

## **PUBLIC NOTICE: CARROLL COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH PASSES AN EMERGENCY ORDER RELATED TO COVID-19**

Message from Tim Padgett, Director of Carroll County Emergency Management

This order is to supplement a Resolution that was voted on earlier this week to add “Sheltering in Place”. This order was made specifically by the CARROLL COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH. We have added some frequently asked questions within this post along with the full Order that should answer any further questions as to what was voted on by the BOARD OF HEALTH. Carroll County wants to remain united in our efforts to continue to flatten the curve of spreading this virus any further. We do not want to instill fear, yet we want to be hopeful that by everyone continuing to do their part of social distancing that there is light at the end of this tunnel sooner rather than later and we will come through this together!

As you will read in the FAQ’s please contact your local municipalities with further questions regarding your home and businesses.

Why are we doing this?

This is a critical intervention to reduce the spread of the coronavirus in Carroll County. The Order is designed to ensure that people self-isolate in their places of residence to the maximum extent feasible, while enabling essential services to continue, in order to slow the spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) to the maximum extent possible. While this news may feel alarming, it is a necessary step to prevent a worsening situation and not overwhelm our healthcare system. The patterns of the virus around the world, and in our own state, tell us that moving right now to maximize social distancing and restrict people gathering is the best way to fight the virus and help ensure that our healthcare networks are not overwhelmed.

What does it mean to “shelter in place?”

The term “shelter in place” means to stay in your home and not leave unless necessary for one of the designated exceptions in the Order. In other words, everyone should stay home to slow the spread of the virus. You should limit your movements to essential outings.

What are some exceptions to the “shelter in place” requirements?

Some reasons you would leave your home are to get food, to get a prescription, to see a doctor, to go to work if your work is considered “essential,” to take your child(ren) to and from childcare, and to help people you care for get the things they need to live and be healthy and safe.

What does social distancing mean?

For purposes of the order, “Social Distancing Requirements” includes:

- o maintaining at least six-foot social distancing from other individuals
- o washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds as frequently as possible or using

hand sanitizer

- o covering coughs or sneezes (into the sleeve or elbow, not hands)
- o regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces, and
- o not shaking hands

How long is the ordinance in effect?

From March 25, 2020 at 12:01 a.m. until April 12, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. unless extended by the BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

Where can I go to see the full ordinance?

The full ordinance is available online at or by clicking the link provided: <https://www.carrollcountyga.com/DocumentCenter/View/3515/FINAL-Carroll-County-Board-of-Health---Shelter-in-Place-3-24-20>

What if I have additional questions that aren't answered here?

Our website <https://www.carrollcountyga.com/718/COVID-19-UPDATE> will be continually updated. We suggest contacting your LOCAL municipalities where you live or own businesses with any additional questions that aren't answered here.

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