



KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH, CITY OF KETCHIKAN, AND CITY OF SAXMAN

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE: COVID-19 | EOC UPDATES

Date: May 22, 2020
 From: Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
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For Immediate Release

This brief provides an update on information from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and its partner agencies.

With the upcoming Memorial Day weekend, unless we have pressing news to share, our next EOC Situation Report and Case Count Update will be provided on Tuesday, May 26.

COVID-19 Case Count Update

The total number of positive cases of COVID-19 in Ketchikan remains at sixteen (16).

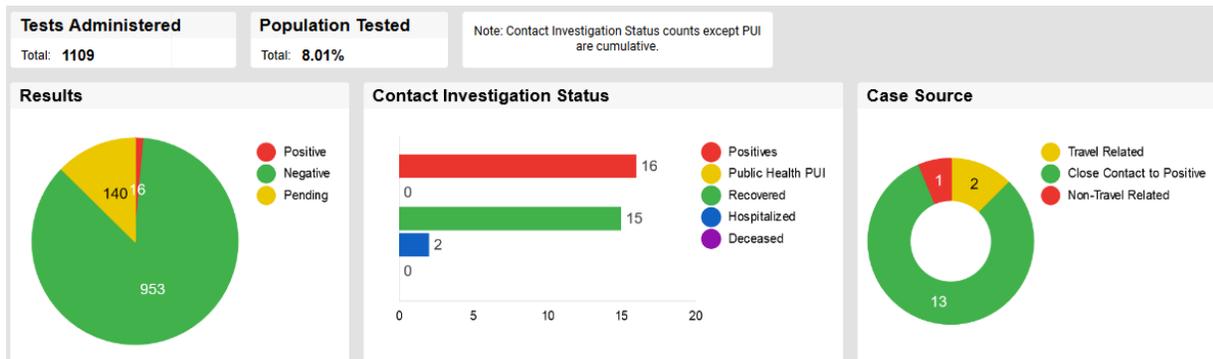
Ketchikan COVID-19 Case Count by Category					
	Travel-Related	Non-Travel Related	Close Contact to Positive Case	Travel/Contact Under Investigation	Total Cases
Total by category	2	1	13	0	16

Ketchikan COVID-19 Case Count by Date	
Date	# Cases
3/17/2020	1
3/19/2020	1
3/20/2020	1
3/21/2020	3
3/24/2020	3
3/25/2020	2
3/26/2020	1
3/28/2020	1
4/1/2020	1
4/11/2020	1
4/20/2020	1
Total	16

Ketchikan COVID-19 Case Recovery Information
<p>15 of the 16 cases have recovered and are no longer being monitored by Public Health.</p> <p>Criteria for release from monitoring/isolation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and, At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

COVID-19 Testing Update

Tests Conducted	Positive Results	Negative Results	Pending Results
1109	16	953	140



<p>If you experience <u>any</u> symptoms of COVID-19, contact your regular provider or our testing hotline at 247-TEST (8378)</p>	Testing capacity:	
	Current Test kits:	1,618
	Test kits on order:	10,000

Ketchikan Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Inventory

Ketchikan currently has the following PPE equipment available, with additional equipment on order:

Current Inventory	Quantity
N95 Masks (ea)	5929
Surgical Masks (ea)	52745
Masks with Face Shields	2152
Goggles (ea)	105
Exam Gloves (bx 100)	937
Gowns (ea)	1756
Gowns heavy duty (ea)	3
Gowns Kit, full isolation	4
Hoods	16
PAPR (ea)	33
PAPR Hoods (ea)	115
Hand Sanitizer (4oz bottle)	1773
Hand Sanitizer (8oz bottle)	80
Hand Sanitizer (16oz pump)	0
Hand Sanitizer pump bottle	28
Alcohol Prep Pads (ea)	29215
Sanitation Wipes (containers)	444
Cloth face masks	20

Reopen Alaska Responsibly Phase 3-4 Guidance

Effective May 22, 2020, Governor Dunleavy's Reopen Alaska Responsibly Plan Phase 3/4 Guidance has been updated to provide strategies and resources for Alaskans to keep themselves, their families, and their communities safe. The guidance document includes:

- Individual Actions (personal hygiene, social interactions, cleaning protocol)
- Business Responsibilities, including Restaurants and Bars, Childcare, Day Camps, Mass Transit - Except as listed in "Special Populations" all mandates have been changed to advisories.
- Community Mitigation Measures
- Special Populations, including Fishing and Seafood Processing, Health Care, Travel, - Mandates 10, 15, 17, and 18 remain in effect.

