



PETERSBURG BOROUGH | PETERSBURG MEDICAL CENTER

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE: COVID-19 | EOC UPDATES

Date: April 10, 2020
From: Petersburg Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
Contact: Karl Hagerman, Petersburg Borough EOC Incident Commander
Phil Hofstetter, Petersburg Medical Center Incident Commander

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

COVID-19 UPDATE

Petersburg currently has 1 recovered case of COVID-19. There are currently no active cases of COVID-19 in the community. Our first positive is fully recovered and is cleared by the State of Alaska Epidemiology.

PMC has tested 62 patients for COVID-19; 1 recovered positive case, 53 tests have returned negative and 8 tests are still pending.

PETERSBURG MEDICAL CENTER

PMC is taking all necessary precautions to make sure staff and patients stay safe.

- PMC sent all non-essential staff home to work.
- All PMC meetings are now virtual to maintain social distancing.
- PMC has implemented a mask policy for all staff and patients; mask to be worn always in the facility.
- We are working on developing telehealth services for patients to have virtual visits with their provider.
- Rehabilitation department is providing their services via telehealth.

PLAYGROUND & SHELTER CLOSURE

The Borough's Parks and Recreation Department have closed all play structures and shelters. Open air areas and trails remain open. Please stay home if you are showing symptoms, keep a 6' distance from others, and keep dogs on leash. If you are actively exercising (running/biking) at least double that distance.

STATE TRAVEL MANDATE

The State of Alaska has instituted a mandatory 14-day quarantine for all arriving passengers. In accordance with the State mandate, accommodations have been made at the airport for travelers to be met and declaration forms to be provided. The forms are also available at <https://ready.alaska.gov/form>

The failure to follow this order is punishable by a fine of up to \$25,000, or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both pursuant to Alaska Statute 12.55.035 and Alaska Statute 12.55.135

The Borough has created a quarantine matrix chart for residents to use to see what they should be doing: www.petersburgak.gov

BE KIND

Dealing with COVID-19 in our community is stressful. Have I been exposed? Will there be disruptions in services? We may feel isolated and we may feel paranoia or anger at people who we feel are not practicing social distancing in public settings. We can all help by:

- Being kind
- Keeping our minds and bodies strong
- Staying connected (while staying apart)
- Sticking to the facts, not the rumors

STAY INFORMED

SIGN UP for CodeRED at www.petersburgak.gov

LISTEN to the KFSK weekday radio show at 12:30

READ the newspaper for updates

CHECK these websites daily

- Petersburg Borough: www.petersburgak.gov
- State of Alaska COVID-19 Dashboard: www.coronavirus.alaska.gov.
- CDC: www.cdc.gov

ACT LIKE YOU HAVE IT

Everyone should assume that they have COVID-19 and that others they are around have it as well. When out for essential trips, wear a cloth face covering & keep 6+ ft of physical distance between yourself & others. If you are actively exercising (running/biking) at least double that distance.

If you are sick or suspect that you may have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus, take steps to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and our community. If you've developed a fever, cough or difficulty breathing or have other new and unusual symptoms, please contact:

Petersburg Medical Center 24 hour COVID-19 hotline (907)772-5788.