

AGENDA

WORCESTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will be held virtually and can be publicly viewed online via live stream feed at - <https://worcestercountymd.swagit.com/live>

May 14, 2020

3:00 PM - Emergency Meeting to discuss Governor Hogan's latest Executive Order and Worcester County's response to the lifting of the Stay At Home Order and implementation of the Safer At Home Public Health Advisory.

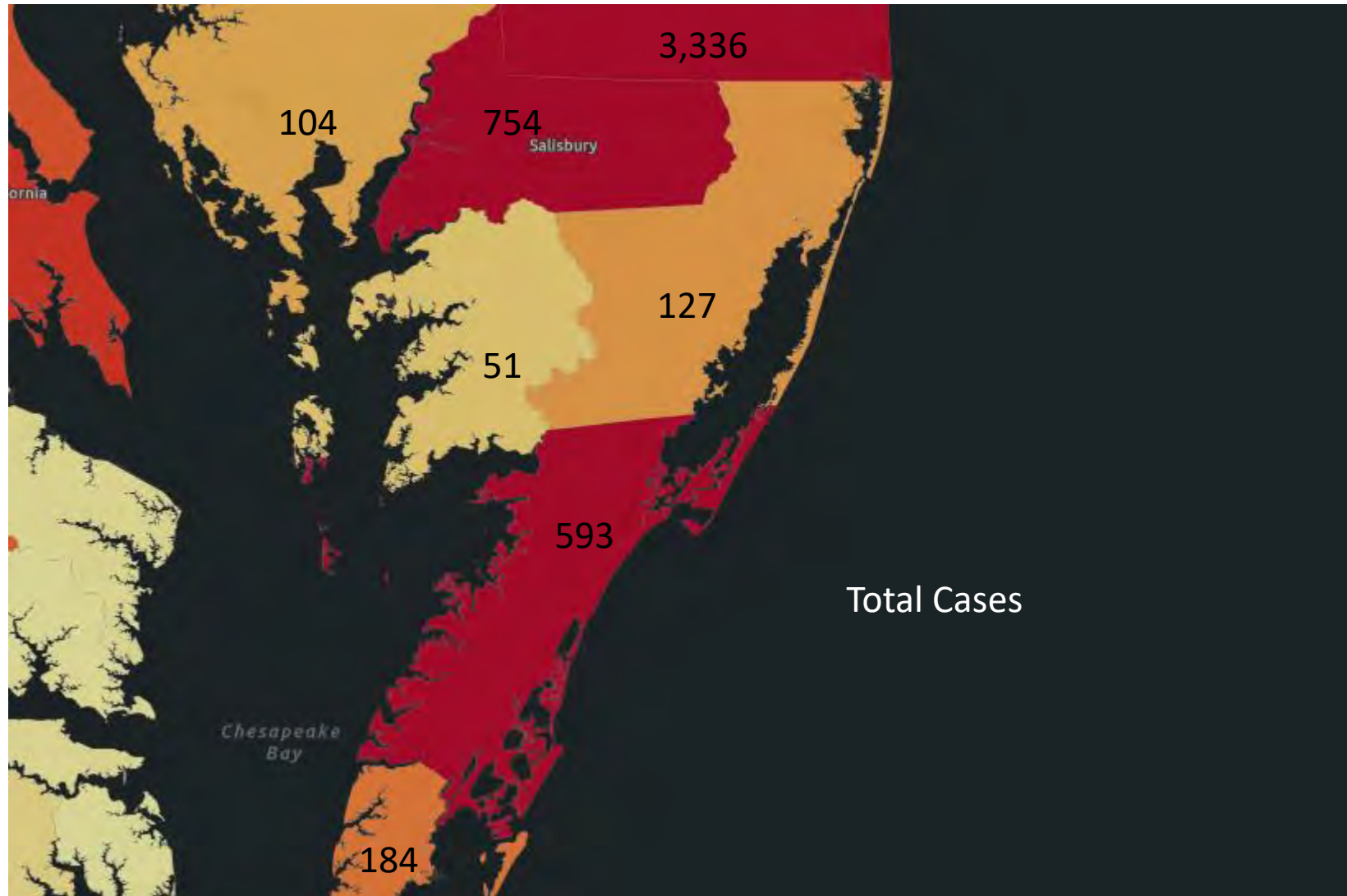
Item 1 - State of the County Regarding COVID-19

