

Team monitoring latest covid incidence

The tribes' Covid-19 Response Team continues to monitor the covid virus by testing at the clinic, utilizing home testing kits and monitoring the waste water at all the lagoons.

Warm Springs had a total of five positive covid cases in the month of April. Three cases were confirmed in the clinic, and two cases were reported to the clinic that showed positive with home test kits.

Waste water continues to be monitored at all the lagoons, monitoring for any potential increase concentra-

tion of the covid virus.

Over the last month the numbers within the waste water has bounced up and down for the virus.

The last reading was on April 26 and the numbers were low for the virus. Flu cases are on the rise locally, and sometimes it is unclear if you have the virus or the flu.

The recommendation is to get your flu shot and to test for the Covid-19 virus with a home test kit.

If you do not have a home test kit, they are available at no charge and can be picked

up at Emergency Management Monday to Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Or you can pick up at the Fire Department at any time.

This is not the time for us to relax but to pay attention to what is happening nationally and across the state, and to stay safe and not spread the virus.

Wear a mask if you do not feel safe, sanitize regularly, wash your hands throughout the day, maintain distance when you can, have home kits available, and get fully vaccinated for the virus.

Treatments

If you do test positive for covid, there are now treatments available to help resolve the situation. The drug treatments are called Paxlovid, and Molnupiravir. They are available to eligible patients.

The treatments are available to people who test positive, and who are at high risk of severe covid illness.

If this applies, consider the option with your care provider, and do so quickly, if you are interested: The treatments must be administered within five days of the onset of symptoms.

Regional jobs almost at pre-covid level

Central Oregon posted strong job gains through March and April. This strong hiring led to continued improvement to local unemployment rates, which are approaching record low levels from before the pandemic.

The Jefferson County unemployment rate, including the Warm Springs area of the reservation, dropped to 4.6 percent, down from 4.8 percent earlier in the year.

The unemployment rate is fast approaching levels in March 2020, when it was 4.1 percent before the first impacts from Covid-19.

Total nonfarm employment rose by more than 20 jobs earlier this spring, a normal pace of hiring for this time of year.

Employment levels in Jefferson County remain down 140 jobs from levels just before the onset of the pandemic in February 2020.

Jefferson County added 10 jobs over the past year, slower growth than other parts of Central Oregon.

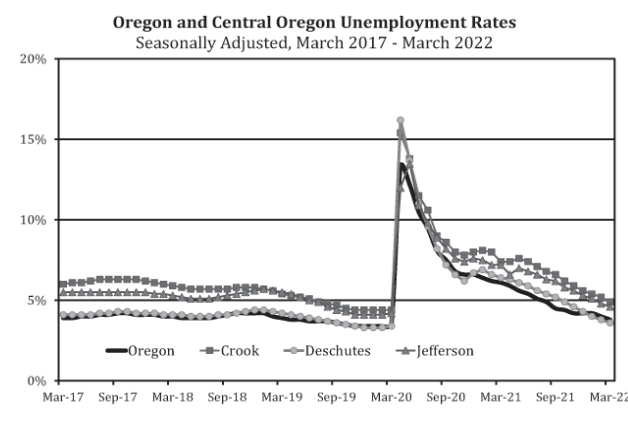
The county posted job gains in local government, including the tribal government, adding 70 jobs. There were also modest gains in retail trade and leisure and hospitality, each adding 20 jobs.

However, these gains were largely negated by declines in manufacturing, down 40 jobs; and private education and health services, down 30 jobs.

Deschutes County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 3.6 percent, down from 3.8 percent earlier in the year. The unemployment rate is now near the record low level of 3.3 percent before the onset of the pandemic.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that Deschutes County added 660 jobs this spring, much stronger gains than the 200 job increase typically expected this time of year.

Crook County: The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped significantly to 4.9 percent, down from 5.2 percent earlier in the year.



Roadway projects okayed for tribal Construction

The Twenty-Eighth Tribal Council in April approved a series of road improvement agreements with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

A first order of business was approval of an update to the 2014 Warm Springs Reservation Long Transportation Plan, and the Transportation Improvement Project List to include projects identified in the annual tribal review and Tribal Council approval. A partial list of projects in the updated plan include:

Trails for School Access. B-100 Grade, Drain and Re-Gravel; Ongoing Route 3 Maintenance and Resurfacing. Simtustus Street Grind, Resurface and Pedestrian Access. Sunnyside Drive Grind, Resurface and Pedestrian Access. Chip Seal Countyline, Wolfe Point, Hollywood Boulevard. Years for work include 2022 through 2026.

