



## VINALHAVEN PUBLIC HEALTH TEAM

**Jen Desmond**  
Public Health Officer

**Andrew Dorr**  
Town Manager

**Marc Candage**  
EMA Director

**Cameron Garrett**  
Executive Director, ICMS

**Pat Lundholm**  
Interim EMS Director

**Monte Selby**  
School Principal

**Pam Kittredge**  
Communication Volunteer

*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 Wednesday, January 26, 2022, ICMS is reporting that there have been **60\* confirmed cases** of COVID on Vinalhaven, an increase of 7 since Monday 1/24. This count represents the cumulative cases reported since December 26, 2021.

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

### Vaccines for Children

Many have asked about the status of receiving vaccines for children on the island. Here is what we know:

- Pfizer is the only FDA-authorized vaccine for people younger than 18, so it is the vaccine used for ages 5 and up as well as a booster for those ages 12 through 17.
- Current protocols distribute the Pfizer vaccine in larger quantities and limits the amount of wasted doses at the administering facilities.
- The vaccine must be stored under certain, cold, conditions and must be used withing a limited timeline.
- You can find more answers about the pediatric COVID-19 vaccine [here](#).

Due to these factors, ICMS is not able to provide a clinic or administers vaccine doses for ages 5 through 11.

To find a vaccination site for your child, visit the [Maine CDC Vaccine Sites](#) webpage. As of today, there appear to be chances to schedule a vaccine appointment at the following locations in Rockland/Thomaston,

- Hannaford
- Penobscot Bay Medical Center
- Walmart

### Known Cases 01-26-2022

#### Vinalhaven

Confirmed Positive— 60

#### Maine

Daily Reported Cases – 1,524  
State and county data, [click here](#).

### From the School

The school the Board voted on January 26<sup>th</sup> to resume in-person instruction on **Monday January 31<sup>st</sup>**.

- No negative test required following quarantine. Students and staff must be symptom-free.
- Sports programs that were in place prior to remote learning will resume to the best of their ability.

More information will be on the school's Facebook page.

### At Home COVID-19 Test Kits

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order #4 free at-home COVID-19 tests. The tests are completely free. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days.

Order your tests now so you have them when you need them.

<https://www.covidtests.gov/>  
[1-800-232-0233](https://www.covidtests.gov/1-800-232-0233)

### ICMS UPDATE

ICMS is still conducting COVID testing, but are using PCR tests almost exclusively at this time. More tests have been ordered through federal sources and are expecting these to be received soon. The time to confirm the results from a PCR test is not instant and will likely take multiple days at this time.

Please refer to the [CDC flow chart](#) in this update to know when to quarantine.

**Medical Services are open for business.**

**Dental Services are open but may be reduced.**

Please call ahead if you have any questions, 863-4341.

### 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



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## **MSFS Message**

The Maine Department of Transportation is closing the Vinalhaven Ferry Terminal on Thursday, Jan 27<sup>th</sup> in response to an employee within the facility testing positive for COVID-19. The office is being cleaned and will reopen to the public and employees on Friday. This will impact the issuance of line numbers Thursday morning for Friday's trip. At this time, plan on lining up for the boat you intend to travel on and the MSFS personnel will direct vehicles onto the boat. If you have a reservation or a priority, line up as you normally would for that boat. Contact the Rockland Office with any additional questions by calling 207-596-5400.

Businesses and transit operators across the country are struggling with the impact of the recent wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Maine State Ferry Service is no different. The MSFS continues to operate and prioritize the health and safety of our customers, employees, and communities. While no schedule reductions or cancellations are planned at this time, we are experiencing staffing shortages due to COVID-19. These staffing shortages could lead to temporary interruptions of service on short notice.

As we have shared throughout the pandemic, we encourage customers to know that operational changes, including one-time or recurring cancellation of service, may still occur due to the pandemic.

Any such changes will be communicated on the message boards at the MSFS terminals and sent through the [5-1-1 notification system](#).

## **Town Office Hours**

Due to staffing levels and preparations for the town's financial audit, the Town Office will modify business hours starting January 31 through February 11. During these two weeks, the office will be open from **8 am to 12 noon**. As a reminder, there are some services available online, like [re-registering a vehicle](#) or obtaining a burn permit.

## **Financial Resources**

There are various resources available to those that may need assistance with food, heating, home weatherization/improvements, and other basic necessities. Click on the following resources for more information.

[Penquis](#) offers a range of support services from home heating assistance to home repairs/inspections. Call 596-0361 for more information.

[VH Community Outreach](#) VCO has set up a COVID-19 fund to help islanders who are directly financially affected by the virus. People seeking assistance should email VCO at [vhcommunityoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:vhcommunityoutreach@gmail.com).

[General Assistance](#) Local assistance for residents with difficulty paying for basic necessities. Contact Andy for more information at 863-2042.

[Vinalhaven Fuel Fund](#) - helps pay for up to 100 gallons of fuel. Contact Sue (207) 863-4822

## **Questions?**

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This guidance is for the general public. [Healthcare related guidance is here.](#)

**Start Here**  
↓  
**I'm a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Now what?**

Are you fully vaccinated & boosted?\*

Yes.

No.

Have you completed your primary series of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine WITHIN the last 5 months OR completed the primary series of the J&J vaccine WITHIN the last 2 months?

Yes.

No.

**No Quarantine:** You can leave your house and test on day 5.

Wear a mask around others for 10 days.

Are you fully vaccinated but not boosted?\*

Yes.

Have you completed the primary series of your Pfizer or Moderna vaccine MORE THAN 5 months ago? OR Have you completed your primary series of the J&J vaccine MORE THAN 2 months ago?

**Quarantine:** Stay home for 5 days

Continue to wear a mask around others for an additional 5 days

If you can't quarantine, you **MUST** wear a mask for 10 days.

Test on day 5, if possible.

Are you partially vaccinated or unvaccinated?\*

Updated: January 7, 2022  
Created by the Maine Center for Disease Control & Prevention

***\*If you develop symptoms, stay home, isolate, get tested, and contact your healthcare provider if symptoms persist.***