

4/6/20 EOC Update

Shelter in Place is working—please keep it up!

Continue to follow social distancing measures, including maintaining at least six feet between yourself and others, staying at home, avoiding touching your face, and washing your hands frequently.

Next Virtual Townhall Meeting

Our next Virtual Townhall Meeting will be tomorrow night (same time, same place as last week—Tuesday at 5:30). The meeting will be streamed at KHNS (go to KHNS.org and click on the “Listen to Haines Borough Meetings” button). If you want to ask a question:

1. Send questions to eoc@haines.ak.us before the meeting.
2. Stream the meeting to hear the answer.
3. If you have a last minute question, please call 1-800-315-6338, Access 28851# to ask your question. We will follow alphabetical order—please ask your question then take the answer offline.
4. PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONE while waiting to ask your question. If calling from a landline and the mute button is not obvious, try #6 to mute and #7 to unmute.
5. PLEASE do not call in to listen to the meeting—every caller costs the Borough money and makes it harder for everyone to hear.

Miners Returning to Haines:

Hecla (Greens Creek) has filed a Critical Infrastructure Mitigation Plan with the State of Alaska and has also been working with the Borough Manager to create

a Haines Borough Plan of Protection for returning Haines residents working at the mines. Two Hecla miners will be returning to Haines tomorrow via a chartered flight from Hawk Inlet directly to the Haines airport. A household member will pick these two people up and take them to their homes where they will shelter in place. The Borough has received assurance that these two individuals have not circulated with any person who has been at the Greens Creek Facility for less than 14 days...i.e., they have not co-mingled with unknown people.

Coeur Alaska will be asked to adhere to the same guidelines which includes complete itinerary, who will meet the miners at the airport and adherence to Shelter in Place when home. The first employee from Kensington is scheduled to return home on April 11.

More on Masks:

On April 3, 2020, Dr. Anne Zink and the Department of Health and Social Services issued Health Alert 010–Recommendations Regarding the Use of Cloth Face Coverings (*this is not a mandate but a recommendation*).

Scientific evidence available to date indicates that asymptomatic and presymptomatic shedding of the virus that causes COVID-19 is occurring. This means that people who have no symptoms whatsoever may be infected with the virus and capable of transmitting the virus to others when interacting in close proximity—for example, speaking, coughing, or sneezing.

The primary way to control the spread of this disease is through social distancing, frequent hand-washing, and disinfecting high-touch surfaces. Another tool that may help to minimize transmission while people are around others outside of their household is the use of face coverings. When you are out and about (quick trips to the store, pharmacy, post office, medical appts) wear a homemade mask

Because we are experiencing a nationwide shortage of medical supplies, including facemasks, **we recommend that Alaskans make their own face coverings and wear them in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain** (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies) --

especially in areas of significant community-based transmission. This recommendation aligns with current national guidance:

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

The following measures are highly recommended for all Alaskans:

- Wear a cloth face covering in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies).
- Make sure the face covering covers both the nose and mouth.
- Do not remove the face covering until you return home.
- When removing the face covering, avoid touching the front of the face covering (because it may be contaminated). Remove it by grasping the ear loops, ties, or bands and immediately discard or place in a designated container for laundering.
- Wash your hands immediately after removing the face covering and before touching anything else.
- Wash face coverings in hot, soapy water between uses.
- Do not wear N-95 or surgical masks; these are needed by health care workers and first responders.
- Do not rely on face coverings as the primary way to prevent COVID-19 transmission, and be careful to avoid developing a false sense of security through the use of face coverings.

Warning about ZOOM:

We have been advised by the State Security Office that ZOOM and WebEx pose security risks to both the host and the users of the software. With the transition to work remotely, there is an increase in the number of cyber-attacks against the technologies we use to communicate. A cyber-attack is the LAST thing we need right now. We are continuing to explore other options for our Assembly Meetings and Virtual Townhall Meetings. In the meantime, we will continue with our teleconference system.