Item 2 - Governor's May 13 Executive Order and Guidance

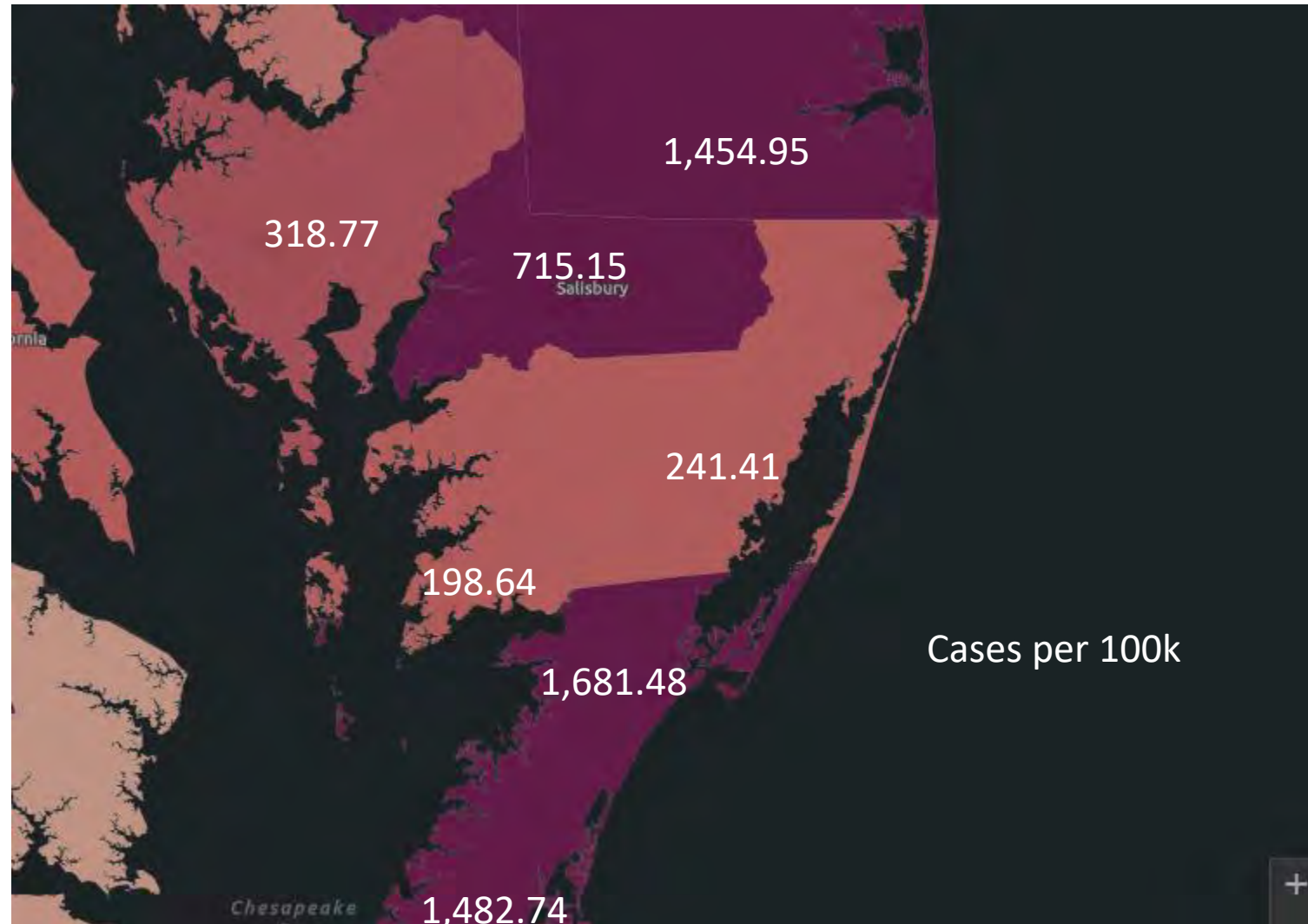
Item 3 - Local Orders and Guidance

Item 4 - Outdoor Restaurant Seating Issue

Regional Overview

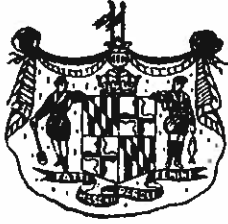


Regional Overview



By County			
County	Cases	Deaths	
Allegany	149	(13)	
Anne Arundel	2,596	(123)	10*
Baltimore City	3,476	(177)	9*
Baltimore County	4,160	(203)	15*
Calvert	214	(12)	1*
Caroline	177		
Carroll	595	(61)	
Cecil	271	(15)	
Charles	778	(56)	1*
Dorchester	102	(2)	
Frederick	1,302	(74)	6*
Garrett	6		
Harford	629	(24)	4*
Howard	1,258	(36)	2*
Kent	123	(13)	
Montgomery	7,283	(386)	36*
Prince George's	10,072	(370)	19*
Queen Anne's	104	(9)	
St. Mary's	254	(9)	
Somerset	51		
Talbot	62	(1)	
Washington	287	(9)	
Wicomico	738	(17)	
Worcester	125	(3)	1*
Data not available		(81)	11*





The State of Maryland
Executive Department

**ORDER
OF THE
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND
NUMBER 20-05-13-01**

**AMENDING AND RESTATING THE ORDER OF MAY 6, 2020,
ALLOWING REOPENING OF CERTAIN BUSINESSES AND
FACILITIES, SUBJECT TO LOCAL REGULATION**

- WHEREAS, A state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency was proclaimed on March 5, 2020, and renewed on March 17, 2020, April 10, 2020, and May 6, 2020, to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the state, and the state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency still exists;
- WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, is a public health catastrophe and has been confirmed throughout Maryland;
- WHEREAS, To reduce the spread of COVID-19, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Maryland Department of Health recommend canceling large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings;
- WHEREAS, The currently known and available scientific evidence and best practices support limitations on large gatherings and social distancing to prevent exposures and transmissions, and reduce the threat to especially vulnerable populations, including older individuals and those with chronic health conditions;
- WHEREAS, To reduce the threat to human health caused by transmission of the novel coronavirus in Maryland, and to protect and save lives, it is necessary and reasonable that individuals in the state refrain from congregating;
- WHEREAS, To protect the public health, welfare, and safety, prevent the transmission of the novel coronavirus, control the spread of COVID-19, and save lives, it is necessary to control and direct the movement of individuals in Maryland, including those on the public streets;

- WHEREAS, It is further necessary to control and direct in Maryland the occupancy and use of buildings and premises, as well as places of amusement and assembly;
- WHEREAS, the Coronavirus Recovery Team continues to advise on related public health and emergency management decisions;
- WHEREAS, the State has implemented measures to reduce community transmission rates of COVID-19, while strategically activating the Maryland Strong: Roadmap to Recovery plan;
- WHEREAS, the State is continuously expanding COVID-19 laboratory testing capacity and locations throughout Maryland, and has increased its disease-investigation capabilities by implementing operations to trace the contacts of up to 1,000 new cases per day;
- WHEREAS, the State has carefully monitored hospital capacity, and has worked with hospitals to ensure their surge capacity can accommodate Marylanders who may become ill;
- WHEREAS, the State is procuring necessary protective equipment to safeguard critical facilities and staff; and
- WHEREAS, total hospitalizations and usage of hospital beds have been stable or slowly decreasing;

NOW, THEREFORE. I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO TITLE 14 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE, AND IN AN EFFORT TO CONTROL AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 WITHIN THE STATE, DO HEREBY ORDER:

- I. Administrative and Implementing Provisions.
 - a. The Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland, dated March 12, 2020, entitled “Prohibiting Large Gatherings and Events and Closing Senior Centers,” as amended and restated on March 16, 2020, and further amended and restated on March 19, 2020 by Order Number 20-03-19-01, and further amended and restated on March 23, 2020 by Order Number 20-03-29-01, and further amended and restated on March 30, 2020 by Order Number 20-03-30-01, and further amended and restated on May 6, 2020 by Order Number 20-05-06-01 is further amended and restated in its entirety as set forth herein.
 - b. The Secretary of Health is hereby authorized to issue directives under this Order (“Secretary’s Directives”), as the Secretary deems necessary, to monitor, treat, prevent, reduce the spread of, and suppress COVID-19 in relation to any activity

permitted under this Order or any business, organization, establishment, or facility that is permitted by this Order to be open to the general public, which directives may include, without limitation, binding requirements and/or non-binding recommendations.

