

JEFFERSON COUNTY WEST VIRGINIA
BOARD OF HEALTH
Order of April 5, 2020

COMES NOW the Jefferson County West Virginia Board of Health, on this Fifth day of April, 2020, and makes the following FINDINGS and ORDER:

Whereas, a National Emergency as well as a State of Emergency has been declared because of the COVID-19 *pandemic*, and;

Whereas, the Jefferson County Board of Health has concluded that COVID-19 is a highly communicable and infectious disease that presents a severe health risk for citizens and visitors of West Virginia because of, among other things, ease of transmission of the disease, and;

Whereas, in an attempt to slow or halt the spread of COVID-19, the Governor of the State of West Virginia has issued Executive Orders pursuant to his authority under West Virginia Code 15-5-6 and related statutes, including Executive Order 9-20 and Executive Order 20-20, and;

Whereas, pursuant to West Virginia Code 16-3-2 and related statutes, and Executive Order 9-20 and Executive Order 20-20, the Jefferson County Board of Health has authority both to restrict public movement of individuals to prevent and contain the spread of COVID-19, and to quarantine or isolate those who are infected or likely infected with COVID-19 due to their exposure or due to symptoms or diagnosis of COVID-19, and;

Whereas, Executive Order 20-20 mandates further action by the Health Departments in the Eastern Panhandle;

The Jefferson County Health Department hereby ORDERS the following additional restrictions to apply to all persons and businesses within the boundary of Jefferson County:

1. All persons shall shelter-in-place to the greatest extent possible, leaving their homes and places of abode for essential purposes only, which purposes shall include but, are not limited to, essential employment at essential businesses and operations (as defined in Executive Order 9-20), the purchase of food and medical/pharmacological products for themselves or other neighbors and family members for whom trips outside the home are not advisable, the care and feeding of livestock and other animals, and medical appointments.
2. Gatherings of people shall be limited to no more than 5 persons and social distancing among people shall be no closer than 6 feet. Engaging in outdoor activity is permitted but shall be restricted as stated in this paragraph.
3. All essential businesses and operations (as defined in Executive Order 9-20) conducted by both private and public employers shall order their employees and/or contractors, to the maximum extent possible, to work from their homes or residences, or to otherwise work remotely.

4. The buildings and employees of Jefferson County government and elected officials shall be subject to the policies established by the Jefferson County Commission. The buildings and employees of the Federal government shall be subject to the policies established by the Federal government.
5. No hotel, motel, bed and breakfast, Airbnb, or other business which normally offers daily/nightly/hourly rentals of rooms to the public may provide such service to any person(s) unless such person(s) agrees to rent such room and shelter in place as described in paragraph 1, above, for a minimum of 14 days. Provided, however, that all such businesses may provide their room services to health care providers upon request.
6. All essential businesses and operations which remain open to the public (as defined in Executive Order 9-20) shall observe protocols to be established, communicated to such entities, and published by the Jefferson County Health Department, which protocols shall include, but shall not be limited to, limiting the number of persons permitted into such business at any one time, based on square-footage. Limits of persons imposed by this Order are as follows: (a) For businesses whose sales are comprised of at least 80% grocery/food products, 2.5 people per each 1000 square feet of interior space may be inside at any one time (b) For all other businesses, 2 persons per 1000 square feet of interior space may be inside at any one time. Social distancing of employees and customers of less than 6 feet is prohibited. In addition, protocols may be imposed by the Board of Health which include sanitation concerns; limits on the number of shopping carts; and, limits on the number of parking spaces available.
7. Failure to comply with any of these or other restrictions ordered during the current health emergency may result in civil and/or criminal penalties as determined by law or separate order which penalties may include fines and/or, in the case of businesses, may result in the closure of the offending business.


The Sheriff of Jefferson County shall assist the employees of the Board of Health in enforcing compliance with this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED. This Order adopted by a majority vote of the Board of Health at a duly called meeting on April 5th, 2020. This Order is effective immediately.

Entered this the 5th day of April, 2020.



John Bresland
Chair, Jefferson County Board of Health



Terrence J. Reidy, M.D., MPH
Jefferson County Health Department

ATTEST:



Jacqueline C. Shadle, Clerk of the County Commission
(SEAL)