Each of the projects is then addressed in separate resolutions. The School Access Trails project, for in-

stance, is approved at \$319,000 through a 638 contract, with a tribal match of \$37,000. Warm Springs Construction is identified as the entity to perform the work. (Resolution no. 12,912.)

The B-100 Aggregate Design project is identified as integral to the safety of the Warm Springs roads system and school bus routes. The resolution identifies the cost at \$60,000, and Warm Springs Construction as the entity to perform the 638

contract work. (Resolution no. 12,913.)

The Quail Trail Extension Project has an estimated cost of \$100,000, with Construction doing the 638 contract work. (Resolution no. 12,915).

The Simtustus Street Resurface and Pedestrian Access Design project also has a cost estimate of \$100,000 with Construction doing the work. These are some of projects approved by the outgoing Twenty-Eighth Tribal Council in April.

Youth can apply now for a summer work position

Warm Springs youth interested in summer work can apply now. The first day of work will be Tuesday, July 5.

It's open to students ages

14 to 24. They will need to provide proof of tribal memberships, transcripts, a resume with cover letter and a Covid-19 vaccination card.

Apply online at the Confederated Tribes' job opportunities website. The youth work program is listed under 'Assorted work experience jobs (youth).

Or stop by the Education Building, top floor, office 307. Intakes can be done by calling 541-553-3324. For more details on requirements call 541-553-3324.

Community notes...

The Warm Springs **Community Pet Food Bank** provides free pet food on the second Saturday of each month. The next distribution is Saturday, May 13 from 10 a.m. until noon.

You can reserve your pet food by calling or texting 503-319-9838 or email: petfoodbank@fencesfordo.org

A **skateboard event** is coming up this Friday starting at 6 p.m. at the Warm Springs Skate Park across from the Community Center.

All ages and skill levels are welcome, including those who have never skated before. Everyone is invited to participate or just to watch the contests and demonstrations.

Warm Springs Recreation is hosting the **Annual Spring Yard Sale** this Friday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on the front lawn of the Community Center. To sign up for a table call Carol at 541-553-3243.

In Madras **High School sports:** This Thursday, May 5, the baseball team is hosts North Marion, game time 4:30. Softball is at North Marion.

IHS latest covid numbers across Indian Country

Close to half a million Native American people in the U.S. have tested positive for Covid-19 since the pandemic began in March 2020. The latest data from the Indian Health Service says that 460,771 people have tested positive across Indian Country.

The total positive tests are from more than 4 million tests administered by the IHS.

Based on the cumulative percent positive, the highest rates have been seen in five of 12 IHS areas. Two of them include the state of Arizona. The highest positivity rate has been with the Navajo Area at 16.4 percent positivity; followed by the Oklahoma City Area at 15.4 percent. The Phoenix Area saw 14.9 percent positivity;

and the California Area, 11.8 percent

The Portland IHS Area, including the Warm Springs Reservation, saw a comparatively modest positivity rate of 6.5 percent. The very lowest positivity rate have been the Oklahoma City Area, 1.8 percent; and the Tucson Area, 1.5 percent.

Overall, 11.4 percent of IHS tests have been positive since the onset of the pandemic. Meanwhile, the seven-day positivity rate has been steadily rising during the last couple of weeks, according to the IHS national office.

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs have seen decreased covid numbers, allowing the tribes to re-open the public buildings, and schedule community events.



STUDENTS Summer Work Available

- High School Students – Age 14 up to age 24
- Proof of being Native American, Alaskan Native or Native Hawaiian
- Provide Current School Transcript or Proof of Enrollment
- Provide a Resume and Cover Letter
- Provide COVID-19 Vaccination Card

Apply online at CTWS Job Opportunities website for the position of "Assorted Work Experience Jobs (Youth)", or visit WEDD/WIOA office at 1110 Wasco Street, Education Building, Top Floor, Office 307.

High School students include those attending Alternative Education, GED classes, Home School

Intakes may be done over the phone if you call (541) 553-3324

Required documents can be hand delivered, faxed or emailed to:

wayne.miller@wstribes.org or
melinda.poitra@wstribes.org

FIRST DAY OF WORK IS JULY 5, 2022, TUESDAY

For more information, call (541) 553-3324 or (541)553-3328

High School Students eligible to work once you complete this checklist:

- Application
- Resume
- Intake
- Tribal Id or CIB
- Social Security Card
- COVID-19 Vaccination Card
- Males 18 and Older Must be Registered with Selective Service
- Applicants 18 and Older Must Complete a Background Check
- First Time Workers Must Complete Pre-Employment Training
- Pass UA Drug Test

COLLEGE STUDENTS

- Same as High School Student Checklist
- Letter of intentions after college



WORKFORCE ~ EMPLOYMENT~DEVELOPMENT

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