



TULE RIVER TRIBE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY

Announcement

Tule River Community,

The Public Health Authority recommends all members of the Tule River Indian Reservation **stay home this weekend, September 4-7, 2020** to protect yourself and your family from COVID-19.

Why? In the last few days, there has been a sharp increase in the number of people showing symptoms and testing positive for COVID-19 on the reservation. Our contact tracing team is working hard to place those at risk in quarantine, however not everyone has been notified. We believe there is higher chance of spread among community members, and recommend *staying at home until all identified contacts are quarantined*.

Over the next week, we expect to see an increase in the number of positive COVID-19 cases on the reservation. Check our [website](#) for the latest information. Note, numbers will not change this weekend due to the testing laboratory being closed for the holiday.

Our overriding objective is to keep the Tule River Indian Reservation safe. Based on current data, we strongly believe the best way to protect the community is for everyone to stay home this weekend. For your elders, your family and yourself, please stay home until the situation improves.

If you decide to go out of your household, please remember:

- **DO NOT GO OUT IF YOU ARE SICK OR FEEL UNWELL.** Many people think COVID-19 is just a cold or allergies at first. If you do not feel well, protect your community and stay home.
- **Face masks must be worn** when less than 6ft away from anyone not in your household. DPS is citing residents for not wearing masks.
- **Going into someone else's household increases your risk of COVID-19.** Air droplets spread much more easily indoors. Outdoors is much safer to spend time with others.
- **Avoid large gatherings.** Your risk of contracting COVID-19 increases dramatically the more people you are around. Please refrain from gatherings of more than 25 people.

Please check the current public health orders and announcements, available online:

<https://www.trihci.org/covid-19/public-health-authority-orders/>. We will be updating the orders and policies based on the situation on the ground through the best available data. Stricter policies may be necessary if the case numbers increase. If you have questions, please email PHA@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov.

Testing is available for free for Tribal members on and off the reservation.

- Call the Tule River Indian Health Clinic at (559) 784-2316 to schedule an appointment.
- Walk-in, free testing: Monday–Friday, 12pm–7pm, at the Food Distribution Center at 2780 Yowlumne Ave B, Porterville, or at the Tule River Justice Center on Sept 10-13, from 12pm–7pm.

Sincerely,

Eric Coles

Eric Coles, DrPH
Tribal Public Health Officer

Date

Sept 4, 2020

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