

ISLESBORO HEALTH CENTER

COVID STATUS UPDATE

January 21, 2021

Current COVID Status on Islesboro:

The Health Center is **not aware of any new confirmed positive cases** of Covid infection on Islesboro. **There has been an uptick in the number of primary exposures on the island requiring persons to quarantine over the past 2 months.**

Health Center Operations

The IHC providers and staff continue to see patients in person or via Telehealth. Blood draws are performed Tuesday mornings in the Annex building in the front parking lot.

IHC COVID-19 Testing Program

Testing is available for people with symptoms or confirmed exposure. We are expanding to include travel-related testing. Sentinel testing is still limited to healthcare workers with direct patient contact. **The testing program is in process of being reevaluated in the setting of increasing statewide COVID cases, and likely vaccination rollout delays.** Details will be available in the next few weeks. To schedule a COVID-19 test please call 207-200-4116.

COVID-19 Vaccine Update for Islesboro

Due to continued limits on vaccine availability, Maine is using a phased approach to providing vaccines. Governor Mills announced an expansion **to the vaccine category 1b for persons 70 and older** as well as individuals with serious health issues. To learn about who is included in what phase and Maine's overall plan for vaccination, click here <https://www.maine.gov/covid19/vaccines>.

Maine Health local hospitals, Pen Bay Medical Center and Waldo County General Hospital are planning large scale vaccination clinics in the coming weeks for category 1b. You can find information about scheduling here <https://www.mainehealth.org/Coronavirus-COVID-19/Vaccine> or by calling 1-877-780-7545. Registration for vaccine appointments via the central call center is being refined as the initial response was overwhelming.

IHC has submitted the required documentation to be eligible to receive and administer the COVID-19 vaccine on the island as it becomes available. **Unfortunately, there is no information currently available to indicate if and when the Health Center may receive the COVID-19 vaccine doses to administer to the community.**

IHC staff is pro-actively preparing to run at least two vaccination clinics which will be held at the Kinnicutt Center to accommodate a large number of persons if the vaccine becomes available. Information on registering for the vaccine on Islesboro has been added to the COVID-19 Testing Program telephone number 207-200-4116 and will be posted on Constant Contact in the coming week. If you are interested in being vaccinated here on Islesboro, a form will be available **next week at** <https://forms.gle/sin1TCmDb7tfqb779>. Or, after **January 26th** you can pick up a paper copy on the porch at the Town Office and return it via mail or fax. We will continue to update the community as we learn more.

The vaccine supply chain is uncertain and islanders are encouraged to attempt to schedule a vaccine at the first available location.

Boardman Cottage residents and staff will be offered the COVID vaccine on-site today, Thursday, Jan 21st via Kennebec Pharmacy per agreement with Maine CDC and Immunization Program as part of 1a category. Maine EMS will come to Islesboro to administer the 2nd dose of the vaccine to first responders next week

Protect yourself, your family, and your neighbors from Covid-19. Avoid risky social situations, wash your hands frequently, practice social distancing and wear a face covering while out in public. Your safe "bubble" is your immediate household, not your extended family or friends. If you feel sick, stay home. Quarantine if you are required to following out of state travel.

Covid Status Update and Information:

www.townofislesboro.com/covid19

crisisteam@townofislesboro.com

Covid Weekly Information - Call (207) 558-3030

IHC 734-2213