- c. Political subdivisions are not prohibited from opening outdoor public spaces to the general public (such as parks, sports fields and courts, beaches, dog parks, and playgrounds), subject to the following:
 - i. The decision to do so shall be made after consultation with the health officer for the county in which the outdoor public space is located (or, in the case of outdoor public spaces located in Baltimore City, the Commissioner of Health for Baltimore City) (the “Local Health Officer”).
 - ii. The Local Health Officer may issue such directives or orders as may be necessary to monitor, prevent, reduce the spread of, and suppress COVID-19 with respect to the use of the outdoor public space (“Health Officer Directives”).
 - iii. The political subdivision must require persons using the outdoor public space to comply with applicable Secretary’s Directives, applicable Health Officer Directives, and applicable social distancing guidance published by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and the Maryland Department of Health (“MDH”).
- d. If a political subdivision determines that doing so is necessary and reasonable to save lives or prevent exposure to COVID-19, the political subdivision is hereby authorized to issue orders that are more restrictive than this Order (“Local Orders”):
 - i. requiring any businesses, organizations, establishments, or facilities to close or modify their operations; and/or
 - ii. requiring individuals to remain indoors or to refrain from congregating.
- e. Local Orders may remain in effect for so long as this Order (as it may be amended from time to time) remains in effect. The authority granted by paragraph I.d is in addition to, not in derogation of, any authority of a political subdivision under its charter, laws, ordinances, or regulations.

II. Gatherings Larger Than 10 Persons Prohibited. Social, community, recreational, leisure, and sporting gatherings and events of more than 10 people (“large gatherings and events”) are hereby prohibited at all locations and venues, including but not limited to parades, festivals, conventions, and fundraisers. Planned large gatherings and events must be canceled or postponed until after termination of the state of emergency and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded.

III. Businesses, Organizations, Establishments, and Facilities That May Be Open.

- a. Religious Facilities. Subject to applicable Local Orders, effective as of 5:00 p.m. on May 15, 2020, churches, synagogues, mosques, temples, and other similar religious facilities of any faith in the State of Maryland (“Religious Facilities”) may open to the general public, *provided, however*, that the total number of persons permitted in a Religious Facility at any one time shall not exceed 50% of that Religious Facility’s Maximum Occupancy (defined below).
- b. Retail Establishments. Subject to applicable Local Orders, effective as of 5:00 p.m. on May 15, 2020, retail businesses, organizations, establishments, and facilities in the State of Maryland that principally sell goods (“Retail Establishments”) may open to the general public, *provided, however*, that the total number of persons permitted in a Retail Establishment at any one time shall not exceed 50% of that Retail Establishment’s Maximum Occupancy (defined below).
- c. Manufacturing. Subject to applicable Local Orders, effective as of 5:00 p.m. on May 15, 2020, all manufacturing businesses and facilities in the State of Maryland may open.
- d. Certain Personal Services.
 - i. Subject to applicable Local Orders and paragraph III.d.ii below, effective as of 5:00 p.m. on May 15, 2020, the following establishments in the State of Maryland (“Personal Services Establishments”) may open to the general public:
 1. beauty salons, but only to provide hair services and provide hair services—blow drying, as described in Title 5 of the Business Occupations Article of the Maryland Code; and
 2. barber shops.
 - ii. All customers over the age of two are required to wear Face Coverings (as defined in the Face Coverings Order (defined below)) while inside any Personal Services Establishment, except to the extent wearing a Face Covering would make it impossible for services to be performed. All Personal Services Establishments shall:
 1. require staff to wear Face Coverings while in areas open to the general public and areas in which interaction with other staff is likely;
 2. provide services on an appointment basis only;
 3. not allow the number of persons in the Personal Service Establishment to exceed 50% of the Personal Service

Establishment's Maximum Occupancy (defined below); and

4. after providing services to each customer, clean and disinfect the area in which services were performed in accordance with applicable guidance from the CDC and MDH.
- e. Outdoor Recreation. Subject to applicable Local Orders, effective as of 7:00 a.m. on May 7, 2020, notwithstanding paragraph IV.f.i.8 below, the following establishments in the State of Maryland may open to the general public:
- i. golf courses and driving ranges;
 - ii. outdoor archery and shooting ranges;
 - iii. marinas and watercraft rental businesses;
 - iv. campgrounds; and
 - v. horse boarding and riding facilities.
- f. Determination of Maximum Occupancy. With respect to a Religious Facility, Retail Establishment, or Personal Service Establishment (a "Facility"), "Maximum Occupancy" means:
- i. The maximum occupancy load of the Facility under the applicable fire code, as set forth on a certificate issued for the Facility by a local fire code official; or
 - ii. If no such certificate has been issued for the Facility by the local fire code official, the maximum occupancy of the Facility pursuant to applicable laws, regulations, and permits.
- g. Operating Requirements.
- i. All businesses, organizations, establishments, and facilities that are permitted to be open under this paragraph III shall comply with:
 1. applicable Local Orders;
 2. applicable Secretary's Directives;
 3. applicable social distancing guidance published by CDC and MDH; and
 4. orders issued by the applicable Local Health Officer pursuant to the Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland Number 20-04-05-02, dated April 5, 2020, entitled "Delegating Authority to Local Officials to Control and Close Unsafe Facilities", as it may be

amended from time to time.

- ii. For avoidance of doubt, Retail Establishments shall continue to comply with the Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland Number 20-04-15-01, dated April 15, 2020, entitled "Requiring Use of Face Coverings Under Certain Circumstances and Requiring Implementation of Certain Physical Distancing Measures", as it may be amended from time to time (the "Face Coverings Order").
- iii. Any business, organization, establishment, or facility in the State of Maryland may require its customers over the age of two, visitors over the age of two, and/or staff to wear Face Coverings (as defined in the Face Coverings Order). A business, organization, establishment, or facility that elects to do so shall post signage at each entrance advising customers, visitors, and/or staff about such requirement.

IV. Businesses, Organizations, Establishments, and Facilities Required to Close.

- a. Senior Centers. All senior citizen activities centers (as defined in Section 10-501(i) of the Human Services Article of the Maryland Code) shall remain closed until after termination of the state of emergency and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded.
- b. Restaurants and Bars.
 - i. This Order controls the occupancy and use of restaurants, bars, and other similar establishments that sell food or beverages for consumption on-premises in Maryland ("Restaurants and Bars"). This Order does not apply to food or beverage services in health care facilities, which are expressly excluded from the definition of "Restaurants and Bars."
 - ii. All Restaurants and Bars shall remain closed to the general public, except that, to the extent permitted by applicable law, and in accordance with any social-distancing recommendations of MDH, food and beverages may be:
 - 1. sold if such food or beverages are promptly taken from the premises, i.e., on a carry-out or drive-through basis; or
 - 2. delivered to customers off the premises.
- c. Fitness Centers.
 - i. This Order controls the occupancy and use of fitness centers, health clubs, health spas, gyms, aquatic centers, and self-defense schools in Maryland ("Fitness Centers").
 - ii. All Fitness Centers shall remain closed to the general public, except that the portion of any Fitness Center that is licensed or otherwise permitted by

applicable law, regulation, or order to provide child care services may remain open to the general public for the purpose of continuing to provide such child care services.

d. Theaters.

