Message from Yakushima

In order to prevent the spread of novel coronavirus infections

To potential visitors

We are requesting people to refrain from visiting or traveling to Yakushima during the period of the novel coronavirus emergency.

The novel coronavirus outbreak has been expanding around the world. The number of infected people continues to increase in Japan, so the situation surrounding us is very critical and tough.

At twelve midnight on April 8, the Japanese government declared a state of emergency for Tokyo, Kanagawa, Saitama, Chiba, Osaka, Hyogo, and Fukuoka prefectures over the novel coronavirus outbreak.

Considering the current situation of the coronavirus infections in Japan, there may be a risk of coronavirus infections occurring on Yakushima.

There are many tourists still coming to Yakushima. Although we are very grateful, due to the current situation, it would be difficult for us to guarantee your safety against the coronavirus. We are facing a national crisis over the coronavirus outbreak.

If many people were to visit Yakushima using the public transportation system the number of infected people with the coronavirus may increase on Yakushima and our regional medical care facilities would collapse making medical care difficult.

On behalf of the people of Yakushima, I ask visitors who show symptoms of the coronavirus, fever, cough, or who are not feeling well, to refrain from visiting Yakushima.

Please come to Yakushima once the novel coronavirus situation is under control. We are looking forward to seeing you in the near future. We sincerely hope people's lives will soon return to normal.

April 9, 2020

Koji Araki Mayor of Yakushima Town