Friday Update

- COVID, Wildfires & Air Quality

YUBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Friday, September 18, 2020



COVID-19 Update

There are a total of 6,399 confirmed cases of coronavirus in the five county area served by the Yuba Community College District. That's a 5.9% increase over the previous week. Current case totals are: Colusa -502, a 7% increase; Lake -433, a 15% increase; Sutter -1,631, a 6% increase; Yolo -2,721, a 4% increase with 1,151 cases in Woodland, a 4% increase; and Yuba -1,112, a 7% increase. Current testing numbers are not available since Yuba and Sutter County are no longer providing that information on their dashboards. Currently there are 29 patients hospitalized in our service area, two less than last week, and there have been 86 fatalities, four more than last week.

Statewide there are a total of 762,963 confirmed cases, an increase of 3% over the previous week. A total of 13,000,522 tests have been completed, an increase of 5%. Total patients currently hospitalized are 2,821, an 14% decrease and the number of ICU patients is 875, a decrease of 16%. Statewide data is from the California Department of Public Health and can be found at https://data.chhs.ca.gov/.

Blueprint for a Safer Economy

Blueprint for a Safer Economy is the tiered system used to determine reopening counties. The Blueprint focuses on *Daily Cases per 100,000 Population* and *Percentage of Tests that are Positive* to determine the county risk level. The list is updated weekly on Tuesdays. For each level there is specific guidance related to business and community activity that can be found in the link above. Currently Colusa, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba are classified as **WIDESPREAD** and Lake County is classified **SUBSTANTIAL**.

Wildfire Status

While many of the major fires that were started by lightening in mid-august are no longer growing in size, and have high containment numbers, a number of new fires have started, most notably the Creek Fire that is impacting air quality.

Cal Fire Statewide Fire Summary – September 17, 2020

Over 17,400 firefighters remain on the frontlines of 26 major and three extended attack wildfires in California. The weather pattern over much of California should be similar to yesterday with higher temperatures and fairly clear skies. Yesterday, firefighters responded to 22 initial attack wildfires across the State.

Since the beginning of the year, there have been nearly 7.900 wildfires that have burned over 3.4 million acres in California. Since August 15, when California's fire activity elevated, there have been 25 fatalities and nearly 5,400 structures destroyed.

A low-pressure system arrives today bringing cooler temperatures and increasing humidity through much of the state. However, warm and dry conditions are likely to return this weekend, bringing elevated fire danger.

As crews contain the wildfires, evacuations will be lifted and residents allowed to return home. To learn more about returning home after a wildfire, visit www.ReadyForWildfire.org.

| Fires of Interest | County | Acres Burned | % Contained |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Creek Fire | Fresno | 246,756 | 20% |
| North Complex* | Plumas, Butte | 284,437 | 40% |
| August Complex | Mendocino, Humboldt | 809,135 | 30% |

^{*} Not managed by CalFire

To monitor fire and evacuation information go to the incident page at <u>Cal Fire</u>. Information on fires not managed by Cal Fire can be found <u>InciWeb</u>. Below are the status of major fires in Northern California.

Air Quality

The Air Quality Index (AQI) as of 5:00 am in the communities where Yuba Community College District has campuses:

| Community | AQI | <u>Level</u> | Today's Forecast | Tomorrow's Forecast |
|---------------------------|------------|--------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Williams - Colusa County | 13 | Good | USG | not available |
| Clearlake - Lake County | 26 | Good | Good | not available |
| Yuba City - Sutter County | 28 | Good | Moderate | USG |
| Woodland - Yolo County | 29 | Good | Moderate | USG |
| Linda - Yuba County | 27 | Good | Moderate | USG |

⁻ USG – Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups

The AQI changes throughout the day. For this update information comes from AirNow using the same monitors from one day to the next. To monitor air quality where you are go to <u>AirNow</u> and simply entering your zip code. The following are the AQI ratings.

| Good | < 50 AQI | Air Quality is satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--|--|
| Moderate | 51 – 100 AQI | Air is acceptable. However there may be risk for some people particularly those who are unusually sensitive to air pollution. | |
| Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups | | Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. General public is less likely to be affected. | |
| Unhealthy | 151 – 200 AQI | - 200 AQI Some members of general public may experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects | |
| Very Unhealthy | 201 – 300 AQI | Health alert: The risk of health effects is increased for everyone. | |
| Hazardous | 301+ AQI | Emergency conditions: everyone is likely to be affected | |

PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoffs

At this time there are no Public Safety Power Shutoffs in the region. There are power outages related to wildfire activity in some areas.

In the News

Yuba-Sutter making progress toward less restrictive tier

Appeal Democrat

"Unstoppable." How the Bear Fire erupted into a deadly disaster for tiny Berry Creek Sacramento Bee

Survey: Adults less confident about value of higher Ed

Community College Daily

Education during Covid: California Families Struggle to Learn

Ed Source

Wanted: More Community College Faculty to Help Keep Students on Track **EdSurge**

<u>Coronavirus</u>: As deaths tick up in California, other metrics continue to improve **Mercury News**

Coronavirus precautions at UC system likely until fall 2021

Cal Matters

A Last Push for Simplicity

Inside Higher Education

More Colleges are responding to COVID-19 Surges with 2-Week Quarantines. Do They Work? Chronicle of Higher Education

Tools & Resources

California COVID-19 Website

California Community College Chancellor's Coronavirus Website

ZOOM Meeting and Webinar Best Practices and Resources

YCCD Coronavirus Virtual Campus

Vision Resource Center