June 4, 2020

Dear Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Tribal Members:

The week of June 1, 2020, the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation has experienced an increase of positive COVID-19 cases. In response to this increase and to protect our tribal and community members, the Tribal Council, today (June 4, 2020), approved a second temporary closure of the Nation’s tribal government operations and services except for essential personnel and services starting June 5, 2020 until June 19, 2020 and to reopen and resume on June 22, 2020. Essential personnel and services will include but not limited to the Fire Department, Police Department and Wassaja Memorial Health Center.

In addition, the following orders and recommendations are in effect, Friday, June 5, 2020, until further notice:

1. Strongly urging the Nation’s tribal and community members to Stay At Home and undertake only those outings absolutely necessary. You can help stop the spread of COVID-19 by staying at home.
2. Visitors to residents and houses located within the boundaries of the Nation shall not be permitted for any overnight stay.
3. Continue to follow U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines such as but not limited to social distancing, wear face covering in public, frequent hand washing and personal hygiene.
4. Funerals and wakes may be held but must be restricted to 25 people or less.
5. Tribal members and community members are strongly encouraged to stay away from highly incident areas with positive COVID-19 cases, areas referred to as “hot spots.”
6. In-person church gatherings and board and committee meetings may be held but must be restricted to 25 people or less.

The following services will remain restricted until further notice:

1. The Nation’s road closures.
2. The Verde River and other body of waters on the Nation are closed to the public except to enrolled Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation tribal members.
3. Traditional sweats and other cultural practices are postponed.
4. Vendors lots are closed.
5. Any food sales (personal, fundraisers, door-to-door, in-home, churches and social media) are restricted.

Your health and safety are our main priorities. Please take care, stay home, stay safe and seek medical attention immediately if needed.

If you have any questions, please contact the Tribal Government General Manager’s Office at (480) 789-7252 or (480) 824-3892.

Sincerely,

Bernadine Burnette, President
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation

CC: Tribal Council
Diandra Benally, Office of General Counsel
Bert Parra, Chief Financial Officer
GM Supervisory Group
Michael Starr, Chief Business Officer