- i. This Order controls the occupancy and use of theatres in Maryland at which live performances occur or motion pictures are shown (“Theaters”).
- ii. All Theaters shall remain closed to the general public.

e. Malls.

- i. This Order controls the occupancy and use of shopping centers in Maryland that have one or more enclosed pedestrian concourses (“Enclosed Malls”).
- ii. The following portions of Enclosed Malls shall remain closed to the general public:
 1. pedestrian concourses and other interior common areas open to the general public, including without limitation, food courts; and
 2. retail establishments only accessible to the general public from enclosed pedestrian concourses or other interior areas.
- iii. This paragraph IV.e does not require closure of retail establishments attached to Enclosed Malls that are directly accessible from the outside.
- iv. Notwithstanding paragraph IV.e.ii, local governments may approve access by the general public to the following parts of Enclosed Malls:
 1. retail establishments (a) that primarily sell groceries or pharmacy products, or (b) at which licensed professionals provide health care services; and
 2. pedestrian concourses and other interior common areas, but solely to the extent necessary for the general public to access the retail establishments described in paragraph IV.e.iv.1.

f. Other Recreational Establishments.

- i. This Order controls the occupancy and use of the following establishments in Maryland (“Recreational Establishments”):
 1. bingo halls;
 2. bowling alleys;
 3. pool halls;

4. amusement parks;
5. roller and ice skating rinks;
6. miniature golf establishments;
7. social and fraternal clubs, including without limitation, American Legion posts, VFW posts, and Elks Clubs; and
8. any other establishment not listed above that is subject to the admission and amusement tax under Title 4 of the Tax-General Article of the Maryland Code.

- ii. All Recreational Establishments shall remain closed to the general public (including members, in the case of private clubs).

g. Other Miscellaneous Establishments.

- i. This Order controls the occupancy and use of the following establishments in Maryland:

1. tattoo parlors;
2. tanning salons;
3. massage parlors; and
4. establishments that provide esthetic services or provide nail technician services (as described in Title 5 of the Business Occupations Article of the Maryland Code).

- ii. The establishments listed in paragraph IV.g.i above shall remain closed to the general public.

h. Other Non-Essential Businesses.

- i. This Order controls the occupancy and use of all businesses, organizations, establishments, and facilities that are not part of the critical infrastructure sectors identified by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (currently described at <https://www.cisa.gov/identifying-critical-infrastructure-during-covid-19>) (collectively, "Non-Essential Businesses").

- ii. Subject to paragraph III above, Non-Essential Businesses shall remain closed to the general public.

- iii. Staff and owners may continue to be on-site at Non-Essential Businesses for only the following purposes:

1. Facilitating remote working (a/k/a/ telework) by other staff;
2. Maintaining essential property;
3. Preventing loss of, or damage to property, including without

limitation, preventing spoilage of perishable inventory;

4. Performing essential administrative functions, including without limitation, picking up mail and processing payroll; and

5. Caring for live animals.

i. Closure By Other Order. All businesses, organizations, establishments, and facilities that are required to close pursuant to any other Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland or any other Order of a political subdivision, shall be and remain closed in accordance with such other Order, as the case may be.

V. Specific Exclusions. For avoidance of doubt, this Order does not require the closure of, or prohibit the movement of any staff or volunteer traveling to, from, or in connection with their duties at any:

a. federal, State, or local government unit, building, or facility;

b. newspaper, television, radio, or other media service; or

c. non-profit organization or facility providing essential services to low-income persons, including, without limitation, homeless shelters, food banks, and soup kitchens.

VI. Government Buildings and Facilities with Large Occupancy or Attendance.

a. State and local government buildings and facilities with an expected occupancy or attendance of more than 10 people shall:

i. Promptly and conspicuously post in the building or facility a copy of the MDH recommendations for social distancing; and

ii. Provide all occupants and attendees with the capability to wash their hands.

b. A copy of this Order shall be made available to all occupants or attendees at any State or local government building and facility with an expected occupancy or attendance of more than 10 people.

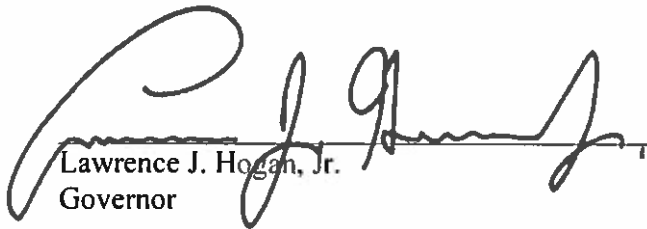
VII. General Provisions.

a. Each law enforcement officer of the State or a political subdivision shall execute and enforce this Order and any Local Order.

b. A person who knowingly and willfully violates this Order or any Local Order is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding one year or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both.

- c. This Order remains effective until after termination of the state of emergency and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded, or until rescinded, superseded, amended, or revised by additional orders.
- d. The effect of any statute, rule, or regulation of an agency of the State or a political subdivision inconsistent with this order is hereby suspended to the extent of the inconsistency.
- e. The underlined paragraph headings in this Order are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the interpretation of this Order.
- f. If any provision of this Order or its application to any person, entity, or circumstance is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions or applications of the Order shall remain in effect to the extent possible without the invalid provision or application. To achieve this purpose, the provisions of this Order are severable.

ISSUED UNDER MY HAND THIS 13TH DAY OF MAY, 2020, AND
EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.



Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor



OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

INTERPRETIVE GUIDANCE

Number: COVID19-14
Date: May 13, 2020
Re: Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland, Number 20-05-13-01, dated May 13, 2020, Amending and Restating the Order of May 6, 2020, Allowing Reopening of Certain Businesses and Facilities, Subject to Local Regulation

At this time, the Office of Legal Counsel (“OLC”) recommends that the Administration interpret the above-referenced Order as follows:

1. **Effect of Local Orders on Interpretive Guidance.** A Local Order (as defined in the Order) requiring a business to close takes precedence over any Interpretive Guidance issued by OLC that would otherwise indicate that the business may be open.
2. **Businesses That May Open.** As a result of the Order (but subject to any applicable Local Orders), the following is a non-exhaustive list of Retail Establishments that may re-open pursuant to paragraph III.b of the Order:
 - a. Animal adoption shelters.
 - b. Art galleries.
 - c. Bookstores.
 - d. Car washes.
 - e. Clothing and shoe stores.
 - f. Florists.
 - g. Furniture stores.
 - h. Jewelers.
 - i. Lawn and garden stores.
 - j. Pawn shops.
 - k. Pet groomers.
 - l. Sporting goods stores.
 - m. Tobacco and vape shops.
3. **Prior Interpretive Guidance.** To the extent prior Interpretive Guidance issued by OLC is inconsistent with Order No. 20-05-13-01, such prior Interpretive Guidance is rescinded. Specifically, but without limitation, the following Interpretive Guidance is hereby rescinded:
 - a. Paragraph 1 of Interpretive Guidance COVID19-07 (“Curbside Pickup at Non-Essential Businesses Not Permitted”).
 - b. Interpretive Guidance COVID19-09 in its entirety.
 - c. Interpretive Guidance COVID19-11 in its entirety.

This Interpretive Guidance maybe revised or rescinded at any time. Citizens are urged to consult with their own legal counsel for advice about the application of the Order and this Interpretive Guidance to their particular facts and circumstances.

MARYLAND STRONG: ROADMAP TO RECOVERY

STAGE ONE

EFFECTIVE MAY 15 AT 5 PM



The Stay at Home order will be lifted and replaced by a Safer at Home public health advisory.



Houses of worship can resume services with safety measures; outdoor services are strongly encouraged.



Retail stores and some personal services will reopen with limited capacity and strong safety precautions.



Marylanders must continue to practice physical distancing and wear masks in indoor public areas.



Jurisdictions are empowered to make decisions regarding the timing of Stage One reopenings.

READ THE ROADMAP: GOVERNOR.MARYLAND.GOV/RECOVERY

FIND HEALTH RESOURCES: CORONAVIRUS.MARYLAND.GOV



OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Worcester County

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SNOW HILL, MARYLAND

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JOSHUA C. NORDSTROM
DIANA PURNELL

To: Commissioners
From: Roscoe Leslie
Date: May 14, 2020
RE: Broad Summary of Gov. Order 20-05-13-01

New Items:

- Stay-at-home order removed; individuals are no longer restricted to essential activities.
- Political subdivisions can create **more** restrictive rules.
- Certain businesses and organizations can open at 5pm on May 15; all must comply with social distancing guidelines published by the CDC and Maryland Dept. of Health and any other local restrictions.
 - Retail if 50% capacity (masks required)
 - Religious facilities if 50% capacity
 - Manufacturing
 - Barbers/Salons if 50% capacity, masks, appointments
 - Outdoor recreation (effective May 7)
 - Golf, ranges, marinas, campgrounds, horse facilities

Unchanged Items:

- Gatherings over 10 people prohibited.
- Many businesses still closed:
 - Restaurants except for carry out and delivery
 - Gyms, theatres, enclosed malls, bingo, amusement parts, tattoo parlors, nail salons, etc.
 - Other non-essential business under Federal guidelines
- County can reopen public outdoor space with consultation and restrictions by Health Officer, plus social distancing.



MARYLAND STRONG

ROADMAP TO RECOVERY

RELEASED APRIL 24, 2020

GOVERNOR
LARRY HOGAN

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Larry Hogan".



MARYLAND STRONG: A ROADMAP TO RECOVERY

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VIII. OUR ROADMAP TO RECOVERY

1. The **Maryland Strong Roadmap to Recovery** is divided into three stages:
 - a. **Low Risk**
 - b. **Medium Risk**
 - c. **High Risk**
2. These stages are broad in character and contemplate being multi-phased within each stage. These sub-phases will be announced when the Governor determines gating benchmarks for the safe rollout of additional openings exist. Changes will necessarily be made to the plan throughout the implementation, in a safe manner, as warranted by public health and economic conditions.
3. The Roadmap contemplates offering some flexibility to health officers of county and municipal governments, and considering regional differences in COVID conditions, but within the parameters set forth by the Governor and his Administration for each stage and particular sub-phase.
 - a. In each stage, the State will evaluate which localities meet appropriate gating criteria based upon COVID+ rate in the jurisdiction and/or region.
 - b. In the event a locality has satisfied the gating criteria, county health officers will be permitted to expand the permitted activities and businesses under parameters of the current stage identified by the State. Note: the Roadmap also contemplates that county health officers may order local businesses and gathering places to restrict service or close if deemed to be operating in a manner dangerous to the public health, regardless of whether said business falls within a category generally opened statewide.
4. The Low/Medium/High delineation divides activities and businesses into categories designated by the AEI's *Guidance for Governors* report (and as adopted in the NGA's *Roadmap to Recovery: A Public Health Guide for Governors*) as having Medium or High "Modification Potential" to mitigate the risk of infection to protect individuals, and Low or Medium "Number of Contacts" or "Contact Intensity." Copies of both the AEI and NGA reports are incorporated herein as general guidance as appendices to this Roadmap.



5. The Governor will receive industry-specific input on an ongoing basis from the Commerce Secretary's various Industry Recovery Advisory Groups, the religious institution advisory group, the nonprofit advisory group, and from his own team of medical, business and economic experts.
6. The Governor will continue consulting with the State Superintendent of Schools, as well as area school superintendents, to evaluate the safe use of educational and child care facilities throughout Maryland.
7. As stated above, the Roadmap expects that people currently teleworking shall continue to telework for the duration of the State of Emergency. The Roadmap also expects that physical distancing and masking requirements shall continue until the lifting of the State of Emergency
8. Low, Middle and High Risk stages:

A. LOW RISK

This is the first stage of the recovery, and involves business, community, religious, and quality of life improvements. Once the Governor determines that Maryland has a sufficient foundation using the Building Blocks and other benchmark metrics, the Governor will announce that Maryland is moving to this initial recovery stage.

The decisions on what "Low Risk" activities can resume will not be announced in whole as one package, but rather as a phased rollout over a period of time using the White House's recommended gating protocols.

While these first steps might feel slow, they are being made both with the input of business and medical leaders, and also designed to make sure that we are not recklessly exposing Marylanders to undue risk. These initial steps will focus on the broad category of "quality of life" improvements and will involve the lifting of the Governor's "Stay at Home" Order (and transitioning to encouraging a voluntary "Safer-at-Home" guidance).

It is important for Marylanders to realize that these lists are non-exclusive, and subject to change depending upon COVID conditions in the state.



