

**COLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
STAY AT HOME ORDER
AMENDED APRIL 8, 2020**

WHEREAS, the existence and spread of the COVID -19 virus has resulted in the declaration of a worldwide pandemic, and it is necessary and appropriate to take action to reduce the possibility of exposure to COVID-19 and to reduce the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the President of the United States declared the outbreak of COVID-19 in the United States constitutes a national emergency and the Governor of the State of Missouri declared a state of emergency within in the State of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, as of March 17, 2020 the COVID-19 virus has been confirmed in Cole County and has since continued to increase in transmission in and around Cole County, and surrounding areas, which includes multiple fatalities, as well as now demonstrating community spread with the number of cases escalating each day; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or comes in contact with a virus infected surface; and

WHEREAS, a gathering of individuals without necessary mitigation for the spread of infection may pose a risk of the spread of infectious disease; and

WHEREAS, the County wishes to employ all means available under the law to protect public life, health, safety and property to limit the development, contraction and spread of COVID-19 creating this emergency; and

WHEREAS, Kristi Campbell, Director of Public Health for the Cole County Health Department and Health Officer for the County of Cole do find the aforementioned conditions constitute a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the residents of Cole County, and creates a public health emergency situation within the meaning of Chapter 192 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri and Division 20, Chapter 20 of the MO Code of State Regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED by the Director as follows:

That Public Health Emergency Order dated March 27, 2020, is hereby amended and the following Public Health Emergency Order Amended April 8, 2020 is enacted in lieu thereof, to read as follows:

I. Section One: Stay At Home

- A. Individuals may leave their residences or place of rest only to perform “Essential Activities,” as defined infra. People at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 are further urged to stay in their residence or place of rest except as necessary to seek medical care and to obtain provision of essential life items. All individuals shall exercise physical distancing requirements at all times.

II. Section Two: Non-Essential Business and Other Non-Essential Operations Must Cease

- A. All businesses and other operations in Cole County, except as defined infra or exempted by force of law or Order, are required to cease all public operations. Non-essential businesses and other operations are strongly encouraged to continue operations consisting exclusively of employees, contractors, or other agents of businesses performing activities at their own residences or places of rest. Minimum Basic Operations at the place of business may only be conducted as outlined in Section III, Paragraph 5.

III. Section Three: Definitions and Exemptions

- A. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms will have the meaning ascribed to them:

1. “Essential Activities,” shall mean:

- i. To engage in activities or perform tasks essential to their health and safety, or to the health and safety of their family or household members (including, but not limited to, pets), or close personal acquaintances, such as, by way of example only and without limitation, obtaining medical supplies or medication, visiting a health care professional, or obtaining supplies they need to work from home;
- ii. To obtain necessary services or supplies for themselves and their family or household members, or close personal acquaintances, or to deliver those services or supplies to others, such as, by way of example only and without limitation, canned food, dry goods, fresh fruits and vegetables, pet supply, fresh meats, fish, and poultry, and any other household consumer products, and products necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences;
- iii. To engage in outdoor activity to promote good health, provided the individuals comply with Physical Distancing Requirements as defined in this Section, such as, by way of example and without limitation, biking, walking, hiking, or running;

- iv. To perform work providing essential products and services at an Essential Business or to otherwise carry out activities specifically permitted in this Order, including Minimum Basic Operations, as defined infra, at Non-Essential Businesses; and
 - v. To care for a family member, close personal acquaintance, or pet in another household.
 - vi. To participate in religious services and other spiritual practices but only to the extent consistent with reasonable compliance with Physical Distancing Requirements and gathering size limitations.
2. “Essential Businesses” means any for-profit, non-profit, or educational entity, regardless its corporate or entity structure and includes:
- i. Healthcare Operations and Essential Infrastructure.
 - ii. Grocery stores, farmers’ markets, farm and produce stands, markets, food banks, convenience stores, and other establishments engaged in the retail sale of canned food, dry goods, fresh fruits and vegetables, pet supply, fresh meats, fish, and poultry, and any other household consumer products (such as cleaning and personal care products). This includes stores that sell groceries and also sell other non-grocery products, and products necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences and persons.
 - iii. Food cultivation, including farming, livestock, and fishing.
 - iv. Human and animal food processing facility workers.
 - v. Businesses that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals.
 - vi. Newspapers, television, radio, and other media services.
 - vii. Gas stations and auto-supply, auto-repair, and related facilities.
 - viii. Banks and related financial institutions.
 - ix. Hardware stores.
 - x. Plumbers, electricians, exterminators, landscaping services, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, Essential Activities, and Essential Businesses.

