



Public Health Administration

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BUTTE COUNTY DECLARES LOCAL EMERGENCY AND LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

BUTTE COUNTY, Calif. – On March 6, 2020, Butte County Assistant Chief Administration Officer, Brian Ring, proclaims a local emergency and the Butte County Health Officer, Dr. Andy Miller, declares a local public health emergency in response to Coronavirus Disease 19, also known as COVID-19. As of today, Butte County remains at zero laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19. These actions have been executed in an effort to be proactive, allowing the County to expedite their planning and response to potential COVID-19 cases and make additional resources available to the County to limit and slow community spread of the disease.

Although the individual risk for contracting COVID-19 remains low in Butte County, all community members should take the opportunity to plan for the possibility of local cases and the potential for community spread.

Personal preparation measures include:

- Gradually stock up extra supplies of important items, such as: soap, hand sanitizer, tissues, over-the-counter medications and prescription medications.
- Gradually stock up on non-perishable foods.
- Create a back-up plan for work, school and childcare in the event of closures.
- Talk to your workplace about getting ready. Plan for telework, if possible.
- Create a space in your home to care for sick family members.
- Replace handshakes with elbow-bumps – make a game of this with your kids.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Butte County Public Health is prepared to manage and investigate suspected and confirmed cases of COVID-19. Public Health will continue to work closely with federal, state, and local partners to provide the public with accurate information about actions to be taken to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to care for those who may become ill with this virus. As with other respiratory infections, there are steps that everyone can take to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

How Can People Protect Themselves:

The best way to prevent the spread of illness, including: seasonal flu, novel coronavirus and other respiratory illness is to practice everyday illness prevention steps:

- Washing hands with soap and water.
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick.
- Staying home if you are sick, especially from work, school and public places.
- Following guidance from public health officials.

What to Do if You Think You're Sick:

Call ahead: If you develop a fever, cough and shortness of breath and believe you could have COVID-19, notify your healthcare provider by phone. Call ahead so that you can be safely evaluated to prevent exposing others.

Always check with trusted sources for the latest accurate information about novel coronavirus:

- [Butte County Public Health](#)
- [California Department of Public Health \(CDPH\)](#)
- [The Center for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- Butte County residents call also call 2-1-1 or text your zip code to 898211 for COVID-19 information and updates.

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