



Dear Industry Partners and Friends,

We are learning more about COVID-19 (formerly known as the novel coronavirus) in the news and around the travel industry. The US Travel Association and the Arizona Office of Tourism are reminding travelers that there are no restrictions on travel in the US and no indication that travel plans here should be altered for any public health reason.

As the news of the COVID-19 outbreak continues, we want to assure you and your clients that Discover Flagstaff is proactively taking the steps necessary to help people feel confident about travel to Flagstaff or attending an upcoming event. U.S. public health and security officials have been clear in stating that the threat of COVID-19 in the United States remains low and Arizona health officials are in communication with the CDC and are taking precautions to ensure public safety is a top priority.

We encourage you to consider the following safety precautions:

- Increase the frequency of cleaning throughout your business using approved disinfectants.
- Increase or add hand sanitizer dispensers at your place of business, and frequently monitor

- them to ensure they are refilled and operating correctly.
- Communicate to your clients or visitors that you have taken the appropriate precautionary measures.
- Consider staff policies for those who are traveling to work remotely during the CDC's recommended incubation period.

As you communicate with your visitors or meeting attendees, please share these protective measures to minimize the risks of illness:

- Wash hands often and limit touching your face.
- Cover your mouth when coughing.
- Stay home or in your hotel room when sick to prevent spread of illness to others.

Please review the **CDC's website**, which extensively covers COVID-19 and includes detailed information, situation updates and even offers an **event planner checklist for the pandemic flu**. **Meetings Mean Business**, the meetings arm of the U.S. Travel Association, has also prepared resources for meeting planners planning during this outbreak. In addition, **Coconino County Public Health** and the **Arizona Department of Health Services** are updating their websites regularly to keep locals and businesses informed of any state-wide and county changes.

As an industry, we should prioritize calming the fears of the traveling public and encourage smart, guided travel planning. The best way to achieve this is through education and reassurance from trusted sources. Our concern is for all who are affected by this health challenge, and we are hopeful for a swift resolution that keeps travelers to and within America safe and secure.

If you have any questions, or would like to keep us informed, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Trace Ward,
Discover Flagstaff CVB Director



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