

PETERSBURG BOROUGH | PETERSBURG MEDICAL CENTER EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER UNIFIED COMMAND

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

Date:	September 10, 2020
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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 <u>eoc@petersburgak.gov</u>.

	Cumulative	Active	Recovered	Deceased
Resident	7	0	6	1
Non-resident	7	0	7	0

For current information about local case counts visit: <u>www.psgcovidinfo.net</u>

STATE AND TRAVEL INDUSTRY LAUNCH SAFE TRAVELS INITIATIVE

The State of Alaska and travel industry have launched the *Safe Travels* Initiative for out of State Travelers. The initiative provides the latest travel information to improve traveler experience, guidance on health mandates, and advisories for anyone traveling to Alaska from the lower 48 and international destinations. For more information visit, <u>www.AlaskaSafeTravels.com</u>

MOST NEW IN STATE CASES NOT TRAVEL RELATED

The majority of new infections among Alaskans are from community spread, not from travel, meaning that most Alaskans get the virus from someone they work, socialize, or go to school with. Many Alaskans who are diagnosed with COVID-19 report that they went to social gatherings, community events, church services and other social venues while they were contagious but before they knew they had the virus. More COVID-19 cases have been found in adults aged 20-39 than any other age group. Alaskans should continue to avoid gatherings,

wear face coverings in public, keep six feet of distance from non-household members and practice good hand hygiene to slow transmission of COVID-19.

EMERGENCY & DISASTER PLANNING

September is National Preparedness Month, which can remind us to make sure we plan ahead for a disaster. This week make a plan, or update your current one, for what your family will do if a disaster occurs. Part of a complete emergency plan is a communications plan. A few important questions to answer for your communications plan are:

- How will I receive alerts and updates about disasters in my area?
- How will I get in contact or reunite with family, if the regular way we get in contact isn't working?

Talking about these questions with your family is one step down the path to preparedness. For more information on making a plan: <u>https://www.ready.gov/plan</u>

ABSENTEE VOTING IN OCT 6 LOCAL ELECTION

Prefer to vote by mail this year? All registered Petersburg voters are eligible to apply for an absentee ballot. Ballots will be mailed starting on September 16th and must be postmarked by October 6 or returned to the Municipal Clerk's office before 4:30 pm on October 6th. Request an absentee ballot online at <u>www.petersburgak.gov</u>. You can also request a ballot by contacting Debbie Thompson: (dthompson@petersburgak.gov / 772-5405) or by visiting or calling the Finance Office front desk (772-4425). DEADLINE TO REQUEST A BALLOT: Thursday, October 1

QUESTIONS ABOUT SYMPTOMS OR TEST RESULTS? CALL THE HOTLINE

Anyone with even one new symptom of COVID-19 (fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle aches, body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea), even if it is very mild, should get tested for COVID-19 right away. Tests are most accurate in the first few days of symptoms, and if the test is positive, getting tested right away helps contact tracers move as quickly as possible. Call PMC's 24-hour **COVID-19 hotline (907) 772-5788**. Experienced nurses are answering the calls.