

**SKAGIT COUNTY**  
**LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER VOUNTARY**  
**QUARANTINE DIRECTIVE**  
**AND**  
**ISOLATION ORDER**

**WHEREAS** on February 29, 2020, Governor Inslee proclaimed a state of emergency within the State of Washington due to COVID-19;

**WHEREAS** on March 10, 2020, the Skagit County Board of County Commissioners proclaimed a state of emergency within Skagit County due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS** on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared a state of pandemic due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS** on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared a national emergency due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS** on March 23, 2020, Governor Inslee imposed a Stay Home – Stay Healthy Order throughout Washington State prohibiting all people in Washington State from leaving their homes or participating in social, spiritual and recreational gatherings of any kind regardless of the number of participants, and all non-essential businesses in Washington State from conducting business, until midnight on April 6, 2020, which was extended to on April 2, 2020, to May 4, 2020 ; and

**WHEREAS** state law, RCW 70.05.070(2)-(3), requires and empowers the local health officer to take such action as is necessary to maintain health and to control and prevent the spread of any contagious or infectious diseases within the jurisdiction; and

**WHEREAS** state regulation, WAC 246-100-036, requires the local health officer, when necessary, to institute disease control measures, including assessment, quarantine and isolation as he or she deems necessary based on his or her professional judgment, current standards of practice, and the best available medical and scientific information; and

**WHEREAS** the age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population of Skagit County places it at risk for serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19. Although most individuals who contract COVID-19 do not become seriously ill, symptomatic persons, including persons with mild symptoms, and asymptomatic persons with COVID-19 may place other vulnerable members of the public at significant risk; and

**WHEREAS** a large surge in the number of persons with serious infections can compromise the ability of the regional healthcare system to deliver necessary healthcare to the public; and

**WHEREAS** currently in Skagit County, there may be numerous individuals who potentially have been exposed to COVID-19, are symptomatic, and should voluntarily quarantine while waiting for test results to avoid potentially exposing others; and

**WHEREAS** this Directive and Order will help preserve critical and limited healthcare capacity in the County by reducing the spread of COVID-19.

Based upon the above, the Local Health Officer hereby finds that the below actions are reasonable and necessary to address public health needs, specifically to maintain health and to control and prevent the spread of a contagious and infectious disease throughout Skagit County due to COVID-19:

- Everyone with COVID-19 symptoms who has been tested is hereby directed to **remain in quarantine while waiting for the test results, and**
- Everyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 is ordered to **remain in isolation until no longer infectious**

**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**, as Local Health Officer I hereby **DIRECT and ORDER** as follows:

**I. QUARANTINE DIRECTIVE:**

Everyone with COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, and/or difficulty breathing) who has a test result pending, shall stay in a quarantine location (your home if you have one or in a government directed or publicly provided location if one is available) in accordance with CDC and Public Health guidance.

If your test result is positive, you must then remain in isolation.

**II. ISOLATION ORDER:**

All individuals **who tested positive for COVID-19** shall enter and remain in **isolation** as follows:

**Do not leave your home or recovery facility, except to receive medical care.**

For individuals with symptoms, **discontinue isolation only** under the following conditions:

- **At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery** defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); AND,
- **At least 7 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.**

For individuals who tested positive but have **not had any symptoms, discontinue isolation** when at least 7 days have passed since the date of the first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test, and there has been no subsequent illness.

Individuals who recklessly disregard this directive and order or who otherwise fail to comply may be subject to involuntary detention pursuant to public health authority under RCW 70.05.070 (2)-(3) and WAC 246-100-036 (3).

## **II. CONDITIONS OF QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION**

In your home or recovery facility, as much as possible, keep yourself separated from other people and animals.

Stay in a separate "sick room" if possible.

Use a separate bathroom, if available.

Clean all "high-touch" surfaces every day.

Cover your coughs and sneezes and wash your hands often.

Avoid sharing personal household items such as towels and kitchen utensils.

If you require something that is available from an essential business such as food, you must if practical obtain it by delivery or from others who are not in isolation, and in a manner that does not require face-to-face contact with others or entry of others into the isolation location.

If you feel you need to visit a doctor or health clinic, call them first.

Call a doctor or health clinic if you experience trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in your chest, new confusion or inability to arouse, or bluish lips or face.

If you must leave to attend a medical appointment, avoid public transportation and wear a face mask if available.

I strongly urge all people in Skagit County to voluntarily comply with this **DIRECTIVE and ORDER** without delay.

This **DIRECTIVE and ORDER** will remain in effect until further notice. Signed and ordered this 14 th day of April 2020, in Mount Vernon, Washington, by

  
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Howard Leibrand, MD Local Health Officer, Skagit County