The Phase 3/4 detailed guidance is available at: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/reopen/>

Drive-Up Testing Clinic Held May 20-21

The Ketchikan EOC, along with PeaceHealth Medical Center, Ketchikan Public Health, and Creekside Family Health Clinic, hosted a second free drive-up COVID-19 testing clinic on May 20-21. The clinic was held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Berth 3. This week's clinic was expanded to not just symptomatic individuals but also certain asymptomatic individuals.

Over the two-day event, our health officials conducted 95 tests. Each person tested will receive notification from a health care provider with the test results—either positive or negative—as soon as the results are received.

The EOC extends **a heartfelt thank-you** to all who assisted the testing clinic.

Additional Free Drive-Up Clinic Scheduled for May 27-28

The EOC will provide an additional free drive-up clinic on Wednesday May 27 and Thursday May 28 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Berth 3. This free testing clinic is offered to symptomatic individuals as well as certain asymptomatic individuals.

We encourage anyone with any of these symptoms to seek testing:

- Cough, chills, difficulty breathing, diminished sense of taste or smell, diarrhea, fatigue, fever, headache, muscle/joint aches, nausea/vomiting, rash, runny nose, or sore throat.

In addition to individuals with any symptom consistent with COVID-19 we encourage the following self-identified asymptomatic individuals to seek testing:

- Anyone 65 years and older
- Anyone who lives in a nursing home or long-term care facility
- People of all ages with underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well-controlled, including:
 - People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
 - People who have serious heart conditions
 - People who are immunocompromised
 - People with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher)
 - People with diabetes
 - People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
 - People with liver disease

- Anyone working with or caring for a member of a vulnerable population, such as listed above
- Any healthcare worker or first responder, regardless of field (EMS, Dental, clinic, hospital, etc)
- Anyone who has recently traveled outside of Ketchikan (in or out of state)

Pre-test screening will occur on site, or people can be screened in advance by calling 247-TEST.

To participate in the testing:

- Wear a mask or face covering
- Adults will need to have a current photo i.d.
- One household per vehicle
- Screening and testing is performed in the safety of your own vehicle

Cars will turn onto the Berth at the traffic signal at the Dock and Front Street intersection, then proceed north toward the Berth 3 pavilion. Signs will mark the location. Follow the orange cones provided that will direct traffic flow to the test table. You will not have to get out of your car.

The test will be conducted by local health providers who are following health and safety protocol. Please stay in your vehicle.

Awaiting Wastewater Testing Results

As announced in our May 15 media release, wastewater testing has been done through the City of Ketchikan Wastewater Treatment Facility Covid-19 to detect whether there is a presence of COVID-19 in Ketchikan. COVID-19 can be detected in wastewater before someone becomes symptomatic, if they become symptomatic at all. The test results can help the EOC's policy group make more informed decisions relative to when or when not to lift restrictions. The data will also be shared with the State Department of Conservation (DEC) for statewide consideration. We are hopeful that we also will receive data from other Alaska communities. We are still awaiting the results from the wastewater testing.

Hand Sanitizer Refill Station Update

Many citizens are taking advantage of the hand sanitizer refill stations that have been placed throughout the community by the EOC. With assistance from the City of Ketchikan Public Works Department, the EOC has procured and developed a quantity of hand sanitizer that is available for the public. The hand sanitizer solution is a "no-frills" formula. It is not a thick gel, and it is not fragranced, but it is highly effective for killing germs. Gallon-sized refill containers have been set up at the following locations:

- Ketchikan City Hall
- Ketchikan Ports and Harbors building
- Ketchikan Police Department
- KPU Customer Service in the Plaza
- KGB White Cliff Building
- Gateway Recreation Center
- Saxman IRA Building; 2706 South Tongass Hwy
- North Tongass Fire Department Station 8 (Mile 13 North Tongass Hwy)

Borough and City Facility Updates

Many City and Borough services continue to be offered via telephone, internet, and mail. The following is the current status of City and Borough facilities:

City of Ketchikan Facilities:

City Hall: Front Street entrance use only. Customer service on the first floor is limited to 2 people in the lobby area at a time with waiting outside and 1 visitor/common household group able to visit each City Hall department at a time. All building access will be monitored and escorted. A drop box is located at the back alley entrance behind the Police Station for City and KPU payments.

