



Colville Reservation COVID-19 Response

Daily Update

Thursday, March 26, 2020

The Colville Tribal Incident Management Team and Colville Service Unit will hold a drive-thru COVID-19 assessment from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. today at the Nespelem Agency Campus across from the IHS Clinic.

It is important to note not all persons will be screened for COVID-19. Medical personnel will assess each patient and will provide recommendations for further assessment. Strep throat and influenza share many of the same symptoms with COVID-19. During the assessment, some patients will receive rapid-tests for strep or flu if recommended by a medical provider.

While this is a drive thru clinic, patients are asked to limit their vehicles to two passengers to ensure social distancing.

Currently, both Ferry County and Okanogan County have reported a single case of COVID-19 in each county. In both counties, authorities reported that the individuals were in at-home isolation and posed no threat to the communities.

Also yesterday, the Colville Business Council closed the reservation to all non-essential traffic. A press release notes, "Access remains allowed for tribal members, non-member residents of the Reservation, employees of the Tribes, delivery, postal and food services and other pre-approved outside agency personnel or essential services."

The state highways, Highways 155, 97 and 21, remain open.

The Colville Incident Management Team encourages all community members to stay home and stay safe. Please help us all prevent the spread of COVID-19 on the Colville Reservation.

For emergency, please call 9-1-1.

Colville Tribal EOC
509-634-7350

Washington Department
of Health Hotline
1-800-525-0127

What you need to know to protect yourself

Older adults and people who have severe underlying chronic medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes seem to be at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 illness. Please consult with your health care provider about additional steps you may be able to take to protect yourself.

Know How it Spreads

- There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).
- The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.
- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.
 - Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
 - Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

Take Steps to Protect Yourself

Clean your hands often

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Put distance between yourself and other people if COVID-19 is spreading in your community. This is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Take Steps to Protect Others

- Stay home if you are sick, except to get medical care. Learn what to do if you are sick.
- Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.