



DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 19, 2020

DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM - DAILY LOCAL UPDATE

(Douglas County, Ore.) Today, more residents and businesses in Oregon will get to move forward with reopening plans by advancing to Phase One or Phase Two of the Governor's Phased Reopening Plan in their counties. This comes after the Governor instituted a one-week hiatus on phase movement due to concerns over spikes in positive COVID-19 cases in early June in Oregon. At a [Thursday, June 18, 2020 press conference](#), the Governor and her coronavirus team provided an update on the state's latest reopening plan. The decision to move forward was based on a review of statewide health data that showed new hospital admission rates have not risen dramatically. This means that every county in Oregon is at least in Phase One of reopening. Douglas County is two weeks into Phase Two of the Governor's Phased Reopening Plan, and it appears we will be here for the foreseeable future, as no timeline has been given for advancement to Phase Three.

With the start of Summer, a day away, this brings up the most asked question we have encountered lately, "**Is it safe to travel?**" As we have stated before, the COVID-19 virus is still here, still infectious and will be around for quite some time. Current reports from state and local public health is that travel does significantly increase your chance of getting and spreading COVID-19. So, before you travel, you need to assess the risk to you, your family and to your local community, should you choose to venture outside our county borders. The bottom line is that each and every person needs to take personal responsibility for their actions and adopt the proper precautionary measures for COVID-19 protection.

A few things to consider if you are planning to travel:

- 1) **Why are you traveling?** Are you traveling to visit a sick relative or attend a wedding? You need to weigh the risk of travel with the risk of getting sick.
- 2) **Are you sick?** The same advice applies to going to work, to the store and to travel, if you are sick, stay home.
- 3) **When will you be traveling?** If you plan to travel in the next few weeks or in the next few months, make sure you know what the status is for the area you intend to visit. Make sure to track the COVID-19 case data for the area you are traveling to and if there is a significant spike in cases, you need to consider whether you are willing to take the chance of being exposed. Also, check on local restrictions and guidelines. Some areas are now requiring face coverings and other areas have not opened up businesses and services to the level we are at in Douglas County. Make sure you know the guidelines for dining, shopping and travel before you go.
- 4) **Where will you be traveling to?** Are you traveling to the next city, county or to another state? The farther you travel from home the more risk you have for being exposed to the virus. Again, make sure to track the COVID-19 case data for the area you are traveling to and if there is a significant spike in cases, you need to consider whether you are willing to take the chance of being exposed.
- 5) **How are you getting there?** Currently, the CDC is reporting that the highest rate of transmission is via mass transit systems. They are not sure if one type of travel is safer than others; however, airports, bus stations, train stations, cabs and rest stops are all places travelers can be exposed to the virus in the air and on surfaces. These are also places where it can be hard to social distance (keep 6 feet apart from other people). Check to see what COVID-19 safety precautions the mode of travel you are taking has implemented and make sure they are disinfecting on a regular schedule, promote minimal contact and have distance measures in place.
- 6) **Who is traveling?** People that are at a higher risk for severe illness, like our elderly population and those with compromised immune systems need to take extra precautions or consider staying home. Traveling to visit family may be especially dangerous if you or your loved ones are more likely to get very ill from COVID-19.
- 7) **What should I take with me to protect myself?** It is always a good idea to be prepared for any situation you encounter when traveling, and with COVID-19 it is even more important to protect you and your families' health. This means making sure you pack your own hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, face coverings, gloves and face tissues. Remember, a place is only as clean as the last person that used it. Make sure to go over guidelines with those traveling with you, especially children. Let them know that they need to keep their distance, limit what they touch and wash their hands often.
- 8) **What should I do when I return?** We always recommend that you consult and follow your doctor's advice prior to travel, as well as upon your return home. Additionally, some businesses and employers have implemented strict pandemic or COVID-19 policies regarding employees that travel outside the area. Make sure to check with your supervisor about what those guidelines might be before you travel. Some physicians or employers are recommending that people self-quarantine for two weeks (14 days) upon return from a highly infected area. If you feel like you are getting sick, or if you get sick, or if you had direct contact with someone that has COVID-19, contact your doctor or a local clinic and inquire about being tested.

For more information about traveling during COVID-19 visit the [Center for Disease Control's COVID-19 travel webpage](#).



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Roseburg VA Health Care System



American Red Cross
Southwest Oregon Chapter



Douglas County COVID-19 Test Results: It is Friday, June 19, 2020, and as of 12:00 pm today, there is **one new case** of COVID-19 in Douglas County. The total number of positive cases in Douglas County is now at 33. Testing continues, as DPHN has been holding 2-3 clinics a week and hospitals, urgent cares and clinics continue to test. **Thirty-three people have tested positive in the county and twenty-eight of those thirty-three have recovered.** DPHN defines recovery as an end to all symptoms after a positive test for COVID-19. DPHN continues their epidemiologic investigations, identifying individuals who may have had close contact with individuals that have tested positive for COVID-19, advising and supporting quarantine. The majority of the individuals who have tested positive earlier have now recovered.

The first positive COVID-19 case in Douglas County was announced on March 8, 2020. Thanks to the great work that Douglas County has done social distancing and staying home, we've had 33 cases in 103 days.

Here are the current numbers for Douglas County:

New Cases as of 12:00 pm June 19, 2020	Total Confirmed Cases	Total Recovered Cases Of those that tested positive	Total COVID-19 Deaths	Total Currently Hospitalized Of those that tested positive	Total Negative Test Result	Total Presumptive Cases
1	33	28	0	1	4107	0

DPHN is following OHA policy related to outbreaks and will be reporting workplace outbreaks with 5 or more cases and only for workplaces where there are at least 30 employees. The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) expanded their reporting for COVID-19 case management and will now include presumptive COVID-19 cases. DPHN will also be reporting presumptive cases and will use the OHA's definition of presumptive as having had close contact with a known, confirmed COVID-19 case, showing symptoms and not yet having a positive nasal swab/PCR test for COVID-19.

Getting Tested & Testing Clinics

The next drive-through testing clinic is today, Friday, June 19, 2020, in Roseburg. As a reminder, if you are having symptoms of COVID-19 including cough, fever, shortness of breath, muscle aches and pains, diarrhea, sore throat or decreased sense of smell and taste, talk to your health care provider about being tested for COVID-19. Patients without a Primary Care Provider, that are looking for a COVID-19 test should contact the Sutherlin Aviva Health Clinic at (541) 459-3788. The first drive-through testing site was piloted in the county on March 17, 2020, there have been 748 people tested in 36 the drive-through clinics, while additional testing continues in hospitals, urgent cares and clinics. The drive-through clinics are led by DPHN, in conjunction with partner agencies including; Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team, Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Douglas County Public Works, local volunteers and local health professionals.

Oregon COVID-19 Case Update

Oregon Health Authority reports new cases once a day on its website at www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus. The Oregon Health Authority is also releasing the daily situation status report, which is produced jointly with Oregon Office of Emergency Management. It details the overall picture of the COVID-19 outbreak within the state and the response across government agencies. [Read more here about the daily situation status report.](#)

Facebook Live with Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer

Join us, Friday, June 19, 2020 for the next virtual town hall Q&A with Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, your Douglas County Public Health Officer at 6:00 pm, hosted by DPHN and found on the [DPHN Facebook page](#).

\$16 Million in Funding Available to Oregon's Marine and Coastal Fishery Businesses Impacted by COVID-19

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) announced that they will host an online meeting on **Wednesday, June 24, 2020 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm** to discuss a [draft spending plan](#) for CARES Act funding specifically for marine and coastal fishery sector businesses, which will include information on eligibility and how to apply. Marine and coastal fishery sector businesses who have experienced economic impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic are encouraged to join the meeting to learn more. Following the online presentation, participants will have an opportunity to provide brief feedback and ask questions. Comments on the draft plan can also be submitted to odfw.caresact@state.or.us, and must be received no later than June 26, 2020.

ODFW anticipates that nearly \$16 million in federal relief aid will be available for Oregon's marine and coastal fishery sectors experiencing significant economic impacts from the global COVID-19 pandemic (loss of greater than 35 percent gross revenue as compared to prior 5-year average). The relief aid slated for Oregon is part of \$300 million in [fisheries assistance funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act \(CARES Act\)](#) to states, Tribes, and territories with coastal and marine fishery participants who have been negatively affected. ODFW is the lead State agency working with fishery participants to coordinate aid.

Fishery participants potentially eligible for funding from the CARES Act include Oregon-based commercial fishing and processing businesses, charter/for-hire fishing businesses, qualified aquaculture operations, and gear and bait retailers if that is their business' primary source of revenue. Eligibility does not include businesses farther down the supply chain (including vessel repair businesses, restaurants, or seafood retailers), though these businesses may be eligible for other CARES Act aid. (Tribal fisheries will also be eligible for CARES Act aid but through another allocation and process not coordinated by ODFW.) ODFW plans to submit Oregon's spending plan to the federal government (NOAA) by the end of June 2020 for federal approval. Once approved, ODFW hopes to begin the application period in mid-July and it will be open for one month. Applications must be submitted to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission for review, approval and fund disbursements. ODFW is projecting that disbursements will begin late August or early September 2020.

"We encourage any marine and coastal related fishery businesses who want to learn more to join the meeting," said Ed Bowles, ODFW Fish Division Administrator. "We want to submit our final spend plan for NOAA approval by the end of June and need your feedback to make this work and get some relief to your businesses which are a vital part of Oregon's economy, culture and community."

The ODFW CARES Act Meeting will be held via GoToMeeting. You can join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone at: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/920757813>. If you are new to GoToMeeting, you will need to download the app: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/920757813>. You can also dial in by phone at: 1 (571) 317-3112, using the access code 920 757 813.

Stay Informed with the Accurate Information

Your Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Douglas County Public Health Officer, Dr. Robert Dannenhoffer and the Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team have been working hard to cooperatively provide accurate and timely information to Douglas County residents since March 8, 2020.

Local COVID-19 Hotline: If you have questions about resources available, call the COVID-19 hotline, staffed by local volunteers at (541) 464-6550 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, 7 days a week.

Stay up to date on COVID-19 in Douglas County on the [Douglas County Government website](#) or the [DPHN website](#). Find additional information on state or federal COVID-19 response from the following websites: [Oregon Health Authority, Centers for Disease Control](#), and by calling or logging onto [211Info](#).

Got Questions about the Governor's Phased Reopening Plans? If you have questions or need more information about the Governor's Phased Reopening Plans or Sector Specific Guidelines go to <https://govstatus.egov.com/reopening-oregon>. There is also a video presentation about Phase Two available [here](#). Or you may contact the [Governor's Office](#), the [Oregon Health Authority \(OHA\)](#) or the [Oregon State Office](#) responsible for regulating your business or agency, or the business or venue that you wish to visit.

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Contact [Tamara Howell](#), Public Information Officer, Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team, (541) 670-2804 cell/(541) 957-4896 tjhowell@co.douglas.or.us
Contact [Vanessa Becker](#), Public Information Officer, Douglas Public Health Network, (541) 817-6552 cell /(541) 440-3571 vanessa@douglaspublichealthnetwork.org