Ports & Harbors: Main entrance use only. Customer service is limited to 3 people at a time in the lobby area with waiting outside.

Public Works Administration Building: Main entrance use only. Building to remain locked; the public is encouraged to schedule an appointment or call the phone numbers posted on the door upon approaching the building. A drop box is located at the main entrance for documents.

KPU Customer Service in the Plaza: Main entrance use only. Customer service is limited to 2 people at a time at the front counters with 2 waiting inside and 4 receiving service at customer service desk stations. Operating hours will be Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm with in-store visiting hours 9:30 am to 4:00 pm; closed Saturday and Sunday. The courtesy phone outside the store will remain in place for public use as will the drop boxes for payments near the Wells Fargo Plaza ATM and at A&P Grocery.

KPU Electric Administration: 1065 Fair Street; 225-5505. Main entrance only; building to remain locked with staff available by phone. Pre-scheduled appointments encouraged.

Ketchikan Fire Stations No. 1 and No. 2: Main entrances only. Buildings to remain locked; access by appointment and staff escort only.

Ketchikan Police Station: Main entrance only. No public entry beyond main lobby and dispatch.

Ted Ferry Civic Center: Building to remain closed to the public; open only for pre-arranged events that conform to state mandated guidelines for operations.

Ketchikan Public Library: Delayed public reopening to occur May 26. Curbside and grab bag service resumed May 11. Upon reopening to the public, access will be limited to 20-25 individuals. Public visitation will be Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm; and Tuesday and Thursday, closed 9:00 am to 10:30 am with curbside service for high-risk individuals; open 11:00 am to 6:00 pm. Closed Sunday. No in-person programs, the Children's Library will remain closed, public computer seating only, and reduced in-house materials access.

Tongass Historical Museum and Totem Heritage Center: Delayed public reopening to occur June 2. Upon reopening, public access in exhibits and archives will be limited (TBD) with public visitation hours Tuesday through Saturday, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm; closed Sunday and Monday. Visitation appointments for high-risk individuals outside public hours will be offered Tuesday

through Friday, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Donations and collections visits by appointment only. No in-person programs.

All other City and KPU Offices, Facilities and Warehouses: closed to the public.

City of Saxman:

Saxman City Hall will remain closed until June 8th or until further notice.

Borough Facilities:

White Cliff Building: The White Cliff Building opened to the public on Friday, May 22nd. Health guidance will be followed to reduce the potential for spread of the COVID-19 virus. The White Cliff building COVID-19 mitigation plan has been provided to all departments and is posted on the Borough website. Visitors are recommended to wear masks.

Sport Fields: Fields were opened May 22nd for use in accordance with health guidance.

Gateway Recreation Center and Aquatic Center: Both facilities will be open to full capacity on May 26th. The youth summer recreation program is being adjusted to be consistent with the State guidance documents. The youth summer program and swim lessons are scheduled to begin June 8th.

Transit System: The department is working to install "sneeze guards". The Transit Mitigation Plan has been posted on the Borough website.

Animal Shelter: Operations will be adjusted to allow more access to the public while following the health guidance. The Animal Protection Mitigation Plan has been posted on the Borough website.

Airport: Alaska Health Mandate 10 remains in effect until June 2, including the 14-day quarantine requirement.

EOC information and the response to the COVID-19 outbreak in Ketchikan is updated daily on the COVID-19 Response page at <https://www.kgbak.us/913/COVID-19-Response>.

Additional current information is available on the State of Alaska's website at www.covid19.alaska.gov.

#ketchikanstayhealthy #staystrongketchikan #stepsforahealthycommunity
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