



February 15, 2019

*\* NOTICE: This health alert provides written guidance for health care professionals and others who may need to take action to prevent or control a notifiable condition. It is not intended to provide guidance for the general public.*

Communicable Disease Updates are posted online at: <http://bit.ly/ThurstonCDUpdates>

**Measles Outbreak in Clark County, WA  
 Information for Schools, Preschools and Child Care**

No cases of measles have been identified in Thurston County to date. However there have been a number of exposures in large public venues in Clark County as well as outbreaks in other states, and we may see cases. (See: <https://www.clark.wa.gov/public-health/measles-investigation> for a list of know exposure locations in Clark County.) Clark County is experiencing an ongoing measles outbreak. Since January 1, 2019, 53 cases have been confirmed, and there has been one confirmed case in King County tied to the outbreak. For daily updates on cases in all counties in Washington, visit:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/IllnessandDisease/Measles/MeaslesOutbreak>

***What to expect if a measles case is identified in your school, preschool, or child care***

You will be immediately notified by Thurston County Public Health (TCPH) if a measles case is confirmed in your school.

- ✓ TCPH will ask that the school:
  - Exclude the case from school (TCPH will contact all confirmed cases with instructions on home isolation)
    - People with measles (cases) will be excluded for 5 days after the onset of rash
  - Determine the dates the measles case attended school
  - Determine building(s) case was present in, including common areas such as a gym, hall, cafeteria
  - Determine information on the school bus taken by the case.
  - Identify students and staff who are susceptible to measles, these include:
    - Preschool children who have not received one dose of measles vaccine.
    - K-12 students who do not have documentation of 2 doses of measles vaccine or documentation of immunity (blood test).
    - Adults born during or after 1957 who do not have documentation of 1 dose of measles vaccine or documentation of immunity.
    - Staff born prior to 1957 are not considered susceptible.
  - Refer to your school or district procedures to determine acceptable documentation of vaccination or immunity.
  - Provide TCPH names and contact information of staff and students susceptible to measles who were potentially exposed including those present in the buildings, common areas, and bus where the case was present for 4 days prior to the onset of rash, and while rash was present.
  
- ✓ TCPH will work with you to:
  - Determine the date the case can return to school
  - Inform all parents of the situation and actions being taken
  - Determine those students and staff who will be excluded from your site based on immune status
    - The school notifies students and staff who are to be excluded
  - Determine the dates of exclusion
    - Typically starting 7 days after first exposure, and lasting 21 days after last exposure

# COMMUNICABLE DISEASE UPDATE

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION SECTION  
THURSTON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
412 LILLY RD NE  
OLYMPIA, WA, 98506-5132  
DISEASE REPORTING: (360)786-5470 INFORMATION: (360) 867-2533  
Rachel Wood, MD, MPH, Health Officer



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## Resources

Measles information handout

[https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/Measles%20Basic%20Info\\_english.pdf](https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/Measles%20Basic%20Info_english.pdf)

Measles information in multiple languages:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/IllnessandDisease/Measles>

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*Thank you for helping to protect the health of Thurston County*

TO REPORT A NOTIFIABLE CONDITION IN THURSTON COUNTY	
Voice mail for reporting <b>Non-immediately reportable conditions (24 hours a day)</b>	Phone: 360-786-5470 Fax: 360-867-2601
<b>Day time immediately reportable conditions</b>	360-867-2500 ask staff to locate Communicable Disease staff
<b>After hours immediately and 24 hour reportable conditions or a public health emergency</b>	Call 911 and ask staff to locate the Health Officer.
No one is available with Thurston County Public Health and condition is <b>immediately notifiable</b>	1-877-539-4344 – Washington State Department of Health