Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team - Daily Local Update

(Douglas County, Ore.) Today marks the sixth Sunday since the first positive COVID-19 case was announced in Douglas County. We have witnessed unprecedented interruptions to every aspect of our daily lives since that day. Many of us have taken on different roles at home, at work and in our communities. We have modified our kitchen tables into office spaces, made our couches into learning centers, turned front porches into breakrooms, adapted our garages into home gyms and theaters, and made our backyards into campgrounds. But many of us have turned our free time into volunteer opportunities helping neighbors and delivering meals to home bound seniors. The Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team, under the direction of the Douglas County Commissioners would like to take a moment to recognize all the unsung daily heroes that have stepped up during this crisis.

- Thank you doctors, nurses and health care workers for continuing to do your jobs.
- Thank you local leaders for your continued guidance, cooperative efforts and emergency planning.
- Thank you parents, siblings and grandparents for helping fill in for our teachers.
- Thank you educators for reaching out to your students and making online learning possible.
- Thank you neighbors for delivering food and supplies to homebound families.
- Thank you small business owners for finding a way to stay open and provide services.
- Thank you grocery store clerks, restaurant workers and bank tellers for continuing to serve us.
- Thank you business owners for keeping people employed as best as you can.
- Thank you everyone that has donated blood, platelets and convalescent plasma.
- Thank you Douglas County for staying home as much as possible.

Local COVID-19 Test Results

As of 1200 pm, April 19, 2020, there are no new cases of COVID-19 reported in Douglas County. The number of positive cases remains at twenty-three total in the county. Of the twenty-three, ten have recovered and two are currently hospitalized at different hospitals. There have been zero deaths and 676 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. Ten 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.

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 3 drive through testing sites. 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. 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.

Facebook Live with Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer

Join us tomorrow, Monday, April 20, 2020 for the next virtual town hall Q&A with Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, your Douglas County Public Health Officer at 6:00 pm, hosted by DPHN and found on the DPHN Facebook page.
Daily Tips: Backyard Sunday

Need to get out of the house but can’t go far? If you have a backyard and some imagination, there are endless ideas for creative family fun. Have a dress-up picnic, either in fancy clothes or silly outfits. For added twist, have your kids plan the menu and prepare the food. Host a “beach barbecue” – set out your towels, put on those shorts (if it’s sunny) or lay out in your bathing suits and grill up a tasty meal. (P.S. Don’t forget the sunscreen)

If you have a tent, have a camp out and fall asleep listening to all the backyard sounds, like frogs, crickets and birds (if applicable). Look at the stars and see how many constellations you can identify. Download a stargazing app to check your answers. Check out the best stargazing apps at the link below.


Don’t have a backyard? How about planning a kids take over the kitchen night? Pretend your dining room table is a restaurant and have your kids act as servers and chefs – it could be a nice break for you and a fun challenge for the kiddos! https://youtu.be/mbOu1EU_UUK

Good News & Laughs With Actor John Krasinski

Looking for some positive news and a few laughs this weekend? Actor John Krasinski, of “The Office” and “Jack Ryan” fame, has launched a hilarious and uplifting YouTube channel called SomeGoodNews. Every Sunday evening, he adds a new episode highlighting stories about people doing good things in the world – with some twists. One of his early episodes featured a 9-year-old girl who was sad that the COVID-19 pandemic had forced her to cancel a trip to see the musical “Hamilton” on Broadway. To make her feel better, Krasinski and his wife, actress Emily Blunt, told her that once Broadway reopens, they’ll fly her in to see the show. Then, they video-conferenced in the cast of “Hamilton” to sing for her live. The look on the little girl’s face was priceless!

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. 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.

Donate Blood, Save A Life and Be A Hero!

Yes, these are uncertain times, but leaving home to donate blood is considered a lifesaving and essential activity. 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. Appointments are now required, in light of social-distancing guidelines. To make an appointment, visit 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. Donate your blood, save a life and be a hero.

Upcoming Local Red Cross Blood Drives:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, Apr 20</td>
<td>1:00 pm – 6:00 pm</td>
<td>Redeemers Fellowship, 3031 West Harvard Avenue, in Roseburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, Apr 20</td>
<td>1:00 pm – 3:00 pm</td>
<td>Roseburg Blood Donation Ctr, 1176 NW Garden Valley Blvd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Apr 21</td>
<td>9:00 am – 2:00 pm</td>
<td>YMCA of Douglas County, 1151 NW Stewart Parkway, in Roseburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Apr 22</td>
<td>9:00 am – 2:00 pm</td>
<td>Holiday Inn Express, 375 West Harvard Avenue, in Roseburg</td>
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<td>Friday, Apr 24</td>
<td>9:00 am – 2:30 pm</td>
<td>Roseburg Blood Donation Ctr, 1176 NW Garden Valley Blvd.</td>
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<td>Friday, Apr 24</td>
<td>10:30 am – 4:00 pm</td>
<td>LDS Church, 2001 West Bertha, Roseburg</td>
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<td>Monday, Apr 27</td>
<td>1:00 pm – 6:30 pm</td>
<td>Roseburg Blood Donation Ctr, 1176 NW Garden Valley Blvd.</td>
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<td>Tuesday, Apr 28</td>
<td>10:00 am – 3:30 pm</td>
<td>YMCA of Douglas County, 1151 NW Stewart Parkway, in Roseburg</td>
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Local Mask Efforts

If you would like a homemade mask please contact Douglas County Helpers via their Facebook page or email at douglascountyhelpers@gmail.com. The Umpqua Sewing Warriors is also making homemade masks and may reach on their Facebook page. The group The Timber Faller’s Daughter is working in Reedsport on this effort. You can also find them on Facebook. If you would like to make your own mask, the pattern that many organizations locally have been using can be found here.

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. 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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Contact Tamara Howell, Public Information Officer, Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team, (541) 670-2004 cell/(541) 957-4896 thowell@co.douglas.or.us
Contact Vanessa Becker, Public Information Officer, Douglas Public Health Network, (541) 817-6582 cell/(541) 440-3571 vbecker@douglaspublichealthnetwork.org