

## Spring 2020

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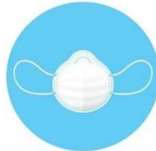
Thurston County Leaders Provide Public Service Announcements Amid COVID-19 Pandemic

Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Answers Your Questions About COVID-19

Commissioner Tye Menser Talks About the 2020 Census and why Your Participation is Needed

## NEWS AND VIEWS

Thurston County  
Coronavirus Response (COVID-19)



### ACCEPTING PPE DONATIONS

AT THESE THURSTON COUNTY LOCATIONS

PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR DROP OFF

Thurston County Emergency Management  
9521 Tilley Rd SW Olympia 98512  
(360) 867-2800

<b>Lacey Fire Dept.</b> 1231 Franz St SE Lacey 98503 (360) 491-2410	<b>Olympia Fire Dept.</b> 100 Eastside St. SE Olympia 98506 (360) 753-8348	<b>Tumwater Fire Dept.</b> 311 Israel Rd SE Tumwater 98501 (360) 754-4170
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- Surgical Masks
- Face Shields
- Homemade Facemask
- Respirator Masks
- Eye Protection
- Mask Extenders (3D printed or Sewn with Buttons)
- Gloves
- Gowns

## Thurston County Emergency Management is Collecting PPE for COVID-19 Response

**H**ave you or someone you know been making cloth masks to help slow the spread of COVID-19? Then consider donating some of them to support our essential personnel!

Many of our essential staff have requested homemade face masks, and while we've been receiving medical masks (thanks and keep it up) we have yet to get your crafty, homemade ones. Other personal protective equipment, or PPE, we're collecting includes:

- Gowns - surgical/disposable
- Tyvek suits
- Hair caps
- Eye protection/goggles
- Face shields
- Gloves
- Respirator masks
- Surgical masks
- Mask extenders (3-D printed or sewn with buttons)

Check out the flyer above to see locations where you can donate your items. Please be sure to call ahead first for operating hours and drop-off arrangements.

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## Be Counted Thurston County!

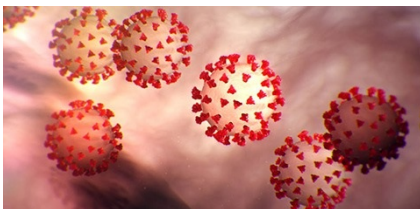
By Tye Menser, Thurston County Commissioner

**C**ensus: noun, an official count or survey of a population, typically recording various details of individuals.

Many of us know about the Census - that survey that comes around once a decade. What you might not know is all the ways the Census results impact our daily lives. The Census tells us who we are and where we are going as a nation.

The Census helps our communities determine where to build everything from schools to supermarkets, and homes to hospitals. It helps the government decide how to distribute funds and assistance to states and localities. It is also used to draw the lines of legislative districts and reapportion the seats each state holds in Congress. The list goes on, including programs to: support rural areas, restore wildlife, prevent child abuse, prepare for wildfires, and provide housing assistance for older adults.

You might recall taking the Census with an in-person fieldworker. This year, however, the Census will move away from paper as the primary method to collect data for the first time since its inception in 1790. For the 2020 Census, you can respond online at [www.my2020census.gov](http://www.my2020census.gov), by mail, or by phone at 1-844-330-2020. With the outbreak of COVID-19 and more options for self response, fewer fieldworkers will be going door-to-door. Be sure you do your part and be counted!



## COVID-19 Public Service Announcements

From the Leaders of Thurston County

**A**s a part of the local response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Thurston County Commission Chair John Hutchings and local mayors have created a series of public service announcements, or PSA's, about how we can make staying home and healthy enjoyable and slow the spread of COVID-19! The PSAs are for use across Thurston County, so please feel free to share on social media and with your friends and family. For your convenience, we've included the PSAs below. You can also find these on our PSA page at: <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/phss/Pages/covid-19-psa.aspx>. Be sure to check the page periodically as we add more content from other local leaders!

### **Avoid Crowds**

[County Commissioner John Hutchings](#)

[City of Olympia Mayor Cheryl Selby](#)

[Text of Avoid Crowds PSAs](#)

### **Basic Social Distancing**

[County Commissioner John Hutchings](#)

[City of Olympia Mayor Cheryl Selby](#)

[City of Yelm Mayor JW Foster](#)

[Text of Basic Social Distancing PSAs](#)

### **Life**

[County Commissioner John Hutchings](#)

[City of Olympia Mayor Cheryl Selby](#)

[City of Yelm Mayor JW Foster](#)

[Text of Life PSAs](#)

### **Spread Prevention**

[County Commissioner John Hutchings](#)

[City of Olympia Mayor Cheryl Selby](#)

[City of Yelm Mayor JW Foster](#)

[City of Tumwater Mayor Pete Kmet](#)

[Text of Spread Prevention PSAs](#)

### **Trusted Sources**

[County Commissioner John Hutchings](#)

[City of Olympia Mayor Cheryl Selby](#)

[City of Yelm Mayor JW Foster](#)

[City of Tumwater Mayor Pete Kmet](#)

[Text of Trusted Sources PSAs](#)



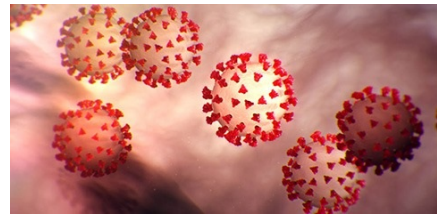
## 2020 First Half Property Tax Due Date Extended

2020 first half property tax payments are due June 1, 2020. This is an extension of the traditional April 30 due date for first half tax payments. Thurston County Treasurer Jeff Gadman requests those who are financially able to make their 2020 first half property tax payment early do so to ensure funding for essential services needed now and in the months to come.

Learn more at: <https://bit.ly/39On4cM>.

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## Have COVID-19 Questions? Check out the County's FAQs Page!



Why can't you tell me more about the cases or about the people being tested? What is Thurston County doing to help the homeless during the COVID-19 outbreak? What is social distancing? These are just a few of the questions Thurston County Public Health and Social Services addresses in their new frequently asked questions page!

Find answers to your COVID-19 questions at:  
<https://bit.ly/2xpmu7P>.

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## April 28 Courthouse Ballot Proposition Postponed

Due to the current health emergency, the Thurston County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to rescind the ballot measure to increase the county's 2021 regular property tax levy to fund a new courthouse

and administrative buildings. The vote was expected to occur during the April 28, 2020 election. The commissioners will reassess the ballot measure and when to hold the election after this health emergency subsides.

Learn more at: <https://bit.ly/3bXtSgk>.



[www.thurstoncountywa.gov](http://www.thurstoncountywa.gov)