

March 20, 2020

**CATEGORY:** News Release  
**RELEASE DATE:** For Immediate Release  
**REGARDING:** COVID-19 VIRUS

### First Positive COVID-19 Test Reported in Stevens County

Northeast Tri County Health District (NETCHD) was notified today, March 20, 2020, of the first positive COVID-19 test for a tri-county resident.

The individual who tested positive for COVID-19 is a Stevens County resident. The individual is in isolation and receiving medical care. NETCHD is notifying potential close contacts and these individuals will be given additional guidance and advised of precautions they should take.

We understand that news of this first confirmed case in our community can create fear and uncertainty. NETCHD has been working aggressively with our medical providers, emergency management teams, and community partners to protect the health of the public.

With a growing number of cases in Washington State and the United States, the risk to the general public is increasing. It is likely that more cases will be confirmed in our area in the future. The risk to the local community is being assessed regularly and public health recommendations will be updated, as needed, based on the current risk.

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- Stevens County** - 240 E. Dominion, Colville, WA 99114
    - Administration Phone: 509-684-2262**, Fax: 509-684-1002
    - Community Health Phone: 509-684-2262**, Fax: 509-684-9878
    - Environmental Health Phone: 509-684-2262**, Fax: 509-684-8506

- Ferry County** - 147 N. Clark, PO Box 584, Republic, WA 99166  
**Phone: 509-775-3111**, Fax: 509-775-2858
- Pend Oreille County** - 605 Highway 20, Newport, WA 99156  
**Phone: 509-447-3131**, Fax: 509-447-5644

NETCHD is urging the public do their part to help reduce the spread of COVID- 19:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water; if unavailable, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing
- Honor Governor Inslee's proclamation limiting social gatherings and social distancing
- **Limit your interactions and practice social distancing (at least 6 feet apart) from others**
- Frequently clean and disinfect objects and surfaces
- Stay home and away from others when sick, including limiting close contact with others in your household who are not sick

#### **For More Information on Novel Coronavirus**

This is an emerging outbreak with rapidly evolving information. Updates will be made as new information is available on the DOH website: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus> and Northeast Tri County Health District's website [www.netchd.org](http://www.netchd.org). These websites include information for individuals, community organizations, schools and childcare facilities. Websites are being updated as new information becomes available.

**The Washington State Department of Health has established a call center to address questions from the public.** If you have questions about what is happening in Washington State, how the virus is spread, and what to do if you have symptoms, please call 1-800-525-0127 and press #.

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