PRESS RELEASE
Erin Holland - Public Information Officer - North Tahoe Fire – holland@ntfire.net - 530-308-1158

North Tahoe Fire and Meeks Bay Fire Close Administrative Offices and Fire Stations to Visitation

Tahoe City, Calif. March 17, 2020 – To honor the directive of Governor Newsom, and in support of efforts to minimize the spread of COVID-19, effective immediately North Tahoe Fire and Meeks Bay Fire administrative offices and critical workforce areas including fire stations are closed to public visitation until further notice. We will continue to monitor the situation and will open to the public as soon as is practical. Our team members continue to work on site and are available via email and telephone. Online services are available and are being expanded every day.

“In an effort to protect our community from the spread of COVID-19, we ask that you please stay home and minimize contact with others,” said NTFPD Fire Chief Michael Schwartz. “We are taking these steps to close our critical workspaces from public visitation to safeguard our employees so they can remain healthy and able to serve our community in this time of need.”

Fire stations remain fully staffed, 24/7/365, to respond to emergencies. As always, anyone who experiences an emergency should call 911 to receive emergency assistance. For those experiencing fever, cough or shortness of breath, and for those seeking information on when to seek care for respiratory symptoms, please call the Tahoe Forest Health System COVID-19 Hotline at 530-536-6013.

Older people and people with certain underlying health conditions such as heart or lung disease are at greater risk from COVID-19. Now is the time to call and check on your neighbors, especially those vulnerable populations who may need assistance obtaining basic needs but who are advised to avoid exposure to larger populations. Many local businesses are offering delivery and other measures to assist community members. While people are asked to avoid non-essential travel, if you must go out, practice social distancing and check with those vulnerable neighbors to help them stay stocked with basic needs if you do go out.

For information on the District’s COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan, and to find District services that are available online, visit www.ntfire.net. For employers and members of the workforce being impacted by COVID-19, please visit www.labor.ca.gov/coronavirus2019/ to learn about resources and benefits that may available to assist you.

###