



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Meniffee Officials Monitoring Coronavirus

MENIFEE, CA- City of Meniffee public safety officials, Riverside County Public Health Department, the California Department of Public Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), are closely monitoring developments with coronavirus, or COVID-19, an outbreak that began last December in China. While there are no active cases in Riverside County, COVID-19 has generated a lot of concern globally, domestically and locally.

Riverside County Public Health is reminding residents that simple steps like proper handwashing remain the best way to stay healthy:

- Wash your hands often throughout the day with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

The City of Meniffee is integrated into the emergency management functions and oversight of the County of Riverside Emergency Management Department and City representatives are participating in regular briefings with public health officials and have taken initial steps to ensure the city is prepared should additional steps be needed.

The City receives regular updates on significant events, information sharing amongst emergency professionals and first responders as well as municipal leadership. The City encourages residents to monitor Riverside County Public Health's website for the latest updates in our region, <https://rivcoph.org/coronavirus>, which also includes informational videos and links to the CDC for national and international updates. The City also recommends following protective measures against the coronavirus published by WHO <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>.

Symptoms

Patients infected with the coronavirus have reported mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of:

- fever
- cough
- shortness of breath/difficulty breathing

At this time, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has estimated that symptoms may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure.

County health officials recommend that those who have travelled to one of the known outbreak areas and start to develop symptoms contact their medical providers before showing up at their doctor's offices. That way, doctors' offices can take the necessary precautions to avoid infecting others prior to potential patients visit. The county also recommends people not travel to affected areas unless absolutely necessary.

Background

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is closely monitoring an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus (named "COVID-19") that was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. Chinese health officials have reported thousands of infections with COVID-19 in China, with the virus reportedly spreading from person-to-person in many parts of that country. Infections with COVID-19, most of them associated with travel from Wuhan, also are being reported in a growing number of [international locations](#), including the [United States](#). Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are common in many different species of animals, including camels, cattle, cats, and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can infect people and then spread between people such as with [MERS](#) and [SARS](#).

Additional information

Below are general links to the organizations mentioned above:

Factsheet: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/2019-ncov-factsheet.pdf>

World: World Health Organization <https://www.who.int/>

National: The Center For Disease Control <https://www.cdc.gov>

State: California Department of Public Health <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/>

County: Riverside County Public Health <https://www.rivcoph.org/>

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ABOUT MENIFEE: Situated in the heart of southern Riverside County along Interstate 215, Menifee is a vibrant, new city of more than 90,000 residents who enjoy a pleasant year-round climate, abundant recreational offerings, reasonably priced housing and convenient proximity to some of Southern California's premiere attractions and employment centers. Within its 50 square miles, Menifee's business, retail and entertainment outlets are starting to shape the community's character and this growing economic base is also contributing favorably to the city's strong financial position. Menifee's growing family-oriented population values the city's ongoing commitment to public safety, community events and smart growth for the future. All of these elements are working together to support the city's strategic vision to make Menifee one of the state's most promising new cities.

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