

## **NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF CWAG's SATURDAY'S GENERAL MEETING (3/14/20)**

Citizens Water Advocacy Group's Board of Directors has cancelled this Saturday's General Meeting out of an abundance of caution concerning the COVID-19 Coronavirus. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause our members or others who had been planning on attending.

Our decision to cancel was based on the following points:

- The epidemiology of Covid-19 is currently poorly understood. Science needs more time to understand this disease.
- Testing in the US has been and remains grossly inadequate. Despite the lack of widespread testing, over 1,000 cases have been diagnosed in the USA.
- Because we don't understand the virus and we don't know the extent of infection, great caution is in order.
- Seniors are much more strongly affected by the virus, and death rates sharply increase for the over 60 bunch, especially those with health issues.
- Community spread (infection without contact with known cases) is active across north America. What began near Seattle on Feb 25 has now spread rapidly and widely. Only 9 out of 50 US states have yet to report infections - that's 82% in about 2 weeks!
- Infected people are contagious before symptoms appear in 2 - 14 days. What is worse, some infected patients do not show severe symptoms, so they become powerful vectors to spread the virus widely.
- In Arizona, initial cases in Phoenix have now spread south to Pinal and Pima county, for a total of 9 in AZ. It is likely already in Yavapai County.
- Containment (reducing exposure and spread) is the best strategy, but that has mostly failed. The government isn't capable of protecting us - we need to take care of ourselves.

Minimizing exposure is the only action remaining to us. That means avoiding travel and crowds (when you must be near other people, maintain a safe interpersonal distance), washing hands, avoiding touching your face. These actions may be necessary for months!

Thank you.

**CWAG BOARD OF DIRECTORS**