

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

FACTS & QUESTIONS (FAQs)

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The Tribal Business Council of
the Shoshone Paiute Tribes

What is the novel coronavirus (COVID-19)?

COVID-19 is a new disease caused by the coronavirus, that emerged in China in December 2019. COVID-19 is a respiratory illness, which affects your lungs and airways, and is easily spread from person to person and/or back to animals. It is a new strand of a virus that has been around for years in animals but has now mutated and transferred to humans. Thus, there is currently no vaccine.

What are the symptoms of COVID- 19?

Common symptoms include fever, dry cough, shortness of breath and extreme fatigue. Some COVID-19 patients also have loss of taste or smell, while others have developed pneumonia in both lungs, had multi-organ failure and have died.

How can I prevent it or help protect myself?

- Frequent hand-washing, for at least 20 seconds.
- Covering your cough or sneeze: either into the bend of your elbow or into a tissue.
- Staying home, as much as possible, and always when you are sick.
- Frequently cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces and objects around you.
- Social distancing, keeping six (6) feet of space between you and others, even if you all are healthy, and especially if anyone has symptoms of COVID-19 OR THE FLU.

How serious is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a very, very serious disease. It is dangerous and deadly, especially to those of a higher age and underlying health problems. There is currently no cure or treatments available. Infected individuals can only receive supportive care when ill.

Have any test results come back positive for individuals in Duck Valley?

No, all test results have come back negative at this time.

What is the difference between isolation and quarantine?

While isolation serves the same purpose as quarantine, isolation is reserved for those who are already sick. It keeps infected people away from healthy people to prevent the sickness from spreading.

Can I be infected with the coronavirus but never show any symptoms?

Yes, an individual can seem completely well, while unknowingly infecting and spreading the virus to others.

What is quarantine?

Quarantines are for people or groups who do not have symptoms but were exposed or possibly exposed to the disease. A quarantine keeps them away from others so they do not unknowingly infect anyone.

Self-quarantine involves:

- Using standard hygiene and washing hands frequently
- Not sharing things like towels and utensils
- Staying at home
- Not having visitors
- Staying at least 6 feet away from other people in your household

What is isolation?

Isolation is for people who have COVID-19. It means keeping the infected ones away from those who are not infected. It can take place at home or at a hospital.

What are PPEs?

They are Personal Protective Equipment such as: gloves, masks, goggles, face shields or gowns. PPEs can be used to help protect yourself and others from contracting or spreading the virus.

What is Social Distancing?

The CDC recommends that people avoid gatherings or events with 10+ people. However, under the current Tribal Executive Order 2020-01, no more than two (2) people are allowed to be away from home together. And, if you have to be around people, always keep, when possible, at least a 6-foot distance.

What/Who is the EOC?

The Emergency Operations Center's main purpose is to plan for and respond to emergencies. In this case, related to the coronavirus.

The staff consists of Firefighters, TERO, Finance, HDC and other staff. They provide support and resources for the safety and well-being of the public and emergency workers. They also work on communicating factual information/messages out to the public related to COVID-19.

Where is the EOC located?

The EOC's main office is located in the Backroom of the HDC. They also utilize other rooms throughout the HDC for supplies and donations

Who can the EOC help?

Currently, the EOC Staff assists Owyhee Community Health Facility and the Tribes, as well as, medically quarantined individuals or families

What steps are being taken if/when the emergency "system" becomes overwhelmed?

The Tribes, the Health Facility and the EOC are working together to create plans for the current emergency. Please understand that this is a new type of emergency and we could not have completely planned for this in advance. In this situation, we all have to be flexible and will need to work together, with an ever-changing plan.

What is the Stay Home, Stay Safe Order?

Executive Order 2020-01 came into effect Saturday, March 28th at 10 PM. This order is for the overall protection of everyone on the DVIR. It requires that everyone Stay Home, in order to, Stay Safe. There are exceptions but the intent is for EVERYONE to stay at their home or on their property to the fullest extent possible. Also, be aware that BIA Law Enforcement will be enforcing this order and has the discretion to fine people up to \$500.

Are there going to be road blocks?

Not at this time. Fuel trucks, grocery trucks, people driving through will all still be allowed to and/or through the Reservation, on the State Highways.

Is travel, even for shopping, for residents, completely shut off?

Not completely. It is strongly encouraged that all residents stay home to the fullest extent possible. However, essential tasks can continue, to a minimum. Examples of essential tasks are below...

- Urgent Medical Needs: Such as: dialysis, cancer treatments, emergency visits
(Routine or Annual Needs: Such as, dental appointments, physical exams, etc. should be rescheduled.
OCHF is having to prioritize care services, focusing on preventing and

- Sanitary Needs: Such as: hauling trash, washing clothes.
- Home, Ranch or Vehicle Needs: Such as: purchasing fuel or tools or supplies for a project, tire repairs.
- Sustenance (Food) Needs: Such as: shopping for your household for weekly meals, picking up school and/or senior lunches. (Individuals, especially elders and

- Outdoor Responsibilities: Such as: feeding your animals, chopping wood, yard work, fixing fence.
- Recreational Activities: Such as: riding horse,

** When completing essential tasks, no more than two (2) people can be together, while continuing to maintain social

If I travel off the Reservation for overnight or extended stays, can I come back and are there restrictions when I do come back?

If you happen to be out of town for more than a quick trip (more than one day or overnight), into town for essential tasks/services, it is required, per Executive Order 2020-01 that you, and/or others with you, self-quarantine for at least 14 days.

What about those who work off Reservation and come home on days off?

The same applies as above; per Executive Order 2020-01 those individuals are to self-quarantine for at least 14 days.

Is there a curfew?

Yes, between 10 PM to 6 AM every night. Be aware that BIA Law Enforcement will also be enforcing this order and has the discretion to fine people up to \$500.

Are restaurants supposed to close down?

Not at this time. However, sit down services are no longer permitted on the DVIR. Only take out or delivery service options are available.

Will Our Store be closed to out of town people?

At this time, Our Grocery Store will operate as normal, with the exception of there being no public restroom facilities within the building. There are porta-potties available on the Northside of the property. Also, the Tribes and EOC have asked that the staff limit individuals (local and out-of-town) on their essential purchases.

Will Fed-Ex and UPS still be allowed to deliver?

Yes, mailing services remain essential services with the government. Just remember to disinfect the packages and take special care when handling the items, as the virus can live on various surfaces for up to 72 hours.

If I need medical services at OCHF, will I be able to be seen?

Owyhee Community Health Facility is currently in "Lockdown Protocol" which requires that all individuals (locally or out of town individuals) call (775-757-2415, extension 4237) prior to going to the clinic. Further instructions will be provided at that time. Also, be aware that nurses will be screening everyone prior to entry into the facility.

Are Senior Citizens meals available?

Yes, eligible individuals may continue to pick up a meal through a drive thru process but must remain in their car. However, due to limited food preparation capacity and food supply shortages, meals may not be available to everyone, every day. Priorities will be medically certified home-bound elders, whose food will be delivered, and regular senior citizen meal participants. Breakfast on Friday is being discontinued for the time being.

Are meals available for school children, through Owyhee Combined Schools?

Yes, by drive-thru services only. One parent/guardian is allowed to obtain all meals for the children within the household. Having the child(ren) physically there is no longer required.

What steps should I take when returning home, after an outing?

To be completely safe and to minimize the transmission of the virus, each person should remove shoes at the door and spray them with disinfectant, remove clothing in a secluded area and immediately wash them, shower and then disinfect the items brought into the home, as well as, the vehicle (mode of transportation) that you and the items were in.