



Friday, March 13, 2020

Press Release: Hood River County Health Department

On behalf of the Hood River County Health Department, I offer our support in these difficult times. We are working diligently with the local medical community to provide as much support as possible. We are working to disseminate information from the Oregon Health Authority, obtain emergency supplies of Personal Protective Equipment, and monitor those who are at high risk. We are also helping to minimize the impact to the local health care community if we have a widespread outbreak.

I encourage anyone who is has minor symptoms or illness, or who has had direct contact will ill people to stay home. Follow the usual supportive care for minor illness: rest, fluids, eat healthy, use over the counter medications, and limit contact with household members. Always wash your hands and don't touch face.

If you are concerned about an illness, please call your primary care provider. Our local medical community is doing an outstanding job at taking additional measures to address this illness. Please do not come to the Health Department; we do not provide patient assessments or testing. Except for high risk patients, testing will be at the discretion of your primary care provider. The Health Department will assist medical providers if there are any positive cases. To date, we have no positive cases in our county but we likely have the virus circulating.

I encourage everyone to practice social distancing measures. If you have friends and family in a long-term care facility, a hospital, or ill at home, visit them remotely if possible. If you have school-age children impacted by the school closure, please try to employ social distancing.

Christopher Van Tilburg MD
Public Health Officer