

LASSEN COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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HEALTH NOTICE FOR FOOD FACILITY OWNERS AND OPERATORS IN LASSEN COUNTY

Lassen County Environmental Health Department is asking for your assistance to help prevent the spread of the recent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Lassen County as cases occur locally. You can take part in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

What is coronavirus disease 2019, COVID-19?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that spread from person-to-person. Diseases from coronaviruses in people typically cause mild to moderate illness, like the common cold. Information to date shows this new virus causes symptoms consistent with a respiratory illness, such as cough, fever, and, in some, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.

How are coronaviruses spread?

Like other respiratory illnesses, such as influenza, human coronaviruses most commonly spread to others from an infected person who has symptoms as follows:

- Droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes;
- Close personal contact, such as caring for an infected person;
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes before washing your hands.

Recommended strategies to prevent exposures to respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19:

- Ensure that employees and customers have access to fully stocked handwashing stations, and where needed, alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60-95% alcohol.
- Routinely clean and disinfect all frequently touched surfaces, such as tables, condiments (such as salt & pepper shakers and ketchup bottles), menus, doorknobs, handrails, and countertops. Use the cleaning agents that are usually used in these areas and follow the directions on the label. Do not mix chemicals!
- When possible, do not leave condiments on the tables. Have customers ask for them and sanitize the bottles between customers.

- Frequently clean and sanitize self-service food dispensers such as frozen yogurt and drink dispensers.
- Replace salad and hot food bar utensils frequently. Watch customers for contaminating actions.
- Ensure bathrooms are regularly cleaned.
- Do not allow employees that are sick to work. Offering paid time off for sick employees is ideal.
- Post informational flyers at the food facility entrances that advise people to protect others and stay home when sick. A flyer can be found at the website link bel

Food facility owners/operators can call (530) 251-8528 with additional questions.

We appreciate your commitment and dedication to keeping residents and visitors in the County of Lassen healthy.