

Chair & County Health Officer,

Dr. Charles Stringham

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Mike Bell, County Commissioner

Mike Allen, Humboldt County Sheriff

Humboldt County Health Board

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS 155 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 24 ACTIVE CASES

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.— Humboldt County has been notified of one more positive case of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the county's total to 155.

Overall, 125 of Humboldt County's cases were identified through Humboldt General Hospital, one was identified through community-based screening, eight were identified through the Golden Valley Medical Center, nine were identified through testing at the Ridley's Pharmacy, and 12 were confirmed out of area.

In addition, the Office of the Humboldt County Community Health Nurse has completed 58 tests, with 57 negative and one result pending. Any positives through the Community Health Nurse are reported as part of Humboldt County's total number of cases.

The Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe reports 107 total cases; 90 were confirmed through the Fort McDermitt Wellness Center, eight were tested out of area, while eight were tested through the National Guard community-based testing on July 26. In all, Fort McDermitt has completed 1,092 tests, 96 people have recovered, one person has died, and the tribe has 10 active cases.

Based on available information, close contacts of the newest Humboldt County case are being identified or have been notified and are following self-isolation procedures to prevent community spread of the virus.

Brief summary information of Humboldt County's latest case follows:

- Case 155 – A man in his 70s, whose case remains under investigation. He is hospitalized.

Of the previous 154 cases, 127 have recovered, 20 are self-isolating, three are hospitalized, and four have died; Humboldt County has 24 active cases.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said Humboldt County continues to see an uptick in cases.

The doctor said there are several common denominators among the latest confirmed cases, including

social gatherings and travel. But one reason that has begun to stand out recently is what he is calling “imposter illnesses.”

“These are illnesses that people misidentify as allergies, a severe cold or the flu that cause people to think they’re OK,” said Dr. Stringham. “But the reality is they are dealing with a highly contagious disease that can result, among other things, in significant respiratory distress.”

Dr. Stringham said it’s very important for county residents to be tested for COVID-19, even if they believe it might be another illness.

“We need to be super cautious not to misidentify this illness,” he said. “For some, the illness may come and go with mild to moderate symptoms, but for others, this could be very severe, so we need to track how and where it is spreading in our community.”

Dr. Stringham urged local residents to be tested as soon as possible following the onset of even mild symptoms, or following a known exposure. “The sooner we have those test results, the sooner we can act as a team to either rule out COVID, or make sure we have the appropriate supports in place.”

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Humboldt County:

- Stay home to limit exposure, and wear a facial covering if going out in public is necessary.
- Maintain 6 feet of distance from other people at all times.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid visiting sick people or those who are self-isolating.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Self-isolate if they have had a known exposure, or if they are awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- Stay informed. The COVID-19 situation is changing frequently. Up-to-date information is available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [website](#).

The Humboldt General Hospital Screening Clinic has moved to the HGH West Campus, located at 51 E. Haskell Street. From 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, the clinic offers drive-thru screening for asymptomatic and symptomatic persons with a doctor’s order only. Those who are experiencing severe COVID-like symptoms should go directly to the HGH Emergency Department.

The Office of the Humboldt County Community Health Nurse also is offering testing to asymptomatic persons with no known exposure. For more information or to make an appointment, residents may call the clinic at (775) 623-6575.

Free cloth masks are available to community members at the Olsen’s and Ridley’s pharmacies, courtesy of the Mucca Mask Makers, or by messaging the group on Facebook @Mucca Mask Makers.

Local COVID-19 information is available in Spanish @CovidEspanol. Humboldt County COVID-19 updates and information are available in English at @HumboldtCountyNV and @StopHumboldtCoronavirus.