

NOTICE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER 20-001 CLOSING BARS, RESTAURANTS, THEATERS, CASINOS, AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

The Jefferson County Public Health (JCPH) is working to stop the spread of coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). To support this effort, in conjunction with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), I find it necessary to implement emergency measures to close down certain facilities in Jefferson County, Colorado in an effort to protect and preserve the public health.

FINDINGS

1. COVID-19 was first detected in Wuhan, China in late 2019, and since then has spread to over 60 countries, including the United States. As of March 18, 2020, there are 183 known presumptive positive cases of COVID-19 state-wide in Colorado, and 23 known presumptive positive cases in Jefferson County, Colorado.

2. COVID-19 is a respiratory illness transmitted like other respiratory illness through person-to-person contact or by contact with surfaces contaminated with the virus. Persons infected with COVID-19 may become symptomatic anywhere from two to fourteen days after exposure. Symptoms include fever, cough or shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. Individuals with serious chronic health conditions and older adults are most at risk for becoming very ill with this disease.

3. On March 10, 2020, the Governor of Colorado declared a State of Emergency relating to the presence of COVID-19.

4. On March 13, 2020, the Chairman of the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners declared a COVID-19 Local Disaster Emergency, which was extended by the full Board of County Commissioners through Resolution CC20-055 on March 16, 2020, until April 16, 2020, unless sooner amended, extended, or rescinded by the Board.

5. On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency due to COVID-19.

6. A significant number of Coloradans, including Jefferson County residents, are at risk of serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19. A large surge in the number of persons with serious infections can compromise the ability of the healthcare system to deliver necessary healthcare to the public. Colorado is experiencing a rapid increase in COVID-19 transmission that threatens the health of residents and risks overwhelming the healthcare system in Colorado, including Jefferson County.

7. Pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 25-1-506(3)(b) and 25-1-509(1)(c), this Public Health Order imposes the following restrictions in Jefferson County, Colorado that JCPH finds necessary for the protection of public health:

- a. CDPHE's Public Health Order 20-22 is incorporated herein, as well as any subsequent modifications to Public Health Order 20-22 and any additional public health orders issued by CDPHE or the Governor of Colorado relating to COVID-19;
- b. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has issued general recommendations on social distancing and imposing limitations on large events to avoid the spread of COVID-19. See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/index.html>. This Order incorporates and adopts the limitations on events recommended by the CDC, as well as any subsequent modifications to such guidelines.
- c. In addition to CDPHE and CDC orders and guidelines identified above, all County-owned or operated public buildings are closed to ingress, egress, use and occupancy by members of the public and County employees without prior supervisor approval, with the following limited exceptions:
 - i. County buildings utilized for law enforcement or public health purposes;
 - ii. Authorized vendors as approved by the County Manager or his designee;

- iii. State courts in the First Judicial District located at 100 Jefferson County Parkway, Golden, Colorado, whose operations are directed by the Chief Judge of the First Judicial District;
- iv. County buildings leased by any State entity, whose operations are directed by the Governor of Colorado and his appointees;
- v. The Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport; and
- vi. Jefferson County Open Space Parks, including restrooms, will remain open (subject to muddy trail and wildlife closures). The Lookout Mountain Nature Center and Hiwan Museum are closed for the duration of this Order.

Along with CDPHE, JCPH is tasked with protecting the health and welfare of the citizens of Jefferson County by investigating and controlling cases of epidemic and communicable disease. This Order is necessary to control any potential transmission of disease to others. Immediate issuance of this Order is necessary for the preservation of public health, safety, or welfare.

This Order is in effect from March 18, 2020, at 5:00 p.m., and continuing until midnight on April 16, 2020, unless earlier amended, extended, or rescinded by the Director of JCPH.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER IS SUBJECT TO PENALTIES CONTAINED IN C.R.S. § 25-1-114.1 and 25-1-516, INCLUDING A FINE OF UP TO ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND IMPRISONMENT IN THE COUNTY JAIL FOR UP TO ONE YEAR.



Mark B. Johnson, MD, MPH
Executive Director
Jefferson County Public Health

March 18, 2020
Date