



VINALHAVEN PUBLIC HEALTH TEAM

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The Public Health Team meets on a semi-regular basis and more frequently when necessary. We will provide the community with relevant COVID-19 information in a timely manner. This collaborative partnership has been in place since March 2020 when Maine declared a civil state of emergency.

Active Case Count

As of Tuesday, January 4, 2022, ICMS is reporting that there are **11*** active cases of COVID on Vinalhaven.

**This count only represents the confirmed positive tests that have been shared with ICMS.*

What can YOU do to lower risk to yourself, your family/friends, and your community?

Wear face coverings in public indoor places. When possible, open windows to promote air flow. Gather outdoors when possible. Stay home and avoid others if you feel sick.

The best thing you can do to protect yourself and your loved ones is to get vaccinated. If it has been six months since your final dose of Pfizer or Moderna, or two months since your dose of Johnson & Johnson, get a booster.

If you have not yet received your booster shot, contact Janica Barrows at 863-4341 to schedule your appointment. If you have a child, ages 5 to 11, and would like them to be vaccinated, contact Janica at ICMS or Amanda Philbrook at the school (863-4800). ICMS needs a minimum of 25 children before being allotted the Pfizer vaccines for this age group.

School Update

New Guidelines. At Vinalhaven School, a person who is a close contact does not need to quarantine because there is an exception for schools with a mandatory masking policy.

A close contact attends school as long as they show no symptoms. They should test 5 days after the most recent exposure. If they show symptoms at any time, they should quarantine and test immediately.

A person who is a close contact, but is not current with a COVID vaccination/booster, goes to school, but should still quarantine outside of school (in the community).

Summary - all students and staff are expected to come to school unless they test positive, or if they are showing symptoms. These rules make it very important for everyone to wear their mask properly (over the mouth and nose). Since there are positive COVID cases on the island, throughout Maine, and many people have traveled and socialized over the holidays, school staff will have very high expectations for mask wearing during the next few weeks. Students who repeatedly fail to comply with proper masking protocols will be sent home.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Monte Selby, principal via [email](mailto:monte@vinalhaven.org) or 863-4800 ext. 1112

Known Cases 01-04-2022

Vinalhaven

Confirmed Positive – 11

Maine

New Cases – 1,481

State and county data, click [here](#).

New CDC guidance is available for those who have tested positive for COVID-19 or been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Refer to the included diagram to learn what you need to do if you have tested positive or been in close contact with someone who has tested positive.

What is a Close Contact?

- Being within 6 feet of an infected person for a total of 15 cumulative minutes or more over 24 hours
- Providing care at home to someone sick with COVID-19
- Direct physical contact with an infectious person (ex. hugging/kissing)
- Sharing eating or drinking utensils
- Being exposed to respiratory droplets from an infectious person (ex. sneezing/coughing)

Questions?

- Contact 2-1-1 for general information about COVID-19 or visit Maine CDC's website.
- Contact ICMS, 863-4341 if you are looking to schedule an appointment for a vaccine.
- Contact the school, 863-4800, with questions about school COVID policies.
- Businesses with COVID-19 questions can call 2-1-1 or the Town Manager, 863-2042