

Managers Log, Wednesday, May 6th 2020.

Staying at home, sheltering in place has been in effect in Hoopa Valley for several weeks. In that time we have had only 1 positive COVID-19 case and due to confidentiality, and rightfully so, the identity of the person or their residence was not disclosed.

Reading some Facebook questions and listening to U.S. news stories some people are starting to be lax regarding the need to be so cautious. It seems within the Valley more people are wearing masks when going to the Post Office, grocery store, mini mart, coast central and the Burger Barn, Jury's nursery.

We have posted signs entering either side of the valley expressing our precautions about health risks. We have signage limiting access to valley side access to local residence only due to health risks.

My latest trip to Ace Hardware in Willow Creek and to the Pizza Factory for a take out order, I found more people wearing face masks and upholding social distancing. My previous trip there a month ago there were fewer safer observations.

We know that people have doctor appointments for health services not available in eastern Humboldt. We can only hope they take care to go to the appointment and come straight back. As tempting as it may be to get a restaurant meal or shop big box discount stores and to take the children along, too, it is not wise to be lax. Not now. We are ahead now, we need to stay ahead.

Some may need to travel to Redding, Santa Rosa or another large community that has health care specialists and services. Again we need to be cautious. Go there, come straight back. But because these areas have a greater risk for exposure even if we are being cautious, it is wise we quarantine ourselves for at least 7 days. We need to monitor our temperature and respiration just to stay on the safe side. Make sure your extended family and your friends know that you are being safe for their own health and yours.

The greatest threat to becoming exposed to the virus is most likely to be ourselves. We are a small community with few options to get the services and supplies we need. We are a close community with extended families and well connected friends. The webs of our lives cross at many junctures.

Continue to keep others safe. Thanks for listening