



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
P.O. Box 41101 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1101

June 17, 2020

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**FROM:** Stephen Sinclair, Secretary

**SUBJECT: Testing of all CRCC staff and incarcerated individuals in the Medium Security Unit**

As you know, after being on quarantine status since May 26, the Medium Security Complex (MSC) at [Coyote Ridge Corrections Center \(CRCC\)](#) was placed on restricted movement Thursday, June 11, in an attempt to contain the spread of COVID-19 across the incarcerated individual population and among staff.

As the number of positive cases of COVID-19 amongst staff and our population at the Medium Security Complex (MSC) continues to rise, the Department has been working with the Washington State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and the Department of Health (DOH) to explore additional testing strategies to continue to mitigate the spread of the virus and protect our employees and the population.

With the assistance of DOH, a plan is being developed to test all employees at Coyote Ridge Corrections Center (CRCC) and incarcerated individuals at CRCC who are housed in the medium security complex (MSC) for COVID-19. More information on the process for testing will be available in the next couple of days.

The measures we have put into place up to this point are helping to lessen the spread of the virus. Testing staff and the incarcerated population is an additional measure the Department believes will provide information to assist in our fight against the spread of COVID-19.

Our hope is that these combined efforts will help us transition more quickly out of quarantine and allow more movement for the population, while still allowing us to mitigate the spread of this virus.

The facility sent messaging today to employees and incarcerated individuals urging them to:

***“Working Together for SAFER Communities”***

## **COVID-19 Testing at CRCC**

June 17, 2020

Page 2

- Use social distancing and enhanced hygiene protocols to prevent illness and spread of the virus;
- Wear surgical masks at all times;
- Wash hands frequently, avoid touching their faces, cover mouths and noses with tissue when coughing or sneezing and practice social distancing.
- We've encouraged incarcerated to notify staff immediately if they develop any symptoms or are not feeling well.

The health and safety of our staff, incarcerated individuals and the community remains our top priority.