1. Beyond lifting the “Stay-Home” Order, other examples of changes that could be implemented in this stage:
 - a. Small shops and certain small businesses
 - b. Curbside pickup and drop-off for businesses
 - c. Elective medical and dental procedures at ambulatory, outpatient, and medical offices
 - d. Limited attendance outdoor religious gatherings
 - e. Recreational boating, fishing, golf, tennis, hiking, and hunting
 - f. Car washes
 - g. Limited outdoor gym and fitness classes
 - h. Outdoor work with appropriate distancing measures
 - i. Some personal services

2. “Stop Signs”⁴⁰ requiring the easing to slow, stop, or even be reversed:
 - a. An unexpected increase in hospitalizations or a sustained increase in cases requiring intensive care.⁴¹
 - b. Indications that Marylanders are disregarding physical distancing guidelines. If people can maintain physical distancing for this period while we ramp-up testing and contact tracing, we have a much higher chance to open without a spike in cases.
 - c. Significant outbreaks of community transmission (not clusters or outbreaks in particular nursing homes or vulnerable communities) where contact tracing cannot establish the route of the spread. A sustained increase in cases over a period of five or more days may require the reimposition of some prior restrictions.⁴²

B. MEDIUM RISK

This will likely be a longer stage of the initial recovery, but will also be the stage when a large number of businesses and activities come back online. Any businesses that reopen during this period will need to comply with strict physical distancing and appropriate masking requirements. The stage includes numerous steps over many weeks towards recovery.

⁴⁰ Note: The “Stop Signs” are applicable throughout all phases of the recovery roadmap.

⁴¹ Three days of current COVID hospitalization rate percentage increases over the seven-day rolling average of current hospitalizations.

⁴² AEI, *Roadmap*, at 7-8.



This stage also contemplates the Governor again allowing some county health officers and local governments that meet appropriate gating criteria, and acting within parameters set by the Administration, to determine if it is appropriate to resume specified commerce and other activities within their jurisdictions.

Within this Stage, there will be sub-phases with capacity restrictions, again set by the gating protocols.

Examples of changes that could be implemented in this stage:

- a. Raising the cap on social gatherings
- b. Indoor gyms and fitness classes
- c. Childcare centers
- d. Transit schedules begin returning to normal
- e. Indoor religious gatherings
- f. Restaurants and bars with restrictions
- g. Elective and outpatient procedures at hospitals

C. HIGH RISK

These are the more ambitious and long-term goals. There is no realistic timeline yet from any of the scientific experts for achieving this level, as this requires either a widely available and FDA-approved vaccine or safe and effective therapeutics that can rescue patients with significant disease or prevent serious illness in those most at risk to reach a full return to normal conditions.⁴³

Commerce Industry Recovery Advisory Groups will submit “**Safe Reopen Plans**” for each sector of the economy designated as high risk for COVID spread. The plans will be carefully reviewed and vetted by our Maryland Strong Recovery Team to determine if it meets both public health and commerce needs. Like with the medium risk stage, the high risk stage will also have sub-phases with capacity restrictions/gating.

⁴³ AEI, *Roadmap*, at 9.



Examples of changes that could be implemented in this stage:

- a. Larger social gatherings
- b. High-capacity bars and restaurants
- c. Lessened restrictions on visits to nursing homes and hospitals
- d. Entertainment venues
- e. Larger religious gatherings

RESOLUTION NO. 20 - 6

DECLARATION RESTRICTING ALL NON-ESSENTIAL, SHORT-TERM RENTALS IN WEST OCEAN CITY, OCEAN PINES, AND OTHER UNINCORPORATED AREAS IN WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND UNTIL GOVERNOR LARRY HOGAN'S STAY-AT-HOME ORDER TO COMBAT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 IS LIFTED

WHEREAS, in accordance with the March 30, 2020 Stay-At-Home order issued by Maryland Governor Larry Hogan, restricting travel and other non-essential activities to stop the spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), the Worcester County Commissioners have declared that no new occupants for non-essential, short-term rentals in West Ocean City, Ocean Pines, and all other unincorporated areas of Worcester County shall be accepted until the Stay-At-Home order is lifted; and

WHEREAS, initially on March 16, 2020, the Worcester County Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 20-3, declaring an official State of Emergency and enacted the Worcester County Emergency Operations Plan for emergency responses in certain areas of Worcester County, Maryland (the "County") to protect those who live and work in the County throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the President of the County Commissioners of Worcester County, Maryland that in keeping with the intent of this declaration restricting all non-essential, short-term rentals that:

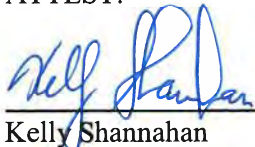
1. Hotels, motels, and other lodging establishments or short-term rental properties (including properties rented directly or through third parties) shall not accept any new occupants regardless of reservation date, or extend any existing reservation for current occupants other than for "Essential Lodgers".
2. Essential Lodgers, as defined by this emergency declaration, include healthcare professionals and/or first responders, patients and patients' families, law enforcement, national guard members, State or federal government employees, journalists, others responding to COVID-19, full-time residents of Worcester County, who, for any reason, are temporarily unable to reside in their primary residential home; or persons who must vacate their homes due to exigent circumstances, such as fire or flood, persons sheltering in hotels due to domestic violence, or hotel employees, service providers, contractors, and individuals who own or are employed by a business organization not closed by Governor Hogan's Order No. 20-03-30-01 and who are engaged in activities directly related to that business or organization.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the President of the County Commissioners of Worcester County, Maryland, that unless terminated earlier by subsequent resolution, this local Declaration shall remain in effect until after termination of the Maryland Governor's state of emergency and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on April 2, 2020.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 1ST day of April, 2020.

ATTEST:



Kelly Shannahan

Assistant Chief Administrative Officer

FOR THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND



Joseph M. Mitrecic, President

RESOLUTION NO. 20 - 3

**DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY
in Worcester County, Maryland for
COVID-19**

WHEREAS, Worcester County, Maryland (the "County") is subject to a variety of hazards or disasters including but not limited to an "emergency" as defined in Section 14-101(c)(1) of the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, all of which have the potential for creating casualties, disrupting the community, and causing damage; and

WHEREAS, as a state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency has been proclaimed on March 5, 2020 by Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland to prevent the spread of COVID-19, there is a need for special preparedness and response for which resources may be required; and

WHEREAS, although the precise impact of COVID-19 is uncertain, Worcester County must take steps to proactively prepare for the potential community transmission of COVID-19 and minimize the threat to public safety and lives of all County residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Worcester County Emergency Operations Plan and Section 14-111 of the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the President of the County Commissioners of Worcester County, Maryland has the authority and responsibility to declare an official State of Emergency and plan for emergency responses in certain areas of the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the President of the County Commissioners of Worcester County, Maryland that:

