



City of Mount Rainier
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As of 3/11/2020

Prince George's County has confirmed three positive cases of novel coronavirus, COVID-19. The first case is a patient who contracted the virus while traveling to Boston. The second and third cases are a couple who recently returned from an international cruise. They are being quarantined presently until they recover. Governor Hogan has declared a State of Emergency in order to provide a more coordinated statewide response across all levels of government.

The City of Mount Rainier is monitoring information from local and state health departments as well as the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to ensure we are aware of the latest information and recommended action for our area. We have tools in place that will enable certain City services to be conducted online or via telephone. To ensure the continuity of services, the City has also established protocol for staff to work remotely if that becomes necessary.

The CDC considers the general public's immediate health risk to be low at this time. While there currently is no vaccine to prevent COVID-19, the best way to prevent illness is to avoid exposure. Take the following everyday actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases (including the cold and flu):

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- The CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
- If you are experiencing symptoms of fever, cough or difficulty breathing, please consult a medical professional. It is recommended that you call ahead.

Misinformation about COVID-19 can create fear and hostility that hurts people and makes it harder to keep everyone healthy. Share accurate information from the CDC, state or county health departments.

The City of Mount Rainier does not have its own health department but will continue to keep our residents informed as needed. For the latest and most accurate information about this evolving situation, visit the CDC, state and county health departments websites:

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and state and county health departments in Maryland and the greater Washington D.C. area are closely monitoring the outbreak of respiratory illness caused by coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

- CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/>
- Maryland Department of Health: <https://health.maryland.gov/pages/home.aspx>
- Prince George's County Department of Health:
<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1588/Health-Services>