



PETERSBURG BOROUGH | PETERSBURG MEDICAL CENTER
EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER UNIFIED COMMAND

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE: COVID-19 | EOC UNIFIED COMMAND SITUATION UPDATES

Date: July 9, 2020
From: Petersburg Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

This brief responds to questions and provides an update on information from the Emergency Operations Center Unified Command (EOC) and its partner agencies. Contact the EOC with your questions at eoc@petersburgak.gov.

COVID-19 Cases in Petersburg				
	Cumulative	Active	Recovered	Deceased
Resident	6*	2*	3	1
Non-resident	3	2	1	0

Petersburg COVID-19 case counts can be found at www.psqcovidinfo.net

**Includes out of State positive case reported below*

OUT OF STATE POSITIVE CASE

The EOC has learned that a Petersburg resident that is out of State has contracted the virus out of State. While it is considered a Petersburg case by the State and will appear on the State and Borough dashboard as a Petersburg case, the individual is not in town and will not return until they recover.

WAITING FOR TEST RESULTS?

The Petersburg Medical Center is seeing 7 days or longer turn-around-times for receipt of test results. Commercial labs are significantly impacted by the increase of testing nationwide. Your patience is appreciated!

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE BUSINESSES WITH WORKERS

All Critical Infrastructure businesses with workers arriving to the State are still required under Health Mandate 10 to develop and submit a Community/Workforce Protective Plan (CWPP) to the State and local Unified Commands for review. Additionally, all private sector businesses, whether Essential Services/Critical Infrastructure or non-essential/non-critical, with workers traveling between Alaskan communities off of highway and Alaska Marine Highway systems are still required under Health Mandate 18 to develop and submit a CWPP to the Unified Command for review. Protective Plans should be submitted to akcovidplans@ak-prepared.com and to eoc@petersburgak.gov. Visit the State website at <https://covid19.alaska.gov/unified-command/protective-plans> for guidance on developing Protective Plans.

PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM (PPP) LOAN/GRANT PROGRAM EXTENDED

The deadline to apply for loans has been extended to August 8. The Paycheck Protection Program is a loan designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep their workers on the payroll. SBA will forgive loans if all employee retention criteria are met and the funds are used for eligible expenses. Apply through your local bank.

PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM LOANS/GRANTS FOR COMMERCIAL FISHING BUSINESSES

The PPP has been amended to allow commercial fishing businesses to account for crew member payroll when applying for PPP loans. For those businesses with existing PPP loans, the PPP loan amount can only be amended if your lender has NOT yet submitted the paperwork to SBA, usually within 10 days of disbursing the PPP funds to you. Once the paperwork is submitted, the loan cannot be changed as it is considered a completed transaction.

PLAYGROUND SAFETY

Even though local playgrounds are now open, it is still important for families to be careful when bringing their children to swing, slide or climb. Gathering close to others can increase the chances of spreading COVID-19 from person to person. That includes kids playing near each other, as well as parents from different households hanging out together as they watch. The Borough is putting extra time into cleaning playgrounds. Even so, you can help set expectations for your family to prevent the spread of illness. Reminders for preventing the spread of COVID-19 at parks and playgrounds:

- Wear face coverings when possible. They are most important when you or your children might get within 6 feet of others. Face coverings should not be worn by children younger than 2 and anyone who has trouble breathing
- Stay home if you are sick or do not feel well
- Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the inside of your elbow
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol and rub hands together until dry. Young children should be supervised to ensure they are using sanitizer safely
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

FREE COVID TESTING FOR TRAVELERS

The Petersburg Medical Center testing clinic at the airport is open every day. Testing is provided to travelers entering Alaska by either plane or boat. Alaska Health Mandate 10.1 requires that all travelers arriving from out of State to either self-quarantine for 14 days or obtain a COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours of departure to Alaska or obtain a test upon arrival. **The traveler testing site is open 10am - 11am & 2pm - 3pm** (may change if flights are delayed or canceled). More information about local testing is available at: <https://www.psgcovidinfo.net/travel-testing>

ACT LIKE YOU HAVE IT

Besides practicing basic preventive measures like handwashing, wearing a face covering, and social distancing, you can minimize your risk for spreading or getting COVID-19 by avoiding:

- Being in an enclosed space
- Being in a crowd or being unable to physically distance yourself from others
- Having longer interactions with people outside your household
- Being around forceful exhalations, like coughing, yelling, or singing

GOT SYMPTOMS? CALL THE HOTLINE

Anybody can get tested who has ANY of the following symptoms: fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, a decreased appetite, diminished sense of taste or smell, diarrhea, fatigue, headache, muscle or joint aches, nausea, rash, rigors, a runny nose, a sore throat, sputum production. Anyone with any symptoms is encouraged to call PMC's 24-hour **COVID-19 hotline (907) 772-5788**. Experienced nurses are answering the calls.