

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDER IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

CAPACITY LIMITATIONS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS

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 it is necessary to protect the public health from further spread of COVID-19 within Washtenaw County.

The Local Health Officer has determined that additional restrictions are necessary to control the Coronavirus pandemic and to protect the public health of Washtenaw County based on the following:

- A communicable disease, Coronavirus, which causes COVID-19 has been identified within Washtenaw County that can be transmitted from person to person.
- In order to control and limit the spread of the Coronavirus, it is necessary to prevent and limit infected people from encountering uninfected people.
- Washtenaw County has reported a total of 3,459 confirmed cases of COVID-19 to date and COVID-19 cases have recently increased in Washtenaw County.
- This Order reduces occupancy load for food service establishments with a Food License in Washtenaw County issued under Michigan's Food Law, 2000 PA 92 (MCL 289.1101 et seq.).

It is hereby ordered that:

- 1. Each food service establishment with a Food License in Washtenaw County issued under Michigan's Food Law, 2000 PA 92 (MCL 289.1101 et seq.) must:**
 - a. Limit capacity to 50% of normal seating.
 - b. Require six feet of separation between parties or groups at different tables or bar tops (e.g., spread tables out, use every other table, remove or put up chairs or barstools that are not in use).
 - c. Require patrons to wear a face covering except when seated at their table or bar top (unless the patron is unable medically to tolerate a face covering).
 - d. Require patrons to remain seated at their tables or bar tops, except to enter or exit the premises, to order food, or to use the restroom.
 - e. Sell alcoholic beverages only via table service, not via orders at the bar except to patrons seated at the bar.
 - f. Prohibit access to common areas in which people can congregate, dance, or otherwise mingle.
 - g. Close waiting areas and ask customers to wait in cars whenever possible, or else outside the restaurant or bar, for a notification when their table is ready. Restaurants and bars should take measures to encourage social distancing among those customers waiting for tables who are not waiting in their cars.
 - h. Close self-serve food or drink options, such as buffets, salad bars, and drink stations.
 - i. Provide physical guides, such as tape on floors or sidewalks and signage on walls to ensure that customers remain at least six feet apart in any lines.
 - j. Post signs at store entrances informing customers not to enter if they are or have recently been sick.
 - k. Post signs instructing customers to wear face coverings until they are seated at their table.

- l. Require hosts, servers, and staff to wear face coverings in the dining area.
- m. Require employees to wear face coverings in the kitchen area when handling food.
- n. Limit shared items for customers (e.g., condiments, menus) and clean high-contact areas after each customer (e.g., tables, chairs, menus, payment tools).
- o. Train employees on:
 - i. Appropriate use of personal protective equipment in conjunction with food safety guidelines.
 - ii. Food safety health protocols (e.g., cleaning between customers, especially shared condiments).
 - iii. How to manage symptomatic customers upon entry or in the restaurant.
- p. Install physical barriers, such as sneeze guards and partitions at cash registers, bars, host stands, and other areas where maintaining physical distance of six feet is difficult.
- q. To the maximum extent possible, limit the number of employees in shared spaces, including kitchens, host stands, break rooms, and offices, to maintain at least a six-foot distance between employees.

2. Healthcare facilities, long term care facilities, and grocery stores are excluded from this Order.

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

This order takes effect immediately and will remain in effect until it is determined by the Washtenaw County Health Officer that the threat to the public's health and lives is no longer present.

This order may be revised as well as supplemented with specific procedures and orders in accordance with the Michigan Public Health Code.

Date: October 5, 2020



Jimena Loveluck, MSW
Health Officer