



# DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 15, 2020

## DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM - DAILY LOCAL UPDATE

(Douglas County, Ore.) Since 1955, today has been ‘Tax Day’ for Americans. But, things are a little different this year. Due to the impact of the coronavirus on the nation, the IRS has given taxpayers an additional three months to file and pay their federal income taxes for 2019, with a new deadline and ‘Tax Day’ being July 15, 2020. The [postponement was announced](#) mid-March by Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin. Those who choose to take advantage of the extra time will not face any penalties or incur any interest. Taxpayers do not need to file any additional forms to qualify for these automatic deadline extensions. The IRS is urging taxpayers who are getting refunds to file as soon as possible. Most tax refunds are being issued within 21 days, the agency said. Any additional tax updates will be posted to the IRS’s COVID-19 page. [IRS Coronavirus Tax Relief](#) Additionally, the Oregon Department of Revenue has also extended the Oregon Tax deadline to July 15, 2020. Information for Oregon tax payers can be found on the Oregon Department of Revenues website at: [Oregon Department of Revenue COVID-19 Information](#)

### Local COVID-19 Test Results

As of 12:00 pm, April 15, 2020, there are three new cases of COVID-19 in Douglas County. The number of positive cases is now at twenty-three total in the county. \* Of the twenty-three, eight have recovered and two are currently hospitalized at different hospitals. There have been zero deaths and 575 negative tests for COVID-19 in the county. Douglas Public Health Network continues their epidemiologic investigations, identifying individuals who may have had close contact with individuals that have tested positive for COVID-19, and advising quarantine. Eight of the individuals who tested positive earlier have now recovered. DPHN defines recovery as an end to all symptoms after a positive test for COVID-19.

Yesterday’s drive through COVID-19 clinic tested 28 patients. The next drive through COVID-19 clinic, led by DPHN is scheduled for Friday April 17th, in Roseburg. At this time, you can only get a COVID-19 test through your healthcare provider. Residents must be identified by their health care provider. Information has been given to providers and clinics about how to get their patients signed up for the drive-through testing clinics. If you want to be tested, you must talk to your health care provider. Tests are currently being processed at the Oregon State Public Health Lab and a growing number of commercial labs, like Quest and LabCorp. There are a few outpatient clinics in Douglas County offering testing at this time. Community health partners are working very hard to make testing available to a wider number of people.

The first drive thru testing site was piloted in the county on March 17, 2020, there have been 306 people tested so far in the drive through clinics. The drive through clinics are led by DPHN, in conjunction with partner agencies including; Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team, Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Douglas County Sheriff’s Office, Douglas County Public Works, local volunteers and local health professionals.

### Oregon COVID-19 Case Update

Oregon Health Authority reports new cases once a day on its website at [www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus](http://www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus). The Oregon Health Authority is also releasing the daily situation status report, which is produced jointly with Oregon Office of Emergency Management. It details the overall picture of the COVID-19 outbreak within the state and the response across government agencies. [Read more here about the daily situation status report.](#)

### Daily Tips: Workout Wednesdays

Feeling a little stir-crazy being at home so much? Home workouts are a good way to burn off some of that restless energy. The free app [Seven](#) offers 7-minute workouts. Stuck in a fitness rut? [Aaptiv](#) is your new boredom buster BFF. The audio-based app offers 2,500 trainer-led, music-based workouts in a variety of categories, like running, elliptical, rowing, strength training, stretching, yoga, and more. Oh, and if that weren’t enough, 30 new workouts are added each week. Later, stale gym routine! To ensure your home workout is safe, be sure to have proper footwear so you don’t slip; stretch; include a warmup and cool down; and drink lots of water to stay hydrated.

### Daily Digest: Employment and Economic Response to COVID-19 - April 14, 2020

The Daily Digest is a compilation of information and resources related to employment, commerce and economic development issues surrounding COVID-19.



- Another round of [Layoff Aversion](#) funds has been released to the workforce investment boards. These grant funds are not a good source for wage replacement, but can assist with purchasing supplies and/or equipment to allow continued business operations and avoid layoffs. For Coos/Curry/Douglas, contact Southwest Oregon Workers Investment Board (SOWIB) for more information and resources: <https://www.sowib.org/covid-19>.
- **Business agencies offer COVID-19 webinar for Spanish speakers:** Several agencies are co-hosting a webinar from 1 to 2 p.m. on Thursday, April 16 for Spanish speaking business owners. The topic is response programs for small business owners, including loans and grants. [Learn more](#).
- **The Oregon Community Foundation** and several partners will hold a virtual town hall from 9 to 10 a.m. on Thursday, April 16 to talk about support for Oregon small businesses suffering from the pandemic. Register [here](#).
- **Governor Kate Brown announces Oregon will provide \$8 million to the Oregon Food Bank for food assistance during COVID-19 crisis:** With the funding, Oregon will fill an urgent need for Oregon families seeking food assistance during the COVID-19 public health crisis. [Read the news release](#).
- **Department of Revenue warns of scams related to COVID-19:** The Oregon Department of Revenue is warning taxpayers of calls and email phishing attempts related to COVID-19 federal government relief payments. These scams can lead to tax-related fraud and identity theft. [Learn more](#).

