

## WTCC And Our Response to the Coronavirus

WTCC BASECAMP, GLORIETA, NEW MEXICO- In light of the recent outbreak of COVID-19, we have decided to update our guests and family on what Wilderness Trek is doing to ensure the safety of all of our guests.

As of Friday, March 13, 2020, all summer events will proceed as scheduled but with new safety and health measures in place to ensure the safety of all guests.

WTCC is working with local partners such as Glorieta Camps, the State health department, as well as local authorities to monitor the situation and make adjustments as necessary as new details and issues with COVID-19 emerge.

We value the safety of all of our guests, employees, volunteers and community. Therefore, we are making the following adjustments and have implemented the following measures when it comes to our trips and time at basecamp in order to decrease the risk of it spreading illness through contact. The measures are as follows:

## For Basecamp

- More handwashing stations with soap are available and hand sanitizer is available when hand washing is not possible
- Our staff will be cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces at basecamp
- We will be encouraging staff and guests to stay at home when feeling sick
- WTCC events primarily take place outside and not clustered in groups indoors, but we will continue to reduce the amount of times medium or large groups are gathered together indoors

## The following were already in place for all basecamp facilities and will continue

- Staff complete ServSafe's "Food Handler" course and exam
- Gloves are worn while preparing food
- Hands are washed in a separate sink before food preparation
- All surfaces are sanitized after each kitchen use
- Staff is regularly monitored for illness and quarantines enforced

## For Trail

- Food & waste will continue to be disposed of as per LNT guidelines
- Robust hand washing kits will be included on all trips and will include biodegradable soap and bleach wipes
- Dishes will be washed with bleach as well as with biodegradable soap after each use



- Gloves will be worn while serving some food on trail that is not pre-packaged
- Hand sanitizer is always handy in each crew kit as well as the restroom prep kits (Bo-Bo-Bags)

Additionally we will be encouraging our groups to maintain the following personal habits while traveling the backcountry with us:

- Do not eat or drink after others. This includes sharing a water bottle or eating utensils
- Wash hands frequently. Especially after using the restroom and before eating
- Stay home if you are sick! Do not come if you are feeling sick or have had a fever recently
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue
- Greet friends with a fist bump, 19th century river dance, vulcan salute, finger guns or some other creative way

As of today, we are not aware of any cases of COVID-19 from our guests or staff who are currently on our property here at basecamp or at our partner camp, Glorieta Camps. However, we are making sure we are prepared to reduce the risk of infection as well as have an action plan in place should a case arise.

This is an incredibly complex situation and one that we are monitoring. Over the next two months we will be continuing to communicate with our groups, local authorities, and the health department and will keep you informed.

For questions, concerns and comments you may call us at **505-395-6155** or email <u>info@wilderensstrek.org</u>