

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDER IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Washtenaw County Local Health Officer issues this Order pursuant to the Michigan Public Health Code, MCL 333.2453 as it has been determined that control of the COVID-19 Pandemic is necessary to protect the public health. As evidence for the need for these measures, the State of Michigan is currently under a state of emergency as declared by Governor Whitmer on March 11th and the United States has also been declared as under a national emergency as of March 13th. As of the date of this Order, there are 45 confirmed cases within the State and the number of cases continues to rise, likely now due to community spread and continued person to person contact. In order to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and Washtenaw County Health Department have encouraged social distancing. Placing restrictions on close contact will reduce the number of transmissions of this communicable disease. As such, the Washtenaw County Local Health Officer hereby orders the following to take effect starting at 12:00 p.m. on March 16, 2020 and remain in effect through April 5, 2020:

1. **All Food Service Establishments** licensed by the Washtenaw County Health Department shall reduce occupancy loads by 50% excluding staff. The reduction to 50% occupancy load must also comply with Governor Whitmer's order prohibiting gatherings of 250 people or more.
 - a. Food Service Establishments include but are not limited to restaurants, bars, religious centers, dining and banquet halls, lodges/posts, schools, catering services, private and public clubs.
 - b. Healthcare providers, residential care facilities, shelters, correctional and detention facilities and grocery stores are excluded from this Order.
2. **Entertainment venues** shall reduce occupancy loads by 50% excluding employees. The reduction to 50% occupancy load must also comply with Governor Whitmer's order prohibiting gatherings of 250 people or more. Entertainment venues include but are not limited to theaters, auditoriums, concert halls, conference and convention centers, sporting events, indoor play establishments.
3. **Physical fitness and recreation centers** shall reduce occupancy loads by 50% excluding employees. The reduction to 50% occupancy load must also comply with Governor Whitmer's order prohibiting gatherings of 250 people or more.

Such measures will be enforced, and any violations are subject to citation and penalties as outlined in the Michigan Public Health Code.

March 15, 2020

Date



Jimena Loveluck, MSW
Washtenaw County Health Officer

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