



DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 7, 2020

DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM - DAILY LOCAL UPDATE

(Douglas County, Ore.) Oregon is on the brink of a phased reopening, and today the Governor released details in a press conference about what residents and business owners can expect. In order to begin Phase One of the Governor's reopening process, individual County Governments will need to submit an application to the state that demonstrates they can do so safely. The State said the first day that counties can submit a reopening application is Friday, May 8, 2020. The Douglas County Board of Commissioners plan to submit our reopening application as soon as possible on the first day the state is accepting them. The applications will be reviewed, and counties that receive approval from the Governor, could enter Phase One as soon as May 15, 2020. See below for more details about the Governor's Phase One Reopening.

Douglas County COVID-19 Test Results

The good news continues as there are **NO** new cases of COVID-19 in Douglas County. There has only been one positive case reported in the last 17 days and that case was reported as recovered before their test results were returned. Testing continues, DPHN has been holding 2-3 clinics a week and hospitals, urgent cares and clinics continue to test. Twenty-four people have tested positive in the county and twenty-two of those twenty-four have recovered. DPHN defines recovery as an end to all symptoms after a positive test for COVID-19.

Here are the current numbers for Douglas County:

New Cases as of 12:00 pm May 7, 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
0	24*	22	0	1	1289	0

*confirmed cases are people who have tested positive with a PCR/nasal swab test

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has 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.

DPHN continues their epidemiologic investigations, identifying individuals who may have had close contact with individuals that have tested positive for COVID-19 and advising quarantine. The majority of the individuals who have tested positive earlier have now recovered.

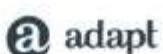
Get Tested & Testing

The next drive-through clinic in Roseburg will be Friday, May 8th, 2020. 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. The first drive thru testing site was piloted in the county on March 17, 2020, there have been 435 people tested in the drive through clinics alone, additional testing continues in hospitals, urgent cares and clinics simultaneously.

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](#).



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



American Red Cross
Southwest Oregon Chapter

Facebook Live with Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer

Join us tomorrow night, Friday, May 8, 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](#).

The Governor's Phase One Reopening Details

Here are some activities that the Governor will allow under Phase One:

- Gatherings of up to 25 people, as long as physical distancing can be maintained.
- Restaurants and bars may open for sit-down service, with adequate physical distancing, the wearing of face coverings by employees and [other measures](#).
- Gyms and personal-care businesses such as barber shops and salons will be allowed to reopen if they can follow [requirements](#) such as client screening. Salons will operate by appointment only and maintain records for contact tracing.
- Retail businesses can reopen, with physical distancing encouraged through proper signage, one-way aisles, tape markings and [other measures](#).
- Outdoor recreation areas can reopen with some [restrictions](#), including blocking off areas that are likely to attract crowds, such as playgrounds, picnic shelters, basketball courts and overnight-use areas.
- As restrictions lift, the public is still encouraged to maintain physical distancing of 6 feet, wear face coverings in public, wash their hands, stay home if they are sick and take [other precautions](#). Elderly residents are encouraged to continue to stay at home and avoid contact with others.

Large gatherings, including live sporting events, concerts, festivals and conventions will be prohibited until there is a reliable treatment or vaccine for COVID-19, the governor said. Any large gathering scheduled through September should be cancelled or “significantly modified.”

“We are not returning to business as usual,” Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Director Pat Allen said. “We are venturing into uncharted territory: safely reopening businesses and other activities during a pandemic. We know there will be many questions. Each employer, retailer, restaurant owner and personal care provider will know best how your business operates. These guidelines tell you how you can operate safely. Follow them.”

Counties applying for the Governor's Phase One reopening need to meet prerequisites including having sufficient hospital capacity and enough personal protective equipment (PPE) to handle a potential surge in COVID-19 cases. Counties also need to have adequate testing and contract-tracing capabilities, and have seen a sustained drop in the number of COVID-19 hospitalizations. Counties must remain in Phase One for a minimum of 21 days before moving on to the next phase to ensure that any uptick in COVID-19 cases can be properly managed. The full Phase One guidelines can be found on [OHA's COVID-19 page](#). The guidelines for Phase Two and beyond are still being developed. Next week, the State said they will be issuing guidelines for the expansion of child care services, summer school, summer camps, youth programs and public transit.

Health officials at this morning's press conference said actions by Oregonians, including staying at home and maintaining physical distancing, have resulted in the state's anticipated COVID-19 infection rate dropping by 70 percent. Oregon has the fourth-lowest infection rate and the eighth-lowest death rate in the U.S. The state has more than 2,000 hospital beds available and 775 ventilators. Dr. Renee Edwards, Chief Medical Officer for OHSU Healthcare, said emergency rooms statewide have seen a drop in the number of people seeking care for even non-COVID-related symptoms. She urged people to go to the hospital if they need care.

“I want all Oregonians to know that we want you to seek care for those health conditions that require care, rather than not be in contact with your provider, or be concerned that seeking health care could place you at risk for contracting COVID,” she said. “Know that it is safe. Know that we are here for you, and that we are open, and continue to treat all conditions for which Oregonians seek care.”

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.

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 or federal COVID-19 response from the following websites: [Oregon Health Authority](#), [Centers for Disease Control](#), and by calling or logging onto [211Info](#).

**Local case data includes all tests done in the county, and are not exclusive to DPHN testing. Further, reporting numbers are accurate as of time listed on this release. These numbers may not match other organizations, who report at different times of the day.*

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