Medical Products is one of only two suppliers worldwide who produce the specialized swab CDC recommends for nasopharyngeal sample collection. Puritan Medical Products will increase production by over 20 million additional swabs per month.

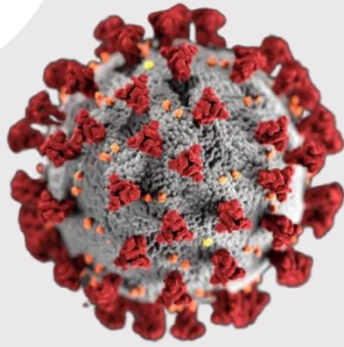
For more information please read Puritan's [blog post](#) and the President's [remarks](#).

Guidelines for Opening America Up Again

On April 16, the White House released [Guidelines for Opening America Up Again](#), providing a plan for rolling back social distancing measures and reopening the country's economy in several phases, depending on location. The guidelines offer a three-phased approach based on the advice of public health experts. These steps will help state and local officials when reopening their economies, getting people back to work, and continuing to protect American lives.

- Under the guidelines, states will need to meet six metrics that include demonstrating a downward trajectory of COVID-19 cases over a 14-day period and a robust system for testing health care workers before they can proceed to a phased opening.
- The guidelines were developed by top healthcare experts in government, including at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

For more information please review the [guidelines](#).



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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](#).

Numbers less than 5 are suppressed to protect medical privacy. Not all cases are within city limits and totals may include nearby unincorporated Snohomish County. Unknown includes cases still under investigation.

*Counts are for portions in Snohomish County only.

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**

Confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 in Snohomish County (as of April 20, 2020)

Case Count	Last Updated: 1:53 p.m.
Confirmed	2,163
Probable	164
Deceased	97

Jurisdiction	Last Updated: 1:53 p.m.
Arlington	89
Bothell*	154
Brier	16
Darrington	<5
Edmonds	242
Everett	646
Gold Bar	<5
Granite Falls	21
Index	0
Lake Stevens	97
Lynnwood	422
Marysville	169
Mill Creek	38
Monroe	58
Mountlake Terrace	77
Mukilteo	51
Snohomish	118
Stanwood	79
Sultan	<5
Tulalip	8
Unknown/Other	15
Woodinville*	12
Woodway	6