



April 20, 2020

Currently, the best defense against the coronavirus is to stay home as much as possible and we, as a health department, will continue to advise our residents to do so. However, we also know that getting the community back to work is important. In order to slowly achieve a balance between work and the health of our residents, The Lawrence County Commission in conjunction with the Lawrence County Health Department has decided to make the following adjustments.

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY: Businesses in Lawrence County that had previously been deemed as non-essential, can now operate under the guidelines listed under the Governor's order found at <https://governor.mo.gov/priorities/stay-home-order>.

At this time, restaurants can still ONLY be open for delivery, drive-thru, or carryout services. The bullet points below highlight the guidelines for non-essential businesses.

****Caution: It is extremely important for non-essential businesses to follow the bulleted guidelines below. By only allowing a small number of customers in your establishment at a time, this will help to control and manage the spread of coronavirus in the community. If a spike in the number of cases and community spread is detected it may be necessary to pull back and re-evaluate. Also, if guidelines are not followed, your business will not be able to operate.**

Non-Essential Businesses:

- **No more than 10 individuals can occupy a single space. This includes both employees and customers.**
- **Individuals must also maintain at least 6 feet of distance between themselves and others.**

- Employees must also practice good hygiene and sanitation to limit the spread of COVID-19.
- Businesses are also encouraged to allow individuals, where feasible, to work from home to achieve optimum isolation.
- Shoppers at all stores (non-essential AND essential) are also encouraged, when possible, to limit the number of people shopping in stores to 1 person per household at any one time. This will better enable all families to access goods and further reduce the number of individuals necessary to access such goods.

Reminders for essential business:

Essential Businesses:

- Shoppers at all retail stores are encouraged, when possible, to limit the number of people shopping in stores to 1 person per household at any one time. This will better enable all families to access necessary goods in grocery stores, and further reduce the number of individuals necessary to access such goods.
- Workers onsite should take all necessary precautions to reduce the transmission of COVID-19, including practicing social distancing except when performance of job duties require otherwise.
- Workplaces that qualify as essential under CISA guidelines and are engaged in retail sales to the public must limit the number of customers in each retail location to the following standards based on the workplace's fire or building code occupancy:

Since Lawrence County doesn't have fire or building code occupancy limitations, the following guidelines are to be used:

For a business with a retail location less than 10,000 square feet:

A. Building Square Feet divided by 30 = Quotient

B. Quotient x .25 = Occupancy Limit

For a business with the retail location of 10,000 square feet or more:

A. Building Square Feet divided by 30 = Quotient

B. Quotient x .10 = Occupancy Limit

Examples:

A 40,000 square foot grocery store would be able to have 133 customers in the store at any one time.

An 8,000 square foot retail store would be able to have 66 customers in the store at any one time.

Other reminders about the order:

HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF THINGS YOU CAN DO UNDER THIS ORDER:

- **Go to grocery, convenience, or warehouse stores**
- **Go to the pharmacy to pick up medications and other healthcare necessities**
- **Go to medical appointments (check with your doctor or provider first)**
- **Go to a restaurant for take-out, delivery, or drive-thru**
- **Go to a place of worship – just make sure that no more than 10 people are in any single space at one time and keep 6 feet of distance between you and others. (Virtual or “drive- in” services are still highly encouraged per health department.)**
- **Take a walk, ride your bike, hike, fish, hunt, golf and be in nature for exercise – just keep six feet of distance between you and others**
- **Receive deliveries from any business which delivers**

INDIVIDUALS SHALL NOT DO THE FOLLOWING THINGS:

- **Visit state office buildings that are closed to the public**
- **Stand closer than 6 feet of distance from others**
- **Visit loved ones in nursing homes, long term care facilities, and assisted living homes, unless you are providing critical assistance**

***City parks will continue to keep park playground equipment and certain spaces off limits that have the potential to transmit coronavirus on surfaces or between groups.**

The Order will be re-evaluated before it expires on May 3rd to make sure it does not need to be restricted, changed or extended.