



Jefferson County Department of Emergency Management



Community Situation Report

2020 COVID-19 Pandemic

Sept. 10, 2020

Masking could reduce number of flu cases

In response to questions community members submitted for Dr. Locke to answer during the Board of County Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, Locke said he is concerned about flu season on top of the pandemic and the stress that could bring to the healthcare system. We should have a mild flu and cold season because of the masking and social distancing, he said. There is concern about the coming change in the weather and people spending more time indoors which can promote the transmission of the virus. Locke said he expects to see an increase of COVID in the winter months. In response to questions about a COVID vaccine, Locke stated there are over 170 vaccines in development right now with seven in the Phase 3 process. It is likely that healthcare and frontline workers will get the vaccine first followed by high-risk groups and people of color. Exact details of prioritization have not been worked out yet.

All outdoor burning now banned in Jefferson County

Effective Sept. 7, 2020, Jefferson County Fire Marshal Chief Brian Tracer has extended the original burn ban for the county to include all campfires, fire pits, land clearing burns and the use of charcoal briquettes until further notice. Current weather reports are predicting above average temperatures, low relative humidity and strong winds, Tracer said.

“In a safe, proactive and responsible approach to the current weather conditions, all burning within Jefferson County is banned until further notice,” Chief Tracer said. Additional information about wildfires can be found at <https://www.dnr.wa.gov>.

Wildfire smoke and COVID-19

Wildfire smoke can cause symptoms that range from the annoying — eye, nose, and throat irritation — to the dangerous — wheezing, coughing, and shortness of breath, according to the State Department of Health. Wildfire smoke is especially harmful for children, pregnant women, and people who are over 65. And if you already have a heart or lung condition like asthma or COVID-19, breathing in wildfire smoke can make it worse.

Take steps to keep smoke out and have better indoor air quality.

- You can do this by improving filtration and creating a clean air room in your home. If you create a homemade box fan air filter, never leave it unattended. Left alone, it is a fire hazard.
- When the air quality is poor, don't add to indoor air pollution by burning candles or incense, or smoking inside.
- Close windows and doors when it's smoky outside but open windows and let in fresh air when there's better air quality outside.
- Wear your cloth face covering to slow the spread of COVID-19, but don't think it is protecting you from the smoke. It keeps droplets from spreading, but lets dangerous microscopic smoke particles right in.
- Stay informed about wildfire smoke at <https://wasmoke.blogspot.com>

For more information go to:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/AirQuality/SmokeFromFires>

Where to get face masks

In Jefferson County, free masks are available for anyone at Safeway, QFC/Hadlock, Quilcene Village Store, Food Coop, Dept. of Public Health. Free Masks are also available for our low-income populations at Olycap, Food Banks and Dept. of Public Health. To report a business not following statewide face mask directives:

<https://lni.wa.gov/forms-publications/F418-052-000.pdf>

Cases by Age

<19	9
20-29	4
30-39	12
40-49	5
50-59	6
60-69	17
70-79	13
80+	4

Cases by Sex

Cases by Sex	N (%)
Female	36 (51%)
Male	34 (49%)

Cases by Location

Port Townsend	36
Mid-County	27
South County (Quilcene, Brinnon, West Jefferson)	7

2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Jefferson County, WA

Total Positives (confirmed cases)	70
Negative	7158
Percent Positive	0.97%
Test Results Pending	32
Total Patients Tested	7260
Total Patients Recovered*	59
Deaths	0
Two Week COVID-19 Case Rate per 100,000 (Aug 23 - Sep 5)**	9.40

Last results received 9/10/2020. We are working with Jefferson Healthcare and other labs to provide the test result data. *WA State DOH: people are considered recovered at 28 days from the onset of symptoms if they are alive and not hospitalized. This table will be updated Monday through Friday. **This rate will be updated every Monday. Last Updated: 9/10/2020 at 2:35 PM

Date of New Case(s)	No. of Cases Added	Location	Sex	Age
8/31/2020	1	Port Townsend	M	70-79

% Positive in Past 4 Weeks

Week of:	Tests Completed	Cases	% Positive
8/10/2020-8/16/2020	416	6	1.44%
8/17/2020-8/23/2020	469	7	1.49%
8/24/2020-8/30/2020	455	3	0.66%
8/31/2020-9/6/2020	365	0	0.00%