



MENOMINEE INDIAN TRIBE OF WISCONSIN COVID-19 INCIDENT COMMAND

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 31, 2020

MENOMINEE TRIBE COVID-19 INCIDENT COMMAND ISSUES EMERGENCY ORDERS TO FURTHER PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH FROM COVID-19

(Menominee Indian Reservation, WI) –The Menominee Indian Tribe’s COVID-19 Incident Command emergency issued 2 emergency orders the Casino and bars and in addition to ordering public safety actions within businesses, in response to growing public health threat posed by COVID-19.

The two emergency orders are the latest action of the Tribe’s COVID-19 Incident Command and Emergency Management has taken in response to COVID-19. Tribal leaders stand in full support of these orders.

Emergency Order 2, orders the closing of casino gaming operations, bars and restaurants, and farmers markets, starting July 31 at 5:00 pm until August 11, 2020 for the health and safety of our tribe and surrounding communities. Emergency Order #2 consists of the following protocols:

- Menominee Casino & Resort and Thunderbird gaming are closed except for the following: Restaurants within the gaming establishments shall only be available for curbside takeout; Casino Gift Shop; and Thunderbird C-Store. Bars shall only be available for curbside takeout;
- All bars and restaurants, and farmers markets are closed, except for such business may provide for curbside takeout of food only.
- This will remain in effect until August 11, 2020, unless otherwise renewed by the Emergency Management Coordinator.

Emergency Order 3, orders all establishments, institutions, businesses, offices, stores, and organizations to institute certain public health measures to protect the health and safety of tribal members and customers. Emergency Order #3 consists of the following protocol:

- Restrict the number of customers inside their place of business at any one time so that each customer is enabled to distance themselves at least six feet (6 ft.) from any other person.
- Require all individuals ages five (5) and older to wear masks covering their mouth and nose while inside the place of business.

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- Institute temperature screenings for all individuals prior to entering their place of business and restrict any individual from entering whose temperature is 100.4 or above.
- Persons or groups who violate this order may be fined up to \$500.00 per infraction.
- This order will take effect beginning 5:00 p.m. on the 31st day of July 2020 and shall expire at the expiration of the declared State of Emergency or unless otherwise ordered by the active Emergency Management Coordinator.

These emergency orders follow Menominee Tribe COVID-19 Incident Command issue of Emergency Order #1 establishing a Curfew effective July 29, 2020 until August 31, 2020 from 10:00 pm to 6:00 am.

Menominee Tribal Legislature declared a state of emergency on March 12 in an effort to minimize the threat of a potential outbreak and spread of COVID-19 on tribal land. This emergency declaration authorizes an Emergency Incident Command to centralize the Tribe's COVID-19 response efforts, and have authorization to utilize all necessary resources and to issue necessary emergency orders to protect our community.

"Public safety is the Tribe's Incident Command's number one priority," said Chairwoman Joan Delabreau. "As we continue to understand the impact of COVID-19, limiting community engagement is intended to support slowing the spread of this virus." Chairwoman Delabreau adds, "COVID-19 remains widespread in our communities, putting lives and public health at risk. We have to continue to keep doing the things that are helping to protect such as wearing a mask, staying physically distant, avoiding activities that lead to gathering, and staying home as much as possible."

These are trying and uncertain times and Menominee Tribe would like to thank our Tribal members, guests, customers, and dedicated employees for helping us take the preventative measure for the benefit of many.

Menominee Tribal leaders ask that Menominee tribal community members take extra care to avoid groups of people, stay home as much as possible, and be vigilant in washing hands and practicing good hygiene. Be especially mindful of elders, young children and other individuals who may be vulnerable to this disease. Addressing this crisis requires significant sacrifices from all of us.

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