

ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER No. C20-6



COUNTY OF LAKE

Health Services Department  
Public Health Division  
922 Bevins Court  
Lakeport, California 95453-9739  
Telephone 707/263-1090  
FAX 707/263-4395



Denise Pomeroy  
Health Services Director

Gary Pace, MD  
Health Officer

Carolyn Holladay, PHN  
Public Health Nursing Director

Iyesha Miller  
Public Health Program Manager

*Promoting an Optimal State of Wellness in Lake County*

ORDER OF THE LAKE COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

REQUIRING MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS  
WHEN ENTERING LOCAL BUSINESSES AND FACILITIES

DATE OF ORDER: May 21, 2020

ORDER No. C20-06

Effective 12:01 a.m. on Thursday May 21, 2020 and will remain in effect until further notice

1. Please read this Order carefully. Violation of or failure to comply with this Order is a misdemeanor punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both.

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040, 101085, AND 120175, THE LAKE COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER (“HEALTH OFFICER”) ORDERS:

2. This Order shall become effective at 12:01 a.m. on Thursday May 21, 2020 and will continue to be in effect until it is rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Local Health Officer or the State Health Officer.
3. California is in a State of Emergency because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a substantial danger to the health of the public within the County of Lake (“County”). COVID-19 can easily spread between persons who are in close contact with one another. This Order is based on scientific evidence and best practices as currently known from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the State of California, and the Lake County Health Officer. This Order is intended to protect vulnerable members of the public from avoidable risk of serious illness or death resulting from exposure to COVID-19.
4. The age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population of the County places it at risk for serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19. Persons have been shown to be infectious up to 48 hours before onset of symptoms, and as many as 50% of infections seem to occur from asymptomatic persons. All persons who contract COVID-19, regardless of their level of symptoms (none, mild, or severe), may place other vulnerable members of the public at significant risk. Currently, there is no vaccine available to protect against COVID-19 and no specific treatment.
5. COVID-19 is highly contagious and is spread through respiratory droplets that are produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of others who are nearby, or can be inhaled into their lungs. COVID-19 has been shown to attach to surfaces for days

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and remain viable in the air for up to three hours after the infected person has left. When properly worn by the user, face coverings have the potential to slow the spread of the virus by limiting the spread of these droplets. Even a small reduction in community transmission could make a major difference to the demand on our healthcare system.

6. This Order is also issued in light of the existence of 707 cases and 29 COVID-19-related deaths in bordering counties. As we move into Stage 2 of the Governor's Roadmap and begin loosening the shelter in place Orders, it becomes necessary to institute other measures to prevent the transmission of the virus in the community, with a particular emphasis on protecting the elderly and those with underlying chronic medical conditions.
7. The Health Officer aligned the County Orders with the Governor's State Orders on May 8, 2020, and has determined this additional Order is necessary to protect the health of the public as the county moves into stages of reopening.
8. This Order is issued in accordance with, and incorporates by reference, Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-33-20 (issued May 19, 2020), directing all Californians to Stay at Home except to engage in essential work or essential activities, except as amended by Executive Order N-60-20 (issued May 4, 2020). Also incorporated herein by reference are the Orders of the State Public Health Officer, Sonia Angell, MD, MPH, dated March 19, 2020, except as amended May 4, 2020, and the California Department of Public Health Face Covering Guidance issued on April 1, 2020;
  - <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Face-Coverings-Guidance.aspx>
9. All persons shall wear face coverings (cloth masks) when entering all local businesses or facilities, for workers and patrons, alike.
10. This Order does not apply to person's private residence or their outdoor space. This Order does not apply when the person is driving alone or with members of their households, unless the windows in the vehicle are lowered to interact with first responders, food service workers, or other persons who are not members of their households. Persons should refrain from purchasing medical-grade masks, such as surgical masks and N95 respirators; those are critical supplies that must continue to be reserved for healthcare workers and other medical first responders coming into contact with infected persons.
11. Face coverings means any fabric or cloth that covers the mouth and nose. The face covering can be made using household items (including scarves, bandanas, t-shirts, sweatshirts, towels, turtlenecks, or other fabric), can be sewn by hand, or factory-made. Further guidance on face coverings could be found here:
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>
  - <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Face-Coverings-Guidance.aspx>
12. Children younger than two (2) must not wear face coverings due to risk of suffocation.
13. Face coverings are not recommended for children under six (6) years of age.
14. People that have medical conditions leading to difficulty breathing with face coverings, and those unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance are exempt. People in this category should obtain a note from their medical provider, excusing them from wearing a face covering.
15. Face coverings are meant to protect the public from the user, in case the user is infected and not yet displaying symptoms. Face coverings are not a substitute for social distancing. Social distancing and

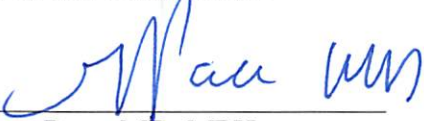


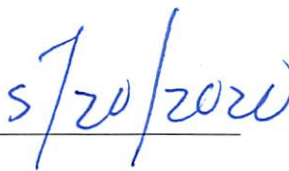
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proper disinfection should continue to be a primary mainstay of prevention strategies.

16. The user should limit touching their face or their face covering, and should wash their hands before applying their face covering, shortly after touching their face covering and after removing their face covering.
17. Face coverings should be frequently washed or sanitized for the health and safety of the user and others. Single-use face coverings must be properly discarded into trash receptacles.
18. A governmental entity, business owner, or operator may, to the extent authorized by law, refuse admission or service to any customer or visitor who fails to wear a face covering.
19. Business includes any for-profit, non-profit, or educational entity, whether a corporate entity, organization, partnership or sole proprietorship, and regardless of the nature of the service, the function it performs, or its corporate or entity structure.
20. Supplemental Local Order: Given the continued State Orders regarding the prohibition of non-essential travel, the County of Lake shall continue to require lodging facilities to apply for and be granted exemptions from the Health Department for lodging of essential workers.
21. The State Orders and roadmap and guidance for business are located at the following sites.  
<https://covid19.ca.gov/stay-home-except-for-essential-needs/#top>  
<https://covid19.ca.gov/roadmap/>  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>.
22. The Health Officer will continue to assess this quickly evolving situation; this Order is subject to review and further amendment after the Governor issues further guidance or upon any substantive changes to the State Stay at Home Order, or as conditions change in Lake County.
23. Copies of Order. Copies of this Order shall promptly be: (1) made available at the County of Lake Public Health Office, 922 Bevins Court, Lakeport, California, 95453; (2) posted on the Lake County Public Health Department website and (3) provided to any member of the public requesting a copy of this Order.
24. Severability. If any provision of this Order or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.

**IT IS SO ORDERED:**

  
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Gary Pace, MD, MPH

  
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Date

Health Officer, County of Lake