

Smudging Ceremony instructions for Native IV Staff Gathering

We are planning to have a smudging ceremony at the opening and closing of our 3-day Staff21 Gathering.

Each staff person should have a sage bundle. Make sure you have something to place the smoldering sage onto once it is lit and smoking. An abalone shell, metal or ceramic plate, or bowl would work. This will allow your hands to be free during the smudging ceremony. Also, have ready some kind of lighter or matches to light the sage with. As the sage burns the fire should go out quickly, if not you can blow it out and it should continue to smoke with no flame. If there is not enough smoke repeat until a consistent amount is rising. It might be a good idea to practice earlier in the day if this is new for you.

Before the Zoom meeting, place the sage bundle on the shell or plate between you and your computer screen. Once we are all logged in and ready we will begin. Terry Wildman will facilitate.

We will all light our sage bundles at the same time. You can hold the sage bundle in your hand and light the small end. Let it burn and smolder until the smoke is steadily rising. Then place the bundle back onto the shell or plate.

When everyone is ready Terry will give further instructions and pray over everyone as we ask Creator to purify our minds, hearts, and walk.