- xi. Businesses providing mailing and shipping services, including post office boxes.
- xii. Educational institutions—including public and private K-12 schools, colleges, and universities—for purposes of facilitating distance learning or performing essential functions related to distance learning and provision of other services related student welfare, including but not limited to food provision and delivery, provided that physical distancing of six-feet per person is maintained to the greatest extent possible.
- xiii. Laundromats and laundry service providers.
- xiv. Railroads and rail systems.
- xv. Restaurants and other facilities that prepare and serve food and drink for delivery or contactless pickup, outside the business location. Inside entry can be allowed for carryout as long as physical distancing is maintained and there are no more than 10 people in the business location, which includes employees. Schools and other entities that typically provide free food services to students or members of the public may continue to do so under this Order on the condition that the food is provided to students or members of the public on a pick-up and takeaway basis only. Schools and other entities that provide food services under this exemption shall not permit the food or drink to be consumed at the site where it is provided, or at any other gathering site.
- xvi. Businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home.
- xvii. Businesses that supply other essential businesses with the support or supplies necessary to operate.
- xviii. Airlines, taxis, and other private transportation providers providing transportation services necessary for Essential Activities and other purposes expressly authorized in this Order, as well as transportation maintenance services such as mechanics necessary to keep transportation services operational.
- xix. Home-based care for seniors, adults, or children.
- xx. Residential facilities and shelters for seniors, adults, and children.
- xxi. Professional services, such as legal or accounting services, when necessary to assist in compliance with legally mandated activities.
- xxii. Childcare facilities providing services that enable employees exempted in

this Order to work as permitted. To the extent possible, childcare facilities should operate under the following conditions:

1. Childcare should be carried out in stable groups, preferably with 10 or fewer (“stable” means that the same 10 or fewer children are in the same group each day);
2. Children should not change from one group to another;
3. If more than one group of children is cared for at one facility, each group should be in a separate room. Groups should not mix with each other; and
4. Childcare providers should remain solely with one group of children.

xxiii. Businesses that provide real estate transactions and services.

xxiv. Funeral homes, crematoriums, cremation, burial, mortuary services, and cemeteries.

3. “Essential Infrastructure,” shall mean to include, but not be limited to, public works construction, construction of housing, airport operations, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil refining, railroad and rail systems, roads and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, internet, and telecommunications systems (including the provision of essential infrastructure for computing services, business infrastructure, communications, and web-based services), provided that they carry out those services or that work in compliance with Physical Distancing Requirements as defined this Section, to the extent possible.
4. “Healthcare Operations” shall include hospitals, clinics, dentists, pharmacies, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, other healthcare facilities, healthcare suppliers, home healthcare services providers, mental health providers, or any related and/or ancillary healthcare services. “Healthcare Operations” also includes veterinary care and all healthcare services provided to animals. This exemption shall be construed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare, broadly defined. “Healthcare Operations” does not include fitness and exercise gyms and similar facilities.
5. “Minimum Basic Operations” of non-essential businesses may continue, provided all personnel comply with all of the following provisions and strictly adhere with Physical Distancing Requirements as defined in this Section, while carrying out such operations:
 - i. No more than four personnel shall occupy any business structure any

one time; and

- ii. The minimum necessary activities to maintain the value of the business's inventory and facilities, ensure security, process payroll and employee benefits, or for related functions; and
- iii. The minimum necessary activities to facilitate employees of the business being able to continue to work remotely from their residences, place of rest, or elsewhere; and
- iv. No customers, or members of the general public, shall be allowed within the business structure, or grounds; and
- v. Only non-human contact delivery of goods to customers, either at their residence, or outside business location; and
- vi. All personnel shall wear a cloth mask, over mouth and nose, while on the business premises or in the delivery of goods; and
- vii. Any personnel with any sign or symptom of illness shall remain home, or immediately leave the business to return home and/or seek medical care; and
- viii. Failure to comply with all the provisions within this order will result in the violating business to be closed for failure to comply, and shall not be allowed to reopen until all restrictions to businesses are lifted.

