

STATEMENT & FAQ REGARDING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDER

SHORT RECAP:

The City of Coeur d'Alene has issued a Public Health Emergency Order on March 21, 2020 restricting restaurants and bars to curbside take-out, drive-through food service, pick up service and delivery. This order took effect Monday, March 23, for 14 days. Where possible, electronic payment is encouraged and guidelines for handling cash payments are included.

LONGER EXPLