



HOWELL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

HOWELL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT IN COOPERATION WITH THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SENIOR SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Public Health Emergency Order for Howell County, Missouri
Updated guidelines for restaurants and public gatherings

HOWELL COUNTY, MO (March 30, 2020) – Howell County Health Department Director, Chris Gilliam – in consultation with the Howell County Health Department Board of Trustees – today issued a public health emergency order in alignment with the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) latest COVID-19 guidance.

Effective 12:01 a.m. on March 30, 2020 until 12:01 a.m. on April 13, 2020:

- All restaurants, dining facilities, bars, taverns, clubs are to be closed to the public. Establishments may continue to provide curbside, drive-through and delivery services.
- All large public gatherings of more than ten (10) people are prohibited. Exceptions include governmental and judicial functions, healthcare facilities and private business operations.

As of today, Howell County has no confirmed cases of COVID-19. We are continuously monitoring the evolving situation and working to ensure our community is prepared.

To reduce risk and prevent the spread of COVID-19, continue to follow these basic preventative measures:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Stay home if you are sick
- Cover coughs and sneezes using your elbow or shoulder rather than your hands
- Clean and disinfect high-touched surfaces frequently

If you suspect that you have COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, call your healthcare provider to let them know before seeking care. It is critical that your provider is aware you may have COVID-19 prior to your arrival at a healthcare facility, and that you follow all instructions for arriving at a healthcare facility.

For more information please visit the Department of Health & Senior Services website at:
<https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/>

Chris Gilliam
Director