

○ Message to the people of Yakushima (April 24, 2021)

We are requesting the people of Yakushima to refrain from going to any areas under a state of emergency or semi-emergency for nonessential and/or non-urgent reasons during this time.

The novel coronavirus outbreak is rapidly spreading over the country.

The number of infected people continues to increase in Japan. 540,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including over 9,700 deaths have been confirmed. Yakushima Town has also confirmed three new cases of COVID-19 in April of this year.

On April 23, the Japanese government declared a state of emergency for Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto and Hyogo prefectures over the novel coronavirus outbreak. Seven other prefectures (Miyagi, Saitama, Chiba, Kanagawa, Aichi, Okinawa, and Ehime) were also designated for semi-emergency status.

I would like for the people of Yakushima to refrain from nonessential and non-urgent visits or travel to the areas mentioned above during the period of the COVID-19 state of emergency.

This is not a compulsory movement restriction; however, I would like you to carefully make your decision. The live of you and your love ones may be at risk of being infected by COVID-19. Please continue with following all countermeasures against COVID-19.

The situation is critical. We will continue with all countermeasures against novel coronavirus to prevent the spread of COVID-19. What is most important is for each person to strictly adhere to its countermeasures. Please avoid closed-spaces, crowded places and close-contacts. It is important to wash your hands frequently with soap and water and/or use hand sanitizers, especially when returning home from outside and before meals.

We are facing a national crisis over the coronavirus outbreak. To overcome this crisis, everyone's effort toward overcoming COVID-19 outbreak is essential. I strongly appeal to the people of Yakushima to comply with all countermeasures against COVID-19.

April 24, 2021

Mayor of Yakushima Town,
Koji Araki