

Colville Reservation COVID-19 Response

Daily Update

Friday, March 27, 2020

The Washington Department of Health and local public health districts have reported a case of COVID-19 in Okanogan County and a case in Ferry County. Both respective districts have further reported the individuals are isolated at home and pose no threat to the communities.

Okanogan County has had a total of 133 tests, with 88 negative results returned, one positive and 44 results pending.

Ferry County has had a total of 32 negative tests and one positive. The number of pending results is unreported.

Yesterday, the Colville Incident Management Team and Colville Service Unit conducted a drive-thru COVID-19 assessment at the Nespelem Agency as part of the continued effort to stop the spread of COVID-19 on the Colville Indian Reservation.

The incident management team continues to work with local partners in efforts against the COVID-19 pandemic, and in this light, the team asks that all community members join in the effort by following these Red Cross recommended preventative steps:

- Stay home, stay safe.
- Practice social distancing by keeping a distance of about six feet from others if you must go out in public for essential activities.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after being in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home if you are sick, except to get medical care.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing; throw used tissues in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, computers, phones, keyboards, sinks, toilets, faucets and countertops.
- If surfaces are dirty, clean them use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.

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.

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• 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.