



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

June 26, 2020

TO: All interested parties

FROM: Rob Herzog, Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Incarcerated Individuals transferring from Coyote Ridge Corrections Center

UPDATE - JUNE 26, 2020: If the Department of Corrections needs to move individuals from Coyote Ridge Corrections Center to other state correctional facilities, these individuals will be moved only to correctional facilities housing male incarcerated individuals at appropriate custody levels.

ORIGINAL MESSAGE: The Department of Corrections continues to take measures necessary to protect the health and safety of our incarcerated individuals and employees at all facilities. Coyote Ridge Corrections Center (CRCC) began COVID-19 testing of incarcerated individuals across the facility on Wednesday, June 24, 2020.

In order to create capacity and manage the emergency at CRCC, Corrections will need to move some individuals who test negative for COVID-19 to other facilities for an undetermined length of time.

Corrections wants to reassure you that we will only transfer individuals who have been tested twice for COVID-19 and received negative results from both tests. This is referred to as a “double-negative testing” which greatly reduces the risk of faulty outcomes. These individuals will have tested negative twice, be isolated for 14 days or more, and will have remained asymptomatic before being transferred.

We understand that facilities receiving incarcerated individuals from CRCC may have concerns. However, we hope the fact these individuals will be tested twice with negative results and will have been symptom-free for 14 days will help ease those concerns as facilities welcome these individuals into their populations.

Corrections is taking this situation very seriously and doing everything we can to keep our population and our staff healthy and safe during this public health crisis.

We thank our incarcerated population, staff and all of you for your ongoing commitment to helping us. We will get through this together.

“Working Together for SAFER Communities”