

DIRECTIVE OF FALLON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus a pandemic, which is a threat to the residents of Montana and Fallon County;

WHEREAS, the CDC identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as "high" and has advised that person-to-person spread of the COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States, Montana, and Fallon County;

WHEREAS, proactively implementing mitigation and containment measures to slow the spread of the virus is in the best interests of Fallon County and its people;

WHEREAS, Fallon County Health Officer has the duty to protect the public from the introduction and spread of communicable disease or other conditions of public health importance;

WHEREAS, Fallon County's Health Officer has determined that the potential spread of COVID-19 constitutes a public health emergency and actions must be taken to avert and minimize the outbreak of this communicable disease;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 50-2-118 of the Montana Code Annotated, a local health officer in carrying out the purpose of the public health system shall take steps to limit contact between people in order to protect the public health from imminent threats, including but not limited to ordering the closure of buildings or facilities where people congregate and cancelling events; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Title 50, Chapter 2, Part 1, and specifically Section 50-2-118 of the Montana Code Annotated, to curtail the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in Fallon County, the Fallon County Public Health Officer provides the following directive:

Effective at 5 pm MST on Sunday, March 22, 2020 for a period of time up to and through midnight March 27, 2020:

The following businesses are closed to ingress, egress, use, and occupancy by members of the public:


- Restaurants, food courts, cafes, coffeehouses, and other similar establishments offering food or beverage for on-premises consumption;
- Alcoholic beverage service businesses, including bars, taverns, brew pubs, breweries, microbreweries, and other establishments offering alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption;
- Health clubs, health spas, gyms, aquatic centers, pools, fitness studios, and indoor recreational facilities;
- Bowling alleys;
- Salons, barber shops, massage and other similar establishments offering one-on-one type services; and
- City, county & school parks and playgrounds, including the skate & splash park;

The businesses subject to this Directive are permitted and encouraged to offer food and beverage using delivery service, window service, walk-up service, drive-through service, or drive-up service, and to use precautions in doing so to mitigate the potential transmission of COVID-19, including social distancing.

Food service establishments that serve a population that depends on it as one of its sole sources of food, such as cafeterias in hospital and care facilities, may continue to operate using necessary-only personnel.

This Directive is effective at 5:00 p.m. Sunday, March 22, 2020 until 11:59 p.m. Friday, March 27, 2020 or further notification.

Dated this 22nd day of March, 2020.



DR. DARRYL ESPELAND
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER FOR FALLON COUNTY, MONTANA