6. "Physical Distancing Requirements" includes maintaining at least six-foot physical distancing from other individuals, washing hands with soap and water for at least twenty seconds as frequently as possible or using hand sanitizer, regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces, and not shaking hands.

B. Regulated Activities. To the fullest extent allowed by law, the following restrictions are imposed:

- 1. Individuals may leave their residence or place of rest only to undertake Essential Activities or to provide any services or perform any work necessary to the operations and maintenance of Essential Business, Essential Infrastructure, Healthcare Operations, Minimum Basic Operations, or other enumerated exempted categories as prescribed by City Order or other prevailing law.
- 2. Individuals at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 and those who are sick are urged to stay in their residence except as necessary to seek medical care.

3. All public and private intentional gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or living unit are prohibited, except for the limited purposes permitted by the Order. Any intentional gathering of more than ten (10) people in a single space or room is prohibited unless exempted by this Order. Nothing in this Order prohibits the gathering of members of a household or residence of individuals who reside in such residence.
4. All places of public amusement, whether indoors or outdoors, including but not limited to, locations with amusement rides, carnivals, amusement parks, water parks, museums, arcades, fairs, children's play centers, playgrounds (including children's play structures in public or private parks), funplexes, bowling alleys, movie and other theaters, concert and music halls, and country clubs, golf clubs (with the narrow exceptions of playing golf where there is no shared equipment by the participants and driving ranges where Physical Distancing Requirements are strictly followed and enforced), social clubs and athletic clubs shall be closed to the public. An exception shall exist for outdoor parks and trails where no shared equipment is utilized by the patrons.
5. All public parks and open outdoor recreation areas are encouraged to remain open. However, playgrounds may increase the spread of COVID-19, all indoor and outdoor playgrounds shall be closed with appropriate notices posted.

C. Regulated Activities of Essential Businesses. Any Essential Business, as defined in this Order, that is engaged in retail sales to the public shall:

1. Limit the number of customers and employees in any essential business retail location to the maximum allowed under any in-effect statewide health order promulgated by the Director of Health and Senior Services.
2. Discourage in person shopping by implementing and encouraging non-human contact delivery of goods ordered by phone or online when feasible.
3. Implement internal procedures to only allow one person per cart/basket.
4. Provide a means for disinfecting of shopping cart/basket handles by patrons, and hand sanitizer upon entering building location and upon leaving checkout location.

D. Exemptions. All first responders, emergency management personnel, emergency dispatchers, court personnel, law enforcement personnel, and school personnel

operating at the direction of administrator designation, and others working for or to support Essential Businesses are categorically exempt from this Order. Further, nothing in this Order shall prohibit any individual from performing or accessing “Essential Governmental Functions.” Essential Government Functions means all services needed to ensure the continuing operation of any government agencies, including schools, and provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public. All Essential Governmental Functions should be performed in compliance with Physical Distancing Requirements as defined this Section, to the extent possible.

IV. Section Four. School Operations.

- A. For purposes of this section, “School Operations” means any institution of elementary or secondary education, including but not limited to public, chartered, private, or parochial institutions. School Operations does not include a requirement that school buildings be closed if needed to house individuals, distribute food or clothing, provide medical care or any other services deemed necessary to protect the life and property of Cole County residents and other critical resources.
- B. That due to unique characteristics and risks associated with transmission dynamics, the likely spread of the disease based on factors of physical distancing, the clinical severity of COVID-19, the lack of vaccine or antivirals as treatment options, the crowd density, the inability to ensure physical distancing and to prevent close contact among groups, in-person classroom-based School Operations are prohibited from taking place in Cole County, Missouri, during the duration of this Order.

- V. Section Six. This Ordinance shall be effective 12:01 pm on April 9, 2020 and will continue to be in effect until 12:00 pm on April 25, 2020, unless it is extended, rescinded, superseded or amended in writing by further order.

It is so ordered this 8th day of April, 2020.



Director of Public Health
Cole County Health Department