



COUNTY OF YOLO

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Yolo County Extends Shelter in Place Order to May 1 and Launches Online Dashboard

(Woodland, CA) - Yolo County has extended the countywide health order for residents to shelter in place through May 1. This extension is in line with the timeframes of recent federal directives and local school closure extensions and is intended to continue to slow the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The original health order that was issued on March 18 only extended to April 7.

“I am proud of the people and businesses of Yolo County who have supported the orders to stay at home and practice social distancing. Such public health measures take time to slow, and eventually stop, the COVID-19 virus spread,” said Yolo County Public Health Officer Dr. Ron Chapman. “Given the increasing number of cases in our county, and surrounding counties, the order to stay at home has been extended to May 1.”

The extension of the order follows increasing transmission of COVID-19 in California counties, including 28 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Yolo County to date, with one fatality. The majority of cases became infected through community spread. In response, counties throughout California have sought to slow the spread of the illness through issuing orders for residents to stay at home and limit activity, travel and business functions to only the most essential needs. The Yolo County order defines essential activities as necessary for health and safety for individuals and their families such as buying food, obtaining medication, or working in an essential business.

“The decision to extend the order reflects the continuing spread of the virus. Everyone must do their part to stay home, practice social distancing and frequent hand washing, and avoid touching their face,” said Yolo County Board Chair Gary Sandy. “Strict observance of this order is the most effective way to contain the spread of this virus and to protect our brave health professionals and first-responders.”

To assist in informing the public regarding local COVID-19 cases, Yolo County is also launching a new online dashboard located at: www.yolocounty.org/coronavirus-dashboard. The dashboard displays data regarding confirmed cases in Yolo County by city/area, age range, gender, and more. The data only shows laboratory confirmed cases, which represent a small

portion of the total cases in Yolo County since the ability of labs to do testing is extremely limited.

"The Covid-19 virus is everywhere and people need to stay home," said Dr. Chapman. "When the Covid-19 pandemic started the number of Yolo County confirmed cases was low and we could not share city of residence in order to protect patient privacy. Now that the number of cases has significantly increased we can share the numbers in the three largest cities and the Winters/unincorporated area. I encourage people to read the dashboard description which explains the differences in case counts across the county."

Winters and the unincorporated areas are combined in the dashboard to meet certain Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requirements. Some cities may have higher numbers due to varying reasons, such as different labs being used, doctors may be following different ordering guidelines, and residents may have differences in following the stay at home orders. For these reasons, it is in everyone's best interest to stay at home, as much as possible, through May 1.

For the new COVID-19 dashboard visit: www.yolocounty.org/coronavirus-dashboard. For information about COVID-19 in Yolo County, visit: www.yolocounty.org/coronavirus. For guidance regarding the shelter in place order, visit: www.yolocounty.org/coronavirus/shelter-in-place. Residents can also call Yolo 2-1-1 for resource information. For additional updates follow Yolo County on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/YoloCounty/> or Twitter at: <https://twitter.com/YoloCountyCA>.

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