



Governor Michael J. Dunleavy  
STATE OF ALASKA

## **\*\*COVID-19 HEALTH MANDATE\*\***

Issued: March 17, 2020

By: Governor Mike Dunleavy  
Commissioner Adam Crum  
Dr. Anne Zink  
Alaska Department of Health and Social Services  
Chief Medical Officer, State of Alaska

To prevent or slow the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), the State of Alaska is issuing its fourth health mandate.

**Higher Risk:** If you have traveled from an area with *widespread, ongoing community spread* such as Europe, China, and other countries (i.e., a CDC Level 3 Travel Health Notice Area) and are entering Alaska within the past 14 days **you must:**

- Stay home and avoid contact with other household members.
- Contact your employer and **do not go to work or school** for this 14-day period after you return.
- CDC Level 3 Travel Health Notice Area
  - China, Iran, South Korea, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Monaco, San Marino, Vatican City.

**Medium Risk:** If you have traveled anywhere outside of Alaska, (including the rest of the United States) within the past 14 days **you must:**

- Keep your distance from others (about six feet or two meters)
- This may mean not going to work or school if you cannot safely be distanced from others – especially if you traveled in a location where community transmission is occurring – **contact your employer.**
- **You must** avoid crowded places (such as shopping centers and movie theaters) and limit your activities in public.

### **Health Guidance for Returning Travelers in the Higher and Medium Risk Groups**

1. Take your temperature with a thermometer two times a day and monitor for fever. Also watch for cough or trouble breathing.
2. If you get sick with fever ( $>100.3^{\circ}\text{F}$ ), cough, or shortness of breath, please call your health care provider.
3. Do not take mass transportation during the time you are practicing social distancing.
4. Avoid crowded places (such as shopping centers and movie theaters) and limit your activities in public.
5. Keep your distance from others (about 6 feet or 2 meters).
6. If you seek medical care for other reasons, such as dialysis, call ahead to your doctor and tell them about your recent travel.

All Alaskans should follow previous guidance including regular hand washing, cleaning surfaces and avoiding large gatherings (March 13 COVID-19 Health Alert: Recommendations for Keeping Communities Safe).



Newtok Village Council  
P.O. Box 5556  
Newtok, AK 99559

Mertarvik Community  
Phone (907)237-2202

## COVID-19 Response Resolution

Resolution: 03182020

WHEREAS, the Newtok Village Council is the governing body for Newtok Village, a Federally recognized Tribal Entity, which has undertaken the relocation of the community of Newtok to Mertarvik because the current Newtok site is being destroyed.

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic presents a health threat to Newtok and Mertarvik, because tribal residents travel outside of Newtok/Mertarvik and relocation requires contractors and construction and barge crews to come to Newtok/Mertarvik.

WHEREAS, Newtok must continue its relocation efforts despite the COVID-19 pandemic because the village will otherwise be destroyed.

WHEREAS, According to the World Health Organization, and the US Center for Disease Control:

- COVID-19 most affects older persons and persons with pre-existing medical conditions (such as high blood pressure, heart disease, lung disease, cancer or diabetes);
- People are thought to be most contagious when they are most showing signs of infection;
- Common signs of infection include respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, shortness of breath and breathing difficulties; and
- The “incubation period” is the time between catching the virus and beginning to have symptoms of the disease; most estimates of the incubation period for COVID-19 range from 1-14 days, most commonly around five days.

WHEREAS, Newtok Village has site control over the Mertarvik Townsite.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Newtok Tribal Council hereby finds and proclaims that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a tribal emergency, and pursuant to this declaration, direct as follows:

- All workers shall undergo temperature testing on a twice daily basis to be conducted by their employers, and certified to either the Newtok Tribal Administrator or the Newtok Relocation Coordinator
- All transient workers or visitors shall undergo twice daily temperature testing five days prior to visiting Newtok or Mertarvik and provide certification of such to either the Newtok Tribal Administrator or the Newtok Relocation Coordinator
- All residents of Newtok or Mertarvik shall undergo daily temperature testing two days prior to returning to Newtok or Mertarvik, but are not required to certify such results
- Any active worker at Newtok or Mertarvik found to have a temperature in excess of normal or displaying common signs of infection shall be placed on administrative leave and quarantine, by the employer for a minimum of 14 days, or until the employer presents negative test results for COVID-19, whichever is earlier
- Any transient worker or visitor found to have a temperature in excess of normal shall be denied entry to either Newtok or Mertarvik for a period of 14 days, after which such transient worker or visitor shall undergo temperature retesting and recertification.

- Any resident temporarily outside Newtok or Mertarvik who has a temperature in excess of normal is requested to not return to Newtok or Mertarvik unless they conduct a temperature retest that demonstrates a normal temperature or receive medical clearance to return.
- All persons entering Newtok or Mertarvik must submit to a temperature test upon request of the Tribal Administrator or Tribal Relocation Coordinator.

NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that employers operating in and near Newtok or Mertarvik shall be responsible for compliance with this directive. All employers operating within Newtok or Mertarvik shall sign an agreement to comply with this policy. Newtok Village Council reserves the right to withdraw authorization to use or operate in or near Newtok or Mertarvik to any employer or individual that fails to assure compliance with this directive.

NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all residents, workers, transient workers and visitors are encouraged to

- Clean hands regularly with soap and water.
- Cover mouth and nose with elbow when coughing or sneezing.
- Stay home if sick; and
- Avoid unnecessary travel and large social gatherings.

NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, For the purposes of this declaration, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

- i) "worker" shall mean any person employed on a full or part time basis in or near Mertarvik or Newtok, including all workers employed by an entity operating under a licensing or use agreement between Newtok Village or Newtok Native Corporation
- ii) "employer" shall mean the employer of a worker, and shall include Newtok Village.
- iii) "transient worker" shall mean any person entering Newtok or Mertarvik in the employ of another or under contract to Newtok Village, or any entity operating under a licensing or use agreement between Newtok Village or Newtok Native Corporation, including all employees of barge operators;
- iv) "visitor" shall mean any non-resident of Newtok or Mertarvik who enters Newtok or Mertarvik on official or other business, including all members of the press.
- v) "normal temperature" shall mean any temperature less than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit.

NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this directive shall become effective on May 1, 2020 unless suspended by directive of the Council President.

### CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by a vote of FOR 4 and AGAINST ~~0~~ and ABSENT 3, at a meeting of the Newtok Village Council Members, at which a QUORUM 4 was present on 30<sup>th</sup> the day of March, 2020.

This resolution is valid unless rescinded.

ice/President: Sumner Huitank Date: 3/20/20

Treasurer/Secretary: [Signature] Date: 3-20-20