### **Blue Zones Project Wants to Keep You Healthy, Balanced**

A local organization dedicated to making Douglas County a healthy and happy place to live, work, learn and play has refined its focus during COVID-19 to help people focus on their well-being at home. Blue Zones Project – Umpqua posts resources and tips on its [Facebook page](#), and is planning some special online events including a free, live [meditation and mindfulness workshop](#) this Thursday at 5:30 p.m. Also, every Wednesday morning at 10 a.m., there is a “10 @10” – a ten-minute Facebook Live “Well-Being Break.” Other upcoming events on Blue Zones’ Facebook page include cooking demos and a virtual book club presentation by Roseburg Public Library Director Kris Wiley on May 28. The Facebook page also contains a list of “Blue Zones Project Approved Restaurants” that have healthy menus, and video interviews with the owners of local restaurants including Bluebird Pizza and Shanti’s Indian Cuisine. There are also recipes and cooking tips.

*“Through our e-newsletters and social media, we’re educating people on how they can cook simple, healthy recipes and stay active with their kids. Also, how to stretch their meals a little farther between grocery trips or food pantry trips, how to use what’s on hand,”* said Jessica Hand, Community Program Manager for Blue Zones Project – Umpqua. “Like” the Blue Zones Facebook page to follow their posts, which also include tips on things like gardening, taking care of your mental and physical health, and how to make a good smoothie.

### **Oregon Schools in Need of Food Products for Meals**

Food producers and processors in the state of Oregon are being asked to donate food products to help ensure that schools can continue to provide meal programs to students during school closures. Schools have begun activating their summer meals program to offer pre-packaged meal kits to children in their districts. The programs help ensure that children who are home during the day or who may struggle with food insecurity have reliable, healthy meals to eat. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, school district staff capacity to prepare meals has dropped drastically, and in a recent survey of food service directors across Oregon, 75 percent said their districts’ “Grab and Go” food product options are limited. Sixty percent said minimally processed product is in high demand for their meal programs.

The most needed items include the following:

- Pre-packaged and pre-portioned
- Clean-label products
- Individually packaged entrees ready to heat and serve
- Whole, cut, peeled and frozen varieties of fruits and vegetables – particularly those that are easy to eat in raw form (sliced apple wedges, finger carrots)
- Pre-portioned and individually packed rice, beans and salad greens
- 4 oz. meats, pre-portioned in patties or link form, frozen and packed in 5- to 10-pound units

Local products are preferred but not required. If you or your business have products you think will work for schools, contact Amy Jean Williams at the Oregon Department of Education at [amy.williams@state.or.us](mailto:amy.williams@state.or.us) or (971) 273-9978; or Amy Gilroy at the Oregon Department of Agriculture at [agilroy@oda.state.or.us](mailto:agilroy@oda.state.or.us) or (503) 709-5360.

### **Other Ways to Help**

Those who would like to make a financial donation to the local COVID-19 Community Response may do so by visiting the Greater Douglas United Way Website at [www.gduway.org](http://www.gduway.org). They have organized a local COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund. 100% of your donation will go to help local people in need as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic. GDUW has also pledged that they will not be charging any administrative fees on the fund. GDUW will focus the funding on basic needs through local nonprofits, childcare needs, and other basic needs for people affected by the pandemic. Deposits can be made at any Banner Bank location using the GDUW COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund.

### **Help Fill the Blood Donation Spots – Sign Up Today!**

**Yes, these are uncertain times, but leaving home to donate blood is considered a lifesaving and essential need.** Those who are healthy, feeling well and eligible to give blood or platelets, are urged to make an appointment to donate as soon as possible by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting [www.RedCrossBlood.org](http://www.RedCrossBlood.org) or calling (800) 733-2767. Donate your blood and save a life.

**Upcoming Local Red Cross Blood Drives:**

Thursday, April 16	1:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Elks Lodge #1943, 106 S Main Street, Myrtle Creek
Monday, April 20	1:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Redeemers Fellowship, 3031 West Harvard Avenue, in Roseburg
Monday, April 20	1:00 pm – 6:30 pm	RC Blood Donation Ctr, 1176 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg
Tuesday, April 21	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	YMCA of Douglas County, 1151 NW Stewart Parkway, in Roseburg
Wednesday, April 22	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Holiday Inn Express, 375 West Harvard Avenue, in Roseburg
Tuesday, April 28	10:00 am – 3:30 pm	YMCA of Douglas County, 1151 NW Stewart Parkway, in Roseburg

Appointments are now required, in light of social-distancing guidelines. To make an appointment, visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org). To save time during your donation, please complete your health history questions prior to the drive by visiting [www.redcrossblood.org/rapidpass](http://www.redcrossblood.org/rapidpass)

**Stay Informed with the Accurate Information**

Your Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Douglas County Public Health Officer, Dr. Robert Dannenhoffer and the Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team have been working hard to cooperatively provide accurate and timely information and a response to Douglas County residents. **If you have questions about resources available, call the COVID-19 hotline, staffed by local volunteers at (541) 464-6550.** Stay up to date on COVID-19 in Douglas County on the DPHN website at [www.douglaspublichealthnetwork.org](http://www.douglaspublichealthnetwork.org).

Find additional information on state, federal and international COVID-19 response from the following websites: [Oregon Health Authority](#), [Centers for Disease Control](#), [World Health Organization](#) and by calling or logging onto [211Info](#).

*\*Local case data includes all tests done in the county, and are not exclusive to DPHN testing. Further, reporting numbers are accurate as of time listed on this release. These numbers may not match other organizations, who report at different times of the day.*

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