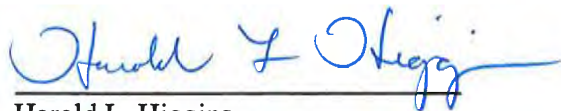
1. A State of Emergency is hereby declared in Worcester County, Maryland.
2. The Worcester County Emergency Operations Plan is hereby activated and shall authorize the provision of aid and assistance under such Plan, as well as facilitate the deployment of the requisite resources.
3. The County Commissioners strongly recommend advanced preparations by all residents and visitors.
4. The County Commissioners strongly recommend that County residents to take the preventive measures identified by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Worcester County Health Department to limit the spread of COVID-19, until such time as this public health crisis ends.
5. The Worcester County Department of Emergency Services and other County departments shall, as appropriate, take steps necessary to protect life and property, public infrastructure, and render other such emergency assistance as deemed necessary.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the President of the County Commissioners of Worcester County, Maryland, that unless terminated earlier by subsequent resolution, this local State of Emergency shall remain in effect until further notice.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 16th day of March, 2020.

ATTEST:

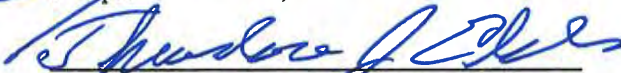


Harold L. Higgins
Chief Administrative Officer

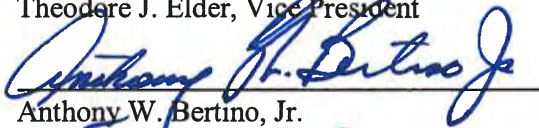
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND



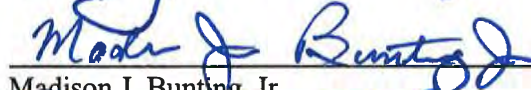
Joseph M. Mitrecic, President



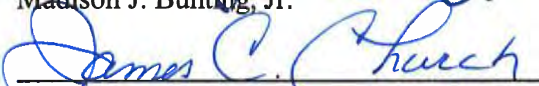
Theodore J. Elder, Vice President



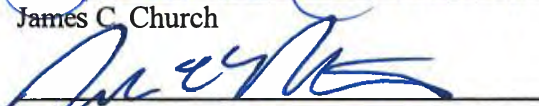
Anthony W. Bertino, Jr.



Madison J. Bunting, Jr.



James C. Church



Joshua C. Nordstrom



Diana Purnell

Weston S. Young

Subject: RE: Reminder of Safety Protocols to Protect Against COVID-19

From: Kelly Shannahan

Sent: Wednesday, April 1, 2020 6:04 PM

To: WC Employees - (for use by County Admin only) <WCEmployees@co.worcester.md.us>

Subject: Reminder of Safety Protocols to Protect Against COVID-19

Reminder of Safety Protocols to Protect Against COVID-19
Call in Sick and Stay at Home if You Have a Fever Over 100.4 Degrees

First of all, let me say **Thank You** to each and every one of you for doing your part to ensure the continuation of County operations in the midst of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Your efforts are truly recognized and sincerely appreciated by the County Commissioners and County Administration.

In the face of this health crisis, it is essential that each of us continues to follow the Safety Protocols which were emailed to all Worcester County Staff Members on March 19, 2020.

First and foremost, **if you are feeling ill**, and especially if you have a fever with a temperature above 100.4 degrees, in addition to contacting your doctor, **it is imperative that you call in sick and STAY AT HOME.**

According to the Worcester County Health Department upon advice of the Maryland Department of Health, "Patients who have clinical symptoms consistent with COVID-19, but who are not tested for COVID-19, should be advised to self- isolate at home until:

- At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
- At least 7 days have passed since symptoms first appeared."

In addition, please be reminded that we all need to continue working together to carry out the following **Safety Protocols** and Health Department directives to prevent each of us from contracting or transmitting COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol if soap and water are not available
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- Spread out as much as possible to maintain social distancing
- Limit in person interaction with personnel from other departments
- Conduct County business over the phone whenever possible, even within your own office
- Please be considerate to any personnel that may have a compromised immune system
- Take your temperature every day
- Stay home while you are sick
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, or cough or sneeze into your arm/elbow.

- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces regularly and especially at the beginning and end of the work day, including commonly touched surfaces like office and refrigerator door handles, and copier control buttons.

Finally, we continue to urge each of you to remain informed by following credible sources, specifically the Worcester County Health Department at <https://worchesterhealth.org/> or the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at <https://www.cdc.gov/> and to develop a personal/family preparedness plan.

Thank you for your cooperation and for all that you do as an integral part of our Worcester County Work Family.

Please Stay Safe and Stay Healthy!

Kelly Shannahan

Assistant Chief Administrative Officer

Worcester County Administration

Room 1103 Government Center

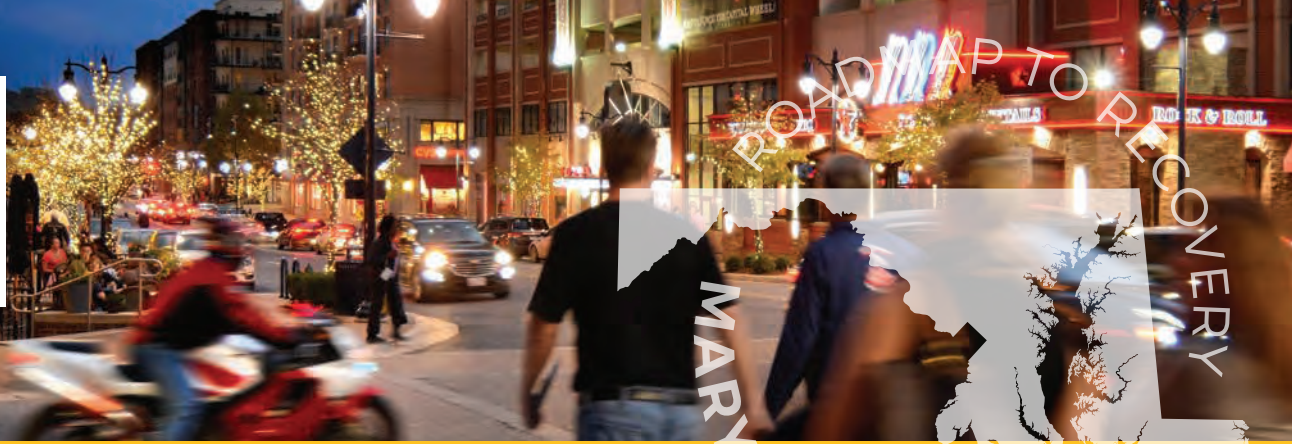
One West Market Street

Snow Hill, MD 21863-1195

410-632-1194

410-632-3131 (fax)

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Best Practices for Businesses to Reopen

GENERAL BUSINESS BEST PRACTICES



OPEN FOR EMPLOYERS

- Prepare your reopening and operating plan according to [CDC guidance](#) and [OSHA guidance](#).
- Prepare your physical facility - for buildings that have not been occupied, check HVAC systems and flush the water system.
- Communicate your COVID-19 policies clearly to everyone, including signage for staff and visitors.
- Arrange visitor and employee spacing and traffic to maintain 6 foot separation wherever possible, and prevent crowding.
- Screen employees for [COVID-19 symptoms](#) at start of work.
- Be aware of employees with [higher risk for severe disease](#) and consider moving them to areas of lower risk.
- Clean and disinfect the facility according to [CDC guidance](#)
- Ensure that sick leave policies are flexible and consistent with State and Federal law.



OPEN FOR EMPLOYEES

- If you are sick, stay home or see a doctor.
- Stay 6 feet from other people (social distancing).
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze, or use a tissue.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces in accordance with CDC guidelines.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use a hand sanitizer.



OPEN FOR VISITORS

- If you are sick, please don't visit us unless you have to.
- Use a face covering at all times (no shirt, no shoes, no face covering, no service).
- Cover your cough or sneeze, or use a tissue.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use a hand sanitizer.
- Stay 6 feet from others (social distancing) wherever possible.
- Please don't crowd.

All Executive Orders still in effect must be complied with. See most up to date orders here: governor.maryland.gov/covid-19-pandemic-orders-and-guidance.

COVID-19 BUSINESS RESOURCES

Check out www.OcVisitor.com – click MEMBERS Tab

RESTAURANTS -- National Restaurant Association <https://restaurant.org/covid19>

CARES Act Summary https://restaurant.org/Covid19_CARES-Act

RE-opening Guidelines - <https://restaurant.org/Articles/News/Association-issues-reopening-guidance>

LODGING - American Hotel & Lodging Association

Stay Safe **Re-opening Guidelines** - <https://www.ahla.com/sites/default/files/SafeStayReport.pdf>

Guidelines Prepared by Cozen O'Connor for the AHLA

https://www.oregonla.org/uploads/9/7/9/8/97983354/reopening_guidelines_for_ahla_members.pdf

After Pandemic: Planning Now for Return to Occupancy Q & A --- great info!

https://www.ahla.com/sites/default/files/ahla_-_webinar_follow_up_questions_and_answers_indexed_0.pdf

Worcester County Health Department Guidelines Returning to Work

[https://ocvisitor.com/media/files/newsletters/Health%20Dept%20Guidelines%20for%20Reporting%20to%20Work%20\(FINAL%20REVISED\)03252020%20\(1\).pdf](https://ocvisitor.com/media/files/newsletters/Health%20Dept%20Guidelines%20for%20Reporting%20to%20Work%20(FINAL%20REVISED)03252020%20(1).pdf)

CDC Guidelines for Cleaning & Safely Reopening

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html?deliveryName=USCDC_10_4-DM27264

Small Business Administration -

Guidance on Economic Injury Disaster Loans & Paycheck Protection Program

<https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources>

Maryland Small Business Development Center Eastern Shore Region

<http://www.mdsbdc.umd.edu/locations/eastern-region>

Worcester County Economic Development Resource Page

<http://chooseworcester.org/covid-resources>

FAQ – Unemployment Insurance -

<https://www.dllr.state.md.us/employment/uicovidfaqs.shtml>

When we reopen, if an employee chooses not to return to work for fear of virus am I required to hold a position for them which I will need to fill immediately?

Here's a reverse question I found concerning someone who didn't want to come to work because of a reasonable risk of COVID I found here:

3. If I decide to leave my employment due to a reasonable risk of exposure or infection of COVID-19 or to care for a family member due to COVID-19, am I eligible for benefits?

If you are not exhibiting any symptoms of coronavirus, COVID-19, and you decide to leave your employment, the Division of Unemployment Insurance recommends that you file a claim for unemployment insurance. You may be determined to be eligible for benefits if the circumstances of your job separation are allowable under Maryland's provisions for good cause and/or just circumstances for voluntarily leaving work, Section 8-1001 of Maryland Unemployment Insurance Law.

With that being said, some employees may not return (for reasonable or unreasonable reasons). In either case, the keyword is "leave," which in this case is voluntarily. In this case, you can fill that position.

How does the employer get you the information about the employee who is refusing to return to work?

[To Report an Employee's Recall to Work or Job Refusal](#)

If an employee refuses a recall to work or an individual refuses an offer of work, you must notify the Division of Unemployment Insurance (DUI) within 15 days after the refusal in order for DUI to consider whether the refusal will affect the individual's benefits. This notification may be sent via email to DLUI-DLLR@maryland.gov. Please include all of the following: date of offer, date of refusal, name and SSN of the individual, your company name and Maryland Unemployment Insurance employer account number.

Restaurant is opening more locations for Curbside Carryout. If we recall workers for part time work- can they get partial unemployment and will they continue to be eligible for the additional \$600.00 per week benefit?

If employees are working all the hours available for them and their gross pay is still less than their weekly benefit amount plus any dependent's allowance (\$430 max benefit amount), employees may be eligible for partial benefits. Employees would need to report their earnings for that week. Any amount they make over \$50 would be deducted from their benefit amount.

DOL Guidance

https://www.journalofaccountancy.com/news/2020/may/sba-ppp-guidance-on-laid-off-employees-refuse-to-be-rehired.html?fbclid=IwAR03tGGeTvgH0ZrmrQfEu-wcWAq1NwNT0dZ-1Q6MwL5EKjkARYJ_gD3yO90

Here is a clear explanation of the Act which indicates how employees qualify to be paid for leave and that you will be reimbursed dollar for dollar for those payments under this Act.

I want to point out that an employee not coming to work because they are fearful of getting the virus is not a qualifying reason under this act and you will not be

required to pay them.

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-employer-paid-leave>

Maryland Business Express

Employer and Worker Assistance, Financial Assistance & Taxes, Business Closure Info

Withholding and admission & amusement taxes for March/April/May can be paid by June 1st.

<https://govstatus.egov.com/md-coronavirus-business>

Additionally, if you can't find an answer, feel free to reach out by sending a message to

Secretary.Commerce@maryland.gov.