



Sports & Recreation

Calendar

All sporting activities at Siuslaw and Mapleton high schools have been cancelled for the rest of spring

Tide Tables	
Entrance Siuslaw River	
High Tide	Low Tide
April 22 12:20am / 6.0 12:55pm / 6.3	6:49am / 0.4 6:47pm / 1.5
April 23 12:46am / 7.2 1:34pm / 6.2	7:22am / 0.0 7:18pm / 1.9
April 24 1:13am / 7.2 2:13pm / 6.1	7:56am / -0.2 7:48pm / 2.2
April 25 1:40am / 7.2 2:54pm / 6.0	8:31am / -0.3 8:19pm / 2.6
April 26 2:08am / 7.2 3:39pm / 5.8	9:08am / -0.3 8:53pm / 3.0
April 27 2:41am / 7.0 4:30pm / 5.6	9:50am / -0.3 9:33pm / 3.3
April 28 3:19am / 6.8 5:28pm / 5.4	10:39am / -0.1 10:24pm / 3.6



JARED ANDERSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

As people try to get fresh air and exercise while maintaining social distancing, beachgoers should follow precautions as well.

RISKY BEACHNESS: EVEN BEACHGOERS NEED TO BE COVID-19 SAFE

By KATIE DAY
The Surfrider Foundation

As the number of COVID-19 cases and associated deaths continue to rise, affecting people of all ages, the importance of staying home and practicing physical distancing is becoming increasingly clear.

Yet one question continues to linger in some people’s minds: Does recreating at the beach really increase my risk of getting sick with COVID-19?

The policies regarding outdoor recreation vary by state and, at times, even by jurisdiction. Some areas have closed all beaches and are strictly enforcing stay-at-home orders, while other areas are still allowing people to get outside and recreate as long as physical distance is maintained.

Due to the highly infectious nature of the SARS-CoV-2 virus (referred to here as the COVID-19 virus), the Surfrider Foundation and numerous other outdoor recreation groups are encouraging supporters to stay home to avoid contributing to the spread of the virus.

In terms of potential COVID-19 risks at the beach, what does the latest science tell us? Here’s what we’ve been able to find from the available scientific literature and discussions with leading experts in the field.

Note that the COVID-19 virus is new and much of the current research is based on how similar coronaviruses behave. As research specific to COVID-19 is rapidly emerging, the science is subject to change as we learn more.

Will following the 6-foot physical distancing guideline keep me safe?

The CDC has long stated that large droplets released during a cough, sneeze or even an exhalation can travel up to six feet. This finding is the basis for the national 6-foot physical distancing recommendation during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as for other disease prevention efforts including the flu.

However a new study by Dr. Lydia Bourouiba from MIT has found that

If an infected individual coughs on handrails, bathroom stalls, toilets or other structures and facilities, those surfaces can become contaminated and potential transmission sources for other beachgoers.

droplets carrying an infectious virus can travel much farther, up to a distance of 23 to 27 feet. When we sneeze, cough or exhale, droplets and aerosols can be released in what’s referred to as a “turbulent gas cloud.”

This cloud provides the right humidity and momentum to propel both large droplets and small aerosols farther and for a longer period of time (the collective humidity of the cloud reduces the rate of evaporation that would otherwise happen within seconds).

This could mean that if an infectious dose is able to travel longer distances, staying 6 feet away from other people may not be far enough to protect us from the COVID-19 virus.

However, a recent study tracking COVID-19 cases in China found only one confirmed instance of an “outdoor outbreak” in which the virus was transmitted during an out-door discussion between neighbors.

For now, health experts suggest the more distance you can put between yourself and others, the better. With so many asymptomatic cases, and the long time period between when someone becomes infectious with the disease and when they start to show symptoms, we really can’t tell who is healthy and who poses a severe risk.

Can’t I just wear a face mask when I’m at the beach?

As of Friday, April 3, the federal government has shifted its guidance and is now recommending that everyone wear face masks when in public to help reduce the transmission of the disease.

The act of wearing a mask is intended to prevent people who may not realize they are infected

with COVID-19 from spreading the virus when coughing, sneezing or exhaling. While surgical masks are more effective at reducing the release of droplets and aerosols when worn by infected individuals, cloth masks may still help prevent infected droplets from being released.

As such, wearing cloth masks could help reduce the spread of the virus when worn correctly and widespread. However, cloth masks are not protective and should not be relied upon to keep you safe when in public or close proximity to others.

Maintaining distance is still key for protecting individuals from COVID-19, even when wearing a mask. The CDC provides guidance on homemade cloth face coverings and requests that people avoid the use of N95 masks and surgical masks, which should be

See BEACH 2B

ODFW reduces number of tags for some deer, elk hunts this fall

Tag numbers for some deer and elk hunts this fall have been reduced from the numbers shown in the 2020 Big Game Regulations.

The reduction of a total of 3,953 buck tags and 287 antlerless deer tags affects deer hunts in Desolation, Fort

Rock, Hood, Metolius, Mt Emily, Northside, Paulina, Silver Lake, Sprague, Ukiah, Walla Walla, and White River Units.

A total of 670 elk tags are being reduced in Imnaha, Maury, and Zumwalt Prairie hunts (Sled Springs and

Chesnimnus). See tables below for details.

The deer tag reductions are due to fewer mule deer being observed during fall surveys.

ODFW wildlife biologists believe ongoing disease outbreaks in central and eastern Oregon are the main cause of

the decline.

A large outbreak of EHD was documented this year, which led to a die-off of white-tailed deer in the Walla Walla, Mt. Emily and Ukiah Units and also impacted some mule deer. In addition to EHD, an uptick of cases of adenovirus

hemorrhagic disease (AHD) has been observed throughout the state.

The disease is usually fatal to deer and death can occur in three to five days from the time the deer was exposed to

See TAGS 2B



Lynnette Wikstrom
Broker

Hope you’re all well!!

I’m kind of at a loss here. I guess in what we all thought was going to be a short quarantine has got us into our 5th week and makes me wonder if it will ever be the same in how we gather and greet.

I’ve been taking long walks trying to get at least 10,000 steps and am still amazed how deserted Bay Street is when I walk there.

I am happy though to be healthy and thankful Florence has stayed free of Covid19.

Take care all and see you soon.

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