



DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

**JOINT INFORMATION CENTER PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 11, 2020**

DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM - DAILY LOCAL UPDATE

(Douglas County, Ore.) In light of recent vandalism and excessive visitation to Oregon's state parks, beaches and tourist attractions our Oregon State Parks recently tweeted a message to Oregonians encouraging them to #StayParkedatHome. Their Twitter post stated, "The sun is out, the warm air feels good, & you're stir-crazy. Everyone feels it. But closed means closed, whether you live next door or are planning a trip. This isn't 4ever. Park Ranger Lisa explains it best in this [video](#). For now, we're all #ORStateParked." The Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team (DCCRT), under the direction of the Douglas County Board of Commissioners would like to emphasize the importance of your continued vigilance in following the "Stay Home, Save Lives," orders from the State.

Commissioner Tim Freeman stated, "We are all feeling the stress and angst of having to stay home, but these orders were put into place to protect the health and safety of our citizens. Your Commissioners, County Departments and the members of the DCCRT have been working hard to implement, plan and provide services as best we can during this pandemic. Please take care of yourselves, stay home as much as you can, obey posted signs and guidelines (if you have to go out), and please take care not cause damage to our beautiful parks and recreation areas. When this is all over, we are all going to need our parks to be open for much needed recreational enjoyment."

Local COVID-19 Test Results

As of 12:00 p.m., April 11, 2020, there are no new cases of COVID-19 in Douglas County. The number of positive cases stands at twelve total in the county. Of the twelve positives, four have recovered, and there have been zero deaths and 489 negative tests for COVID-19 locally. Douglas Public Health Network continues their epidemiologic investigations, identifying individuals who may have had close contact with individuals that have tested positive for COVID-19 and advising quarantine. Four of the individuals who tested positive earlier have now recovered. DPHN defines recovery as an end to all symptoms after a positive test for COVID-9.

Another successful drive through COVID-19 clinic, led by DPHN took place yesterday, Friday, April 10 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. They tested 29 residents yesterday at the drive through clinic. The second coastal drive through clinic, led by DPHN took place today, Saturday, April 11 in Reedsport. They tested 9 residents.

At this time, you can only get a COVID-19 test through your healthcare provider. Residents must be identified by their health care provider, as a patient that is symptomatic, and needs to be tested. Information has been given to providers and clinics about how to get their patients signed up for the drive-through testing clinics. If you want to be tested, you must talk to your health care provider. Tests are currently being processed at the Oregon State Public Health Lab and a growing number of commercial labs, like Quest and LabCorp. There are a few outpatient clinics in Douglas County offering testing at this time. Community health partners are working very hard to make testing available to a wider number of people. The first drive thru testing site was piloted in the county on March 17, 2020, there have been 276 people tested so far in the drive through 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](#).

Changes to Insurance Payments and Deadlines

Are you struggling to pay your insurance premium? Concerned that your policy may be cancelled? To support consumers during the COVID-19 crisis, the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) issued a temporary



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



American Red Cross
Southwest Oregon Chapter

emergency order that requires insurance companies to:

- Institute a grace period for insurance premium payments for all policies issued in Oregon
- Suspend all cancellations and non-renewals for active insurance policies
- Extend all deadlines for consumers to report claims
- Ensure that customers can make payments and report claims while maintaining social distancing

The order is effective through April 23 but may be extended beyond that date. Anyone with questions or concerns about their insurance company or agent can call DCBS's advocacy team at (888) 877-4894 or [visit this website](#) for more information or to file a complaint.

Oregon State Fire Marshall Extends Self-Service at Oregon Gas Stations Through April 25

State Fire Marshall, Jim Walker announced yesterday that he has extended the temporary rules change allowing Oregon gas stations to provide self-service on a voluntary basis. This extension during the COVID-19 pandemic was implemented to address shortages of workers experienced by gas retailers statewide.

The rules change first announced by the Office of the Oregon State Fire Marshall (OSFM) on March 28 was set to expire on April 11. The latest update will extend the deadline to April 25.

"We appreciate the patience of all Oregonians and businesses with this temporary suspension of rules, which now allow for self-service at Oregon gas stations," said Walker. "These changes provide station operators flexibility to manage their operations and help to make refueling safer for both customers and service station attendants, while keeping stations open at a critical time when COVID-19 is impacting gas retailers who serve our many essential workers statewide."

What this means:

- Allows gas attendants to help customers while avoiding face-to-face, hand-to-hand contact and following proper physical distancing measures.
- Instructs gas attendants to continue sanitizing equipment and fuel nozzles.
- Instructs gas attendants to help customers with their refueling as needed.
- Self-service is not mandatory, but allows gas stations to continue operating and allows Oregonians who have to travel access to fuel.
- Unattended self-service is permitted when a gas station owner exhausts all staffing options.
- Stations that do not have a gas attendant on duty are required to post safety signs for physical distancing and instructions showing customers how to operate a fuel pump correctly.
- Extension of self-service rules change does not affect areas of the state that are already authorized for self-service refueling under Oregon law.

Information about the extended rules change for self-service gasoline can be found on the [OSFM website](#).

Help Keep the Blood Donations Going – Circulate the Love

Yes, these are uncertain times, but leaving home to donate blood is considered a lifesaving and essential need. Those who are healthy, feeling well and eligible to give blood or platelets, are urged to make an appointment to donate as soon as possible by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting [www.RedCrossBlood.org](#) or calling (800) 733-2767. Donate your blood and save a life.

The YMCA and the American Red Cross are teaming up for two blood drives later this month. Both drives will be held at the **YMCA of Douglas County, 1151 NW Stewart Parkway, in Roseburg**:

- **Tuesday, April 21** – 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- **Tuesday, April 28** – 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Appointments are now required, in light of social-distancing guidelines. To make an appointment, visit [www.redcrossblood.org](#) and enter sponsor code: YMCA Roseburg. To save time during your donation, please complete your health history questions prior to the drive by visiting [www.redcrossblood.org/rapidpass](#)

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 and a response to Douglas County residents. **If you have questions about resources available, call the COVID-19 hotline, staffed by local volunteers at (541) 464-6550.** Stay up to date on COVID-19 in Douglas County on the DPHN website at [www.douglaspublichealthnetwork.org](#). Find additional information on state, federal and international COVID-19 response from the following websites: [Oregon Health Authority](#), [Centers for Disease Control](#), [World Health Organization](#) and by calling or logging onto [211Info](#).

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