



# *PROCLAMATION*

WHEREAS, as the State of Alaska begins to reopen, it is even more imperative for every individual to take responsibility for protecting the health and safety of ourselves, our families, our neighbors, and our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Valdez has been tirelessly working to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has generated a public health emergency that threatens to overwhelm the Valdez health system and economy of our community, endangering the lives and wellbeing of our citizens.

NOW THEREFORE, to prevent or slow the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in our community, the City of Valdez hereby issues this Proclamation imploring all residents and visitors to act as follows:

1. Read and follow all state health mandates, state health alerts, local health proclamations, and the instructions of public health officials.
2. Practice good hygiene. Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If you do not have access to soap and water, use hand sanitizer instead. Avoid touching your face. Regularly sanitize high touch surfaces. Cover your coughs and sneezes. Stay home if you feel even mild symptoms of illness.
3. Practice social (physical) distancing. Maintain a minimum of six feet of separation from anyone outside your immediate household. If singing, projecting your voice, or participating in exercise, maintain a minimum of ten feet of separation from anyone outside your immediate household. If you are responsible for the care of children, please help them remember social (physical) distancing applies, regardless of age.
4. Whenever possible, wear a cloth face covering while in public to protect others as suggested in State Health Alert 010.
  - a. Face coverings should cover your nose and mouth; fit snugly but comfortably against your nose and the side of your face; be secured with ties, ear loops, fasteners or some other method so it does not slide down your face; consist of several layers of fabric or other material to prevent respiratory droplets from passing through; allow for breathing without restriction; and be sturdy in construction.

- b. Understand how to properly wear your face covering. Practice hand hygiene prior to putting it on and taking it off. Avoid touching the front of your cloth face covering, as it may be contaminated. After removing it, immediately discard or place in a designated container for laundering. Wash in hot, soapy water between uses.
  - c. Cloth face coverings need not be worn at home, in your personal vehicle, or outdoors while alone or with members of your household.
  - d. Children under the age of two and those with certain health conditions should not wear cloth face coverings. Accommodations should also be made for those who suffer from claustrophobia or traumatic experiences related to face coverings.
  - e. Social (physical) distancing must still be maintained by those wearing cloth face coverings.
  - f. Do not wear N-95 or surgical masks, as those are needed by healthcare workers and first responders.
5. Stay near your home, boat, RV, hotel, campground, or other lodging as much as possible. Limit your interactions with others to only that which is necessary. Avoid gatherings of more than 20 people.
6. Following the guidance of Dr. Anne Zink, Chief Medical Officer for the State of Alaska, somehow notate where you have been and who you have been in contact with for the past two weeks. If you are unable to list the people you have been around for more than 10 minutes during that time period, you are interacting with too many people.
7. When you do venture out, please do so only for essential activities. The following are considered essential activities in Valdez:
  - a. Obtaining food, groceries, supplies, or services.
  - b. Going to work or participating in official duties for your employer.
  - c. Visiting your medical provider or the pharmacy.
  - d. Getting fresh air and exercise through outdoor recreation including walking, bicycling, hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, etc.
  - e. Practicing your faith or spiritual path.
  - f. Caring for loved ones or assisting others with essential activities.
  - g. Participating in or staffing childcare or day camps for children.
8. Attempt to send only one person into the store, post office, or service provider and take advantage of call ahead, curbside, or delivery options whenever possible.

9. Make restaurant reservations in advance and only eat out with those in your household.
10. Follow all public health procedures and instructions of the establishments you visit, including the Valdez harbor and other public facilities.
11. If you start to feel symptoms such as cough, breathing problems, fever or other COVID-19 symptoms, STAY HOME AND CALL AHEAD to the hospital, your medical provider, or public health clinic for screening. If your symptoms are life-threatening, please dial 911 for emergency assistance and answer all of the dispatcher's questions honestly. Your answers will not stop first responders from coming to help. Your answers will simply adjust the personal protective equipment which must be worn when they do.

**A few additional guidelines for those arriving from communities with confirmed COVID-19 cases:**

1. To keep yourself and others safe, avoid entering local establishments or interacting with others outside your household during your first two weeks in Valdez.
2. If you must obtain supplies locally during your first two weeks in Valdez, attempt to first use delivery or curbside pick-up options. If delivery or curbside pick-up options are not available and the item is absolutely necessary, please reach out to the business or vendor by telephone for guidance. Several local organizations exist who can help you obtain needed supplies if you have no other options. Boaters staying overnight at the harbor may also reach out to the Harbormaster for assistance.
3. Interstate and international travelers remain subject to State Health Mandate 010, which requires filing a traveler declaration form with the state and a mandatory 14-day quarantine upon arriving or returning to Alaska.

DATED this 30<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020.

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA



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Jeremy O'Neil, Mayor

ATTEST:



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Sheri L. Pierce, MMC, City Clerk

