



**Press Release**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Media Contact**  
Matthew Kempton | mkempton@willapa.net  
360-875-4528

## **Willapa Harbor Hospital Offers COVID-19 Rapid Testing**

*The local healthcare system makes test results available in as soon as one hour.*

SOUTH BEND, Wash. (June 25, 2020) – As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to change the American way of life, testing for the contagious virus is now becoming widely available in Pacific County. Willapa Harbor Hospital now offers COVID-19 rapid testing for individuals, with results available in most cases the same day

“As interest in coronavirus testing continues to increase, with some employers even requiring testing before workers get back to work, Washington State has finally been able to make testing widely available,” says Matthew Kempton, CEO of Willapa Harbor Hospital. “Testing not only brings peace of mind, but it is a critical measure to reducing community spread.”

According to health officials, the novel coronavirus is transmitted primarily from person to person, wearing a mask, frequent handwashing and social distancing are some of the most important ways that you can limit your risk of getting ill or spreading the virus. Many of those who are infected with COVID-19 can be infectious for several days before experiencing symptoms.

Those most at risk of developing severe illness from COVID-19 are those with weak or compromised immune systems and the elderly. Limiting time spent in public to necessary errands and washing hands frequently are essential ways to reduce the risk of exposure.

Symptoms of COVID-19 can include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Those who have been in close contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 are also asked to seek medical advice.

As of June 24 there have been more than 2.3 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States, with more than 119,000 deaths as a result. In Washington State, just over 29,000 cases have been confirmed with 1,284 deaths.

There are currently no vaccinations to treat or prevent the coronavirus.

Rapid testing for COVID-19 is processed at the hospital’s on-site laboratory Monday through Friday, regardless of whether you have symptoms for the coronavirus. The cost of the test is \$52 but could be less with your insurance card. For more information on rapid testing and times, please call 360-875-4566.

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#### **About Willapa Harbor Hospital**

Founded in 1954, Willapa Harbor Hospital serves the healthcare needs of north Pacific County residents. The hospital offers a wealth of medical services including in-patient care, a Level V 24-hour trauma center and advanced radiology services (including CT, MRIs, ultrasound and mammograms), an outpatient lab, surgical services, cardiac rehabilitation, diabetic education and more. Pacific Family Health Center and Willapa Harbor Hospital Clinics are medical clinics that are operated by Willapa Harbor Hospital. For more information, please visit [www.willapaharborhospital.com](http://www.willapaharborhospital.com).

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