



# DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

**JOINT INFORMATION CENTER PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - May 21, 2020**

## **DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM - CASE AND DAILY LOCAL UPDATE**

**(Douglas County, Ore.) Who Do You Call?** Offices for the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Douglas County Sheriff’s Office (DCSO), County Departments, Douglas Public Health Network (DPHN) and our COVID-19 Hotline have been fielding a number of phone calls and emails regarding the ‘rules’ for the Governor’s Phase One Reopening Plan. As you know Douglas County’s application for Phase One was approved by the Governor last week, and many businesses in our County began the process of reopening on Friday, May 15, 2020. We are now seven days into the no less than, twenty-one-day trial period for Phase One. We know that our citizens and businesses have a lot of questions about the Phase One process, unfortunately Douglas County, DPHN or our DCSO was not involved in the creation, issuance or regulation for any of the sector specific guidelines established in the Governor’s Phase One Reopening Plan. **So, who do you need to call? You need to call the [Governor’s Office](#), [Oregon Health Authority \(OHA\)](#) or the [Oregon State Office](#) responsible for regulating your business or the business that you wish to visit, if you have questions about their Phase One Reopening Plan.**

### **State Begins Posting Reopening FAQs**

OHA announced yesterday that they recognize the need for answers and guidance to a varied number of questions that they have received regarding the Governor’s Phase One Reopening. So, OHA began posting a Frequently-Asked-Questions (FAQ’s) segment on their [COVID-19 website](#) to address those questions. They said they are working through the questions and developing sector-specific FAQ’s that can be found under [OHA Guidance and Signage](#). The FAQs will be posted at the bottom of each sector-specific section on the site. For instance, OHA has just posted its first FAQ link under the [“Restaurants and Bars”](#) section. The restaurant/bar FAQ answers common questions like “Why is there a 10 p.m. curfew for restaurants?” “Do bathrooms need disinfecting between each use?” and other queries. OHA is working on similar FAQs for stores, personal-service businesses and other sectors, but those have not yet been posted.

### **Douglas County COVID-19 Test Results**

It is Thursday, May 21, 2020 and as of 12:00 pm today, there are NO new cases of COVID-19 in Douglas County. The total number of positive cases in Douglas County remains at 25. Testing continues, as DPHN has been holding 2-3 clinics a week and hospitals, urgent cares and clinics continue to test. Twenty-five people have tested positive in the county and twenty-three of those twenty-five have recovered. DPHN defines recovery as an end to all symptoms after a positive test for COVID-19. DPHN continues their epidemiologic investigations, identifying individuals who may have had close contact with individuals that have tested positive for COVID-19, advising and supporting quarantine. The majority of the individuals who have tested positive earlier have now recovered. The first positive COVID-19 case in Douglas County was announced on March 8, 2020. Thanks to the great work that Douglas County has done social distancing and staying home, we’ve had 25 cases in 74 days.

### **Here are the current numbers for Douglas County:**

<b>New Cases as of 12:00 pm May 21, 2020</b>	<b>Total Confirmed Cases</b>	<b>Total Recovered Cases  (of those that tested positive)</b>	<b>Total COVID-19 deaths</b>	<b>Total Currently Hospitalized  (of those that tested positive)</b>	<b>Total Negative Test Result</b>	<b>Total Presumptive Cases</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2051</b>	<b>0</b>

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has expanded their reporting for COVID-19 case management and will now include presumptive COVID-19 cases. DPHN will also be reporting presumptive cases and will use the OHA’s definition of presumptive as having had close contact with a known, confirmed COVID-19 case, showing symptoms and not yet having a positive nasal swab/PCR test for COVID-19.

### **Getting Tested & Testing Clinics**

The next drive-through clinic will be held in Roseburg on Friday, May 22, 2020. Our drive-through testing clinics have conducted over 500 nasal swab/PCR tests. As a reminder, if you are having symptoms of COVID-19 including cough, fever, shortness of breath, muscle aches and pains, diarrhea, sore throat or decreased sense of smell and taste, talk to your health care provider about being tested for COVID-19. The first drive thru testing site was piloted in the county on March 17, 2020, there have been 508 people tested in the drive through clinics alone, additional testing continues in hospitals, urgent cares and clinics simultaneously. 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.](#)

## Facebook Live with Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer

Join us tomorrow, Friday, May 22, 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](#).

## A Special Thank You to Our COVID-19 Hotline Volunteers!

Douglas County, under the direction of DPHN and the support of the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, were one of the first counties in Oregon to set up a COVID-19 Hotline, staffed by local volunteers and health care providers. The hotline went live on March 13<sup>th</sup>, early in the county's response to the pandemic. The purpose of the hotline was to provide locally relevant and correct information about the pandemic, provide information about local testing and protection efforts, and to give community residents an opportunity to talk to a health care provider about COVID-19. The hotline was staffed 7 days a week and over 130 local volunteers staffed the call center, including more than 45 licensed health care providers.

*"We could not have stood our hotline up as quickly and efficiently as we did without the incredible support from our community of volunteers. The volunteer spirit has always been strong in Douglas County but this was a unique exhibit of our local residents coming together to provide information, reduce fear and anxiety about the pandemic and provide clinically relevant information about the virus. We have already taken over 1550 calls at the center and with the support of ten local organizations, we continue to take calls. Local and correct information is vital in our containment and mitigation of COVID-19 and these volunteers have been key in that fight. We are grateful for each and every one of them and the many, many hours they devoted."* Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, Douglas County Public Health Officer.

DPHN and the Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team express their deepest thanks to the volunteers and the organizations that have devoted so many hours to the hotline over the last two months. Those organizations include: Aviva Health, Evergreen Family Medicine, UCAN, VA Medical Center, Douglas ESD, Mercy Medical Center, NOVA Urgent Care, Mercy Foundation, Umpqua Health, Red Cross, YMCA and the Boys and Girls Club. In addition to heartfelt thanks, a partnership with Loggers Pizza and Aviva Health's Feed-It-Forward program will be providing pizza gift certificates for all the hotline volunteers. **The hotline continues to operate 7 days a week, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, the number is (541) 464-6550.**

## How to Avoid COVID-19 Scams

Scammers are finding opportunity during COVID-19 pandemic, taking advantage of unsuspecting victims through phony offers of vaccinations, test kits and more. In some cases, the scammers call, email or text victims pretending to be from a government agency. For more information on the latest COVID-19 scams, and how to steer clear of them, visit the [Federal Trade Commission's website](#). Here are some tips to avoid falling victim to a COVID-19 scam:

1. **Stimulus checks** - Don't respond to texts, emails, calls or social media messages about [stimulus checks](#). The IRS will not contact you using these methods, especially to ask for your bank account number, Social Security number, or other personal information. Some scammers are even [sending fake checks](#) and asking victims to deposit the check and immediately send money back.
2. **Phishing scams** - Don't click on any links in emails, texts or social media messages that you weren't expecting. These could be [phishing scams](#).
3. **Vaccinations** - Ignore online offers for vaccinations.
4. **Test kits** - Be wary of ads for test kits. Most test kits being advertised have not been approved by the FDA and aren't necessarily accurate.
5. **Robocalls** - Hang up on any [robocalls](#) you receive offering too-good-to-be-true items such as very low-priced health insurance and work-from-home schemes.
6. **Emails claiming to be from CDC or WHO** - Be wary of emails claiming to be from the Centers for Disease Control or the World Health Organization. Some scammers are falsely claiming to be with these agencies.
7. **Donations** - When donating to a cause, [research charities](#) to make sure they are legitimate. Never donate using cash, gift cards or by wiring money.

## Blood Donations Desperately Needed!

If you are healthy, feeling well and eligible to give blood or platelets, you are urged to make an appointment to donate as soon as possible. Donate your blood and save a life. Appointments are required, visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or call (800) 733-2767 to schedule your appointment today.

<b>Friday, May 22</b>	9:00 am - 2:30 pm	Roseburg Blood Donation Center, 1176 NW Garden Valley Blvd
<b>Tuesday, May 26</b>	12:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Family Church, 4384 Carnes Road, Roseburg
<b>Tuesday, May 26</b>	9:00 am - 2:30 pm	Pine Grove Community Church, 1729 Buckhorn Road, Roseburg
<b>Wednesday, May 27</b>	10:00 am - 3:00 pm	Winston Community Center, 440 SE Grape Ave, Winston

## 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 to Douglas County residents since March 8, 2020. **If you have questions about resources available, call the COVID-19 hotline, staffed by local volunteers at (541) 464-6550 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, 7 days a week.** 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 or federal COVID-19 response from the following websites: [Douglas County Government](#), [Oregon Health Authority](#), [Centers for Disease Control](#), and by calling or logging onto [211Info](#).

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Contact [Tamara Howell](#), Public Information Officer, Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team, (541) 670-2804 cell/(541) 957-4896 [tjhowell@co.douglas.or.us](mailto:tjhowell@co.douglas.or.us)  
Contact [Vanessa Becker](#), Public Information Officer, Douglas Public Health Network, (541) 817-6552 cell / (541) 440-3571 [vanessa@douglaspublichealthnetwork.org](mailto:vanessa@douglaspublichealthnetwork.org)

✦ Douglas County (541) 672-3311

✦ Douglas Public Health Network (541) 440-3571