



Updated COVID-19 Guidance  
**Employee Email Communication Sent Via NN-Urgent on March 1, 2022**

Fellow employees,

On Friday, February 25, 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated its COVID-19 prevention guidance based on [COVID-19 Community Levels](#). COVID-19 Community Levels are a measure of the impact of COVID-19 illness on health and healthcare systems and are a tool to help communities decide what prevention steps should be taken based on the latest data. The CDC currently recommends prevention steps based on COVID-19 Community Levels of low, medium and high. At this time, the Newport News COVID-19 Community Level is **LOW**. Updated City guidance based on the current CDC COVID-19 Community Level is outlined below.

**Mask/Face Covering Guidance**

The chart below outlines guidance on when to wear a mask based on the current COVID-19 Community Level. ([CDC Guide to Masks](#)).

COVID-19 Community Level		
When to Wear a Mask		
Low	Medium	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Wear a mask based on your personal preference, informed by your personal level of risk</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>If you are immunocompromised or at high risk for severe illness, talk to your healthcare provider about additional precautions, such as wearing masks or respirator indoors in public</li><li>If you live with or have social contact with someone at high risk for severe illness, consider testing yourself for infection before you get together &amp; wearing a mask when indoors with them</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Wear a well-fitting mask indoors in public, regardless of vaccination status or individual risk (including K-12 schools &amp; other community settings)</li><li>If you are immunocompromised or at high risk for severe illness, wear a mask or respirator that provides you with greater protection</li></ul>

While masks are not required based on our current COVID-19 Community Level, nothing in this guidance shall preclude an employee from wearing a mask should they so choose.

**Isolation and Quarantine Guidance**

There are **no** changes to the CDC/City Isolation and Quarantine Guidance. Regardless of the COVID-19 Community Level, employees **must** wear a mask when required per the City's [COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine Guidance](#).

### **COVID-19 Reporting & Testing**

In addition to changes to the face covering guidance above, the City's [COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccine Reporting Requirements Policy](#) will sunset at close of business on March 4, 2022. Accordingly, weekly testing will no longer be required after this date.

Employees should continue to notify their supervisor when they receive a positive COVID-19 test result and follow Isolation Guidance.

***Please note that COVID-19 Community Levels can change rapidly. The Department of Human Resources COVID Care Team will make every attempt to notify employees when there is a significant change to our COVID-19 Community Level and associated guidelines.***

As always, please contact the Department of Human Resources COVID Care Team at [hrcovid19@nvna.gov](mailto:hrcovid19@nvna.gov) should you have any questions.

~ HR COVID Care Team

~~~

Message posted on behalf of Human Resources by Kim Lee, Department of Communications, [leekh@nvna.gov](mailto:leekh@nvna.gov).