



Mason County COVID-19 Response

Daily Information Release

Area Commander Ross McDowell,
Emergency Manager for Mason County
"Stay Home, Limit Travel, Save Lives"

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COVID-19 KNOWN AS NOVEL CORONAVIRUS:

Mason County has two (2) confirmed cases of COVID-19 as of March 23, 2020.

REMINDER: We are currently under a "Stay at Home" order from Governor Inslee.

HOW IS MASON COUNTY RESPONDING?

- We are continuing to monitor changes and updates throughout the day. We are collecting and sharing accurate/confirmed data as soon as we have it.
- We will continue to coordinate and meet on a daily basis including Saturdays and Sundays.

WHAT DO CITIZENS NEED TO KNOW?

- We are asking for help spreading the message: Stay Home, Limit Travel, Save Lives.
- We have been coordinating to provide Spanish translated documents. We will be posting all documents in English and then following up with Spanish translations. We are building a document with Spanish translated information links.

HOW CAN I HELP?

- Share our messages to expand reach.
- Stay home, call loved ones on the phone or via video chat.
- Only buy what you need from the grocery stores.
- Practice kindness with your family and on social media. Everyone is feeling pressure right now and each of us are reacting differently. Being kind and extra understanding right now is what we all need.

AGENCIES:

Mason County Public Health:

- Public Health has implemented strategies and solutions to protect staff and public from non-essential contact. We are still answering phones and providing services on a case by case situation to the public.
- Vital records are continuing and coordinated with Funeral Homes only for death certificates at this time.

- This does not affect our efforts in monitoring, preparing and responding to the COVID-19 situation in our County.
- We encourage all employers to provide a social distance workplace for those still essential during this situation. The more we take care of ourselves and each other we are providing the example to Flatten the Curve that continues to tax our systems.

Mason County Sheriff's Office:

- You do not need a "traveling permit" or identification to travel through Mason County.

Mason Economic Development Council (EDC):

- Washington state today launched an online form so businesses can get clarification or submit a request for inclusion as essential under Gov. Jay Inslee's Stay Home, Stay Healthy proclamation. The direct link to the online fillable form: <https://tinyurl.com/r5lxzym>.
- One of the toughest questions we are asked is what impact will this pandemic have on our livelihoods. These are trying and uncertain times for businesses. The EDC and it's partners are working to gather information on the economic impact/injury to our local and regional communities. We are asking for businesses to fill out the Economic Impact Survey: <http://www.choosemason.com/resources>. This form can be used to track the impact Covid-19 is having on your business. You can fill this form out as frequently as you wish. Just make sure you indicate the date range. These forms are collected and used to request additional funds from local state and government agencies.
- Additionally, over the next few weeks, we will have grant-funded capital (through the Strategic Reserve Fund and Community Development Block Grant programs) to distribute to our local businesses. We will let you know when we will be accepting applications from businesses.

Hospital and Medical Facilities:

- For updated information check your local medial provider or hospital's websites and Facebook pages.

WHERE DO I FIND INFORMATION?

For more information visit:

- Mason County's website <http://www.co.mason.wa.us/COVID-19/index.php>
- WA State Department of Health's website www.doh.wa.gov
- CDC's website www.cdc.gov
- Mason County Public Health Information line 360-427-9670 ext. 599
- The Mason County Links page has been updated with more helpful links.
- State Coronavirus Website: <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/>