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Riverside County

NEWS RELEASE

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Continue coronavirus safety measures during holiday weekend

Riverside County health officials are urging residents to remember the safety measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus as they celebrate the Labor Day weekend.

Officials say they are concerned there could be a surge in COVID-19 cases similar those which occurred following the Memorial Day and Fourth of July weekends earlier during the pandemic. After increases in July and August, data related to the spread of coronavirus has improved over the last few weeks. The number of those hospitalized with COVID-19 has dropped, along with ICU cases. The positivity rate in Riverside County inching closer to the state-required 8 percent or less.

“Through hard work and the sacrifice of residents, Riverside County has seen improvements in the numbers indicating the spread of coronavirus has slowed,” said Kim Saruwatari, director of the Riverside University Health System - Public Health. “It would be a shame for the results of that hard work to be lost because of the holiday.”

Health officials have always encouraged residents to follow several safety tips, including wearing a face mask, practice social distancing and frequent hand washing. Additionally, officials have urged residents to avoid crowds when out in public and not to attend social gatherings.

“There is a temptation during the holiday to attend parties or gatherings and people forget about virus spread,” Saruwatari said. “These parties among family and friends are places where the disease spreads.”

For the latest news and safety tips, click www.rivcoph.org/coronavirus.

“On behalf of the County of Riverside, I wish our residents and families a safe and happy Labor Day,” said Riverside County Board Chair and Fourth District Supervisor V. Manuel Perez. “Let’s have a wonderful Labor Day weekend and keep ourselves and all the individuals who are out there working safe.”

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