



COUNTY OF DEL NORTE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
400 L Street
Crescent City, California 95531
(707) 464-0861 - Fax (707) 465-6701

Heather Snow, Director
Warren Rehwaldt, M.D., Health Officer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 5/15/2020

SUBJECT: Order of the Public Health Officer Implementing the
County's State-approved Stage 2 Variance

Del Norte County, by Declaration dated March 17, 2020 and ratified by the Board of Supervisors on March 20, 2020, declared a Local Health Emergency in Del Norte County to help ensure adequate capacity to address the imminent threat of a community transmission phase of COVID-19 to citizens of Del Norte County.

Further, the Governor of the State of California declared a State of Emergency for the entire state on March 4, 2020 finding that COVID-19 has created a threat to public health and safety, and the President of the United States signed a proclamation declaring a National Emergency concerning the COVID -19 outbreak on March 13, 2020.

On March 19, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order N-33-20, which directed all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of the federal critical infrastructure sectors.

On May 7, 2020, the State Health Officer modified the stay home order to allow local health jurisdictions to begin gradual movement into the second stage of the State's four-stage plan to reopen the State. The State is progressively designating sector that may reopen, with corresponding guidance for each sector. Local health jurisdictions may move through Stage 2 more quickly if they meet certain criteria.

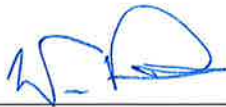
To the extent that a particular sector is re-opened, Californians may leave their homes to work at, patronize, or otherwise engage with those businesses, establishments, and activities and must, when they do so, continue at all times to practice physical distancing, minimize their time out outside the home, and wash their hands frequently.

On May 15, 2020, Del Norte County's plan to move through Stage 2 was approved by the State. In order to implement that plan, the Public Health Officer makes the following orders:

1. All persons should carry facial coverings on their person whenever in any public place.
 - a. All persons should wear facial coverings before they enter any indoor facility besides their residence, any enclosed open space, or while outdoors when the person is unable to maintain a six-foot distance from another person at all times.
 - b. All persons must wear facial coverings when interacting with other members of the public or with employees of a business.
 - c. All employees who interact with the public must wear facial coverings.
 - d. 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. Facial coverings mean any fabric or cloth that covers the mouth and nose without holes. The facial covering can be made using household items (including scarves, bandanas, t-shirts, sweatshirts, towels, turtlenecks, or other fabric), and can be sewn by hand, or factory-made.
 - e. Facial coverings should not be used on children under the age of 2 years or on anyone who has breathing problems or is unconscious or incapacitated. Individuals who are unable to remove their facial covering without assistance should not be masked. Children under 12 years of age are not required to be masked but are strongly encouraged to do so.
 - f. Facial coverings are meant to protect the public from the user in case the user is infected and not yet displaying symptoms. Facial coverings are not a substitute for social distancing.
 - g. More guidance regarding face coverings can be found at:
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Face-Coverings-Guidance.aspx>
2. Except those workers employed in essential sectors, as defined by N-33-20, all persons age 65 or older, and those under the age of 65 who have elevated risk, should continue to shelter in place. Information about what constitutes "elevated risk" can be found at:
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID19/PublicHealthGuidanceSelfIsolationforOlderAdultsandThoseWhoHaveElevatedRisk.aspx>
3. Non-essential travel is strongly discouraged. 14 day self-quarantine is advised for those traveling from beyond the immediately adjacent counties. Information about travel from the CDC can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-in-the-us.html>
4. Every business that opens must follow all sector-specific guidance, which may be found at: <https://covid19.ca.gov/industry-guidance/>
5. Prior to opening, every business must complete and submit the Business-Specific COVID-19 Operations Plan form, which may be found at: <http://www.co.del-norte.ca.us/departments/health-human-services/public-health/public-health-programs/communicable-diseases/novel-coronavirus/roadmap-to-recovery>
 - a. A business that has submitted its COVID-19 Operations Plan may "self-certify" that it is ready to open, and open its location pending approval by

the Public Health Department. A self-certified business must place the Self-Certification Window Placard in its window. The Self-Certification Window Placard may be found at: <http://www.co.del-norte.ca.us/departments/health-human-services/public-health/public-health-programs/communicable-diseases/novel-coronavirus/roadmap-to-recovery>

- b. After Public Health has reviewed the COVID-19 Operations Plan and has approved, the business will be contacted by Public Health or by a representative of Public Health. It is unknown at this point how long the review process will take. A certificate will be given to the business, stating that the business's COVID-19 Operations Plan has been approved and that the location is certified to open and has met all requirements of COVID-19 transmission mitigation.
6. Businesses that may self-certify to reopen upon submitting the COVID-19 Operations Plan are follows:
- a. Medical Offices: Elective surgeries may resume service under the advised guidelines and current recommendations from CDC and CDPH.
 - b. Clothing Stores: Clothing-thrift stores, and fashion stores can reopen with limits on customers per hour, with social distancing in lines and entrances. In-store fittings would be discouraged, and home fittings that are returned would be shelved for a minimum of 3 days. Thrift donations should be set aside and "aged" at normal temperature and humidity for at least 5 days to avoid persistent virus contamination.
 - c. Furniture: Furniture stores can re-open with appointment only and social distance-no sales from the floor; warehouse only, unless a floor item can be held in the warehouse for at least 5 days.
 - d. Auto dealers: Auto dealers may resume sales, with appointments only and social distancing design of offices and showrooms. Social distance rules to be applied both inside and outside.
 - e. Daycare: Daycare can resume with protective masks for staff. Recommend smallest management groups in shared space, with child group cohorts.
 - f. Parks: Golf courses, non-congregate portions of public parks and trails may open, but services are limited and social distancing strictly maintained.
 - g. Offices: Office-based businesses may reopen, though telework is strongly encouraged.
 - h. Landscape gardening
 - i. Pet-grooming
 - j. Tanning facilities
 - k. In-restaurant dining
7. This order is expected to be modified to allow more business to reopen on June 3, 2020, but may be accelerated or delayed as circumstances warrant.
8. All prior orders not in conflict with the order shall remain in effect.
9. This Order may be modified, rescinded or extended by authority of the County Public Health Officer in consultation with the County of Del Norte.



Warren Rehwaldt, Public Health Officer