



270 E. MAIN ST
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COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Columbia County Public Health COVID-19 Press Release

Martha Lanman, Administrator

Moderna vaccine has arrived in Columbia County. The Columbia County Health System has received 300 doses.

At this time Columbia County Health System is preparing to start giving immunizations to Healthcare workers and first responders this week, and will advance to Phase 1b when given guidance to do so by the Washington State Department of Health.

Columbia County Public Health will be organizing a list of interested individuals who would like the vaccination and fit into Category 1B which is currently defined as essential services, and 1C which is the 65+ and high-risk category. Please note that category 1b and 1c guidelines are still being developed and approved by Washington State Department of Health. Further guidance on vaccine distribution for category 1b and 1c are not being scheduled at this time.

Please call Public Health at 509-382-2181 to get your name on the list. Once additional vaccine is acquired in the coming weeks we will be sending out additional information.

Please check Columbia County Public Health Covid19 webpage to receive additional information.

If you need a referral for a COVID-19 test, please contact your healthcare provider or Columbia County Public Health. For any questions regarding possible exposure, please contact Public Health at 509-382-2181.

We continue to recommend all people living in Columbia County take everyday precautions to prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19 and influenza:

- **Wear a mask.**
- **Cover your coughs and sneezes** with a tissue and then throw the tissue in the trash.
- **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- **Avoid close contact with people who are sick.**
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.**



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- **Clean and disinfect surfaces** that are often touched.
- **Take care of your health overall.** Staying current on your vaccinations, including flu vaccine, eating well and exercising all help your body stay resilient.
- **Stay Home.** If you are feeling sick with mild symptoms and do not need to seek medical care, stay home while you recover.
- **Stay Informed.** Consult CDC's travel website for any travel advisories and steps to protect yourself if you plan to travel outside of the US.

Most people with COVID-19 have mild symptoms. If you are sick and plan to seek care, please call before going in for care so arrangements can be made to prevent exposing others. For urgent medical needs, call 911.

For more information:

- Washington Department of Health: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>
- CDC COVID-19 page: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- CDC travel notice: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>
- WHO page: <https://www.who.int/westernpacific/emergencies/novel-coronavirus>