



THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I

DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR

MICHAEL A. DAHILIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR

News Release

For Immediate Release: March 2, 2020

KAUA'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
ELTON USHIO, ADMINISTRATOR
Tel (808) 241-1800
Fax (808) 241-1860

Kaua'i Emergency Management Agency actively engaged with partners relating to COVID-19; no cases identified on Kaua'i, Hawai'i

LĪHU'E – The Kaua'i Emergency Management Agency has been actively engaged with our County, State, Federal, and non-governmental organizations, ensuring situational awareness and coordination of preparedness, mitigation, and response efforts relating to COVID-19.

“At this time, there are no cases of COVID-19 identified on Kaua'i and in the state of Hawai'i. However, we are working with our partners to prepare for that possibility,” said Mayor Derek S. K. Kawakami. “I want to assure the public that our team has been a key partner in statewide video teleconference meetings and briefings that include the Governor's Office, Department of Health and Kaua'i District Health Office, Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, County emergency operating centers, State cabinet officials and the Department of Defense, along with a range other partners.”

Additionally, a Joint Information Center (JIC) provides daily updates from the State Department of Health relating to current COVID-19 information and cases worldwide. For more information and to sign up for daily updates, please visit <https://health.hawaii.gov/news/covid-19-updates/>.

“Now is not the time to panic, but to get prepared,” said Mayor Kawakami. “Stay informed and learn how to protect yourself and our community from COVID-19.”



The State Department of Health recommends the following to help prevent the spread of respiratory illness:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- 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 using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from illnesses, including COVID-19. Keep in mind that supplies are limited and we need to make sure there are enough masks for our front-line health care workers. If you are sick then wear a mask to protect the people around you.
- Prepare for the possibility that people may want to stay home or may be asked to stay home to prevent the spread of illness.
- If you have daily medication needs, have more than a week's supply on hand and have as much on hand as your insurance will allow you to have.
- Not everyone can afford to stock up on supplies or has the space to store them, but anything you can arrange in advance means one less inconvenience or one less trip to the store while you are sick.
- Make family plans for the possibility of school or day care closures. Do some contingency planning in advance at the family level.

###