



Clallam County Emergency Management

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NEWS RELEASE

Clallam County Moves to Phase 2 Reopening

On Thursday, May 28 2020 the State of Washington formally approved the Clallam County application to proceed to Phase 2 reopening as of Monday June 1.

Phase 2 is the second part of WA State's four phase reopening plan. Each phase is expected to be a minimum of three weeks but is predicated on meeting certain readiness guidelines prior to moving from one phase to another. The Governor's COVID-19 website provides details of each phase and what can be reopened as we move through the phases.

Moving to Phase 2 is good news for many people and businesses in our county. It is the first step in moving forward and to a "more normal" lifestyle and the easing of the many restrictions we have all had to endure. However, as Winston Churchill observed during a speech at the Lord Mayor's Lunch in London on November 10, 1942 "Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."

Progress to be sure, but not outright victory. Progress to be welcomed, but not at the expense of letting down our guard. We have all worked so hard to keep down the infection in Clallam County and it remains critical to continue observing the simple things that got us here. Wash your hands frequently, maintain six foot distancing from other people, and do not gather in large groups. Wear a mask as often as possible.

It is tempting to assign our limited number of virus cases to our rural status, but that is not true. Other counties of similar size and population in Washington have experienced much higher case loads. Our success has been due to everybody pulling together and following simple, but critical, guidelines. Please, please continue to stay with these guidelines. For your own sake; for the sake of your friends and neighbors; and for the sake of our entire community.

Details will continue to be published on the Clallam County website, just follow the links to the COVID-19 information. Business reopening guidance will be published there.