



Mason County Public Health

COVID-19 Information Release

Director of Community Service/Dave Windom

Health Officer/Dan Stein MD

March 17, 2020 5:00 PM

Email: Mason_PIO@co.mason.wa.us

Facebook: [MasonCountyWAHazard](https://www.facebook.com/MasonCountyWAHazard)

COVID-19 Test, Positive in Mason County Resident at Mason Health Clinic.

Mason County Public Health was notified March 17, 2020 that a Mason County Resident has tested Positive for COVID-19 at a Mason Health Clinic. Testing was conducted on March 13 and the result was positive. The patient is currently quarantined at home. This is the first case of COVID-19 in Mason County. Mason County Public Health is conducting contact interviews at this time.

In Washington State, cases of COVID-19 are at - 1012 cases total, 52 deaths - and it is likely that more cases will be confirmed in our communities in the future. Mason County Public Health, together with its healthcare, emergency management and law enforcement partners, has been working to respond to this threat. However, **help from everyone is needed at this time to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities and reduce the number of people impacted.**

Mason County Public Health is asking that the public do their part to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 by doing the following:

- **Call ahead** and do not go to the emergency room unless seriously ill. Emergency rooms need to be able to serve those with the most critical needs. If you have symptoms like cough, fever, or other respiratory problems, call your regular doctor/provider first.
- **Stay home when sick** and limit close contact with others in your household who are not sick.
- **Even if you are not ill, avoid visiting hospitals, long term care facilities or nursing homes** to the extent possible. If you do need to visit one of these facilities call ahead to determine if you will be allowed entry, facilities have implemented no entry and/or monitored entry.
- **Practice excellent personal hygiene** habits, including handwashing with soap and warm water, coughing into tissue or elbow, avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.



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- **Stay away from people who are ill**, especially if you are 60 and older or have underlying health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, lung disease, or a weakened immune system.
- **Limit your interactions and practice social distancing.** Work with your family, workplace, and the rest of the community to limit your activities in the upcoming weeks.
- **Stay informed.** Information is changing frequently. Follow Mason County all Hazards on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/MasonCountyWAHazard) regularly for updates. We encourage the use of www.co.mason.wa.us, www.cdc.gov and www.wadoh.gov .

Who Should Be Tested for COVID-19

We know many people are wondering, if they have fever and a cough, do they need to get tested for COVID-19? Right now, there is still a screening process and a criteria to be met before a person is deemed eligible for the COVID-19 test.

Additional Resources:

Washington Department of Health: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

COVID-19 FAQ:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/NovelCoronavirusFactSheet.pdf>

MCCS-PH: www.co.mason.wa.us



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