

GAMBELL COVID COMMITTEE TRAVEL BAN and LOCAL GUIDELINE UPDATE - AUGUST 6, 2020

The Gambell COVID Committee comprised of members from The City of Gambell, Native Village of Gambell, Sivuqaq Inc., the Gambell Clinic, and Gambell Native Store met on August 6, 2020 to update certain areas of previous travel restrictions as well as local guidelines due to the current rise of cases throughout our region with the intent of providing for the health, welfare, and safety of all residents of Gambell. These updates are aimed at preventing the introduction or spread of COVID-19 within our community.

EFFECTIVE: August 6, 2020 and to remain in effect until amended, superseded, or rescinded.

Mail, freight, and supplies are unaffected that are provided by any of airlines or barges serving Gambell.

We are closing all non-essential travel by persons to and from the community of Gambell by Air, Land (ATV or by other means), and Sea (boat or by other means) until further notice. with exceptions to:

1. Medical
2. Approved Essential Services/Critical Infrastructure
3. Residents (current/*former in 1st degree - parent, sibling, child*) that are returning home upon approval of local authority (City of Gambell/ Covid committee)
4. Non-residents wishing to return to individual(s) home community from Gambell on request and approval of destination community authorities if required

all traveler(s) must abide by all regulations and guidelines set forth by airlines and destination community/city as well as any and all permit(s) required by community/city for travel regarding COVID-19

All local resident traveler(s) returning to Gambell may test within 72 hours before departure to Gambell (if returning from Anchorage without any prior testing you must take test offered by NSHC outside Alaska Airline terminal) or upon arrival (Gambell clinic current scheduled testing days are on Mondays - Wednesdays 8am- 2:30pm until rapid tests become available, if arrival is between Thursday- Saturday then you must stay quarantined until test can be done, 14 day total quarantine still applies.) Traveler(s) are responsible to make their own arrangements to schedule appointment for test at Gambell clinic (907) 985- 5031. You are also required to test again 7 to 10 days after arrival due to potential false negative that may occur or due to exposure in undetectable levels during transit that is not detected by first test. If when available test is performed with rapid test and returns negative result the 14 day quarantine could be lifted. However if test is sent to the State Laboratory you must remain in QUARANTINE until definitive negative result is received. If quarantine facility is unavailable and you quarantine at home during that time the QUARANTINE IS FOR ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD.

For NON-RESIDENT traveler(s) who are here in Gambell for approved essential services/ critical infrastructure jobs

1. you MUST keep to your designated facility upon arrival and to areas where your job requires.
2. You MUST schedule an appointment here at the Gambell clinic upon arrival to get tested
3. you MUST wear a mask when interacting with local residents that work at and or care for your designated facility during your stay until negative result of local testing can be verified
3. You Must avoid all public buildings or spaces not related to your job
4. you MUST wear a mask when interacting with local residents and to take all precautions necessary

for everyone and your own personal safety

* if you need things from the store they have person(s) in place to be able to take your order and deliver, the stores # is 985-5211 (the store also issues their own flyer of guidelines to anyone arriving through the airlines at the airport) as stated below in quarentine guidelines*

QUARENTINE GUIDELINES:

* Practice standard hygiene, washing hands frequently

*not sharing things like personal products or utensils

*staying at home as much as possible

*no visitors or visiting other households

*NOT going to the store (this is a very big issue that has been ongoing by recent arrivals) , post office or other public buildings

* you may go out to do subsistence activities so long as you practice social distancing and wear a mask if near any persons doing same activity

* if you need things from the store they have person(s) in place to be able to take your order and deliver, the stores # is 985-5211 (the store also issues their own flyer of guidelines to anyone arriving through the airlines at the airport)

* in event of health emergency call 443-6411

LOCAL GUIDELINE UPDATE:

* ALL resident and Non-residents MUST wear a mask in any public place(i.e. store, post office, and governing body facilities and private businesses)

*avoid any un-neccessary large gatherings indoors or out where where social distancing cannot be practiced that does not involve household members or immediate family

*be proactive and start taking responsibility to self police guidelines set forth within the community to ensure everyone is following all necessary precautions to avoid having to start issuing fines