

A message from Hakuba village mayor due to Preventing the spread of COVID-19

Infection Alert Level 5 and Special Alert 2 have been announced for Hakuba Village.

To all people related to Hakuba Village

I am a mayor of Hakuba Village, Masatake Shimokawa. I would like to inform you that Hakuba Village has been raised to alert level 5 for COVID-19.

Within the Northern Japan Alps, the infection alert level was raised to 4 on January 16, and COVID-19 Special Alert 1 was issued, and between January 17 and January 19, seven positive cases were confirmed in Hakuba Village.

It also includes high-risk cases such as mass infections in dormitories and other communal houses, and cases where the route of infection is unknown. Nagano Prefecture has announced an infection alert level of 5 and a special alert level of 2, which means that the infection has spread significantly. This is equivalent to Stage 3 in Japan, and this situation is particularly severe in Nagano Prefecture.

I am sure that everyone involved in Hakuba Village is feeling anxious about the rapidly changing situation, but I would like to remind everyone that the first step to contain the spread of infection in the village is for each of us to take the utmost preventive measures, so please be sure to practice basic countermeasures against infectious diseases, such as wearing masks, disinfecting hands, and maintaining social distance.

Nagano Prefecture has requested the following cooperation.

This is a request for cooperation from Nagano Prefecture to its citizens and visitors.

1. The entire Hakuba Village area is requested to cooperate in refraining from using restaurants that serve alcoholic beverages that do not comply with the guidelines for preventing the spread of infection.

This is a request for cooperation from Nagano Prefecture to businesses.

1. Nagano Prefecture will request the cooperation of restaurants and other establishments that serve alcoholic beverages in restricting or suspending the use of their facilities (closing or shortening business hours).

Target area: Hakuba Village Central Area: The area is surrounded by Hirakawa to the south, Matsukawa to the north, and the JR Oito Line to the east.

Period: Jan. 22 - Feb. 4

2. Please take more thorough measures to prevent infection at workplaces and communal homes.

In addition to above request, on January 14, Nagano Prefecture issued a declaration of a medical emergency for the entire prefecture. Again, please confirm the following three points. We ask for your cooperation.

1. Reduce contact with others as much as possible. Refrain from going out unnecessarily, especially if you are elderly or have an underlying medical condition.
2. Try to avoid visiting areas where the infection has spread.
3. Please refrain from eating in large groups, for long periods of time, or at other places where there is a high risk of infection (including at home and at work).

There has been no end to the spread of COVID-19 nationwide, but in order to protect the lives of our loved ones and our peaceful lives, let's stop the spread of the infection in Hakuba Village. Please do not be misled by rumors and misinformation, and be careful not to discriminate, prejudice, or slander infected people, healthcare workers, or their families. I would like to ask for your further understanding and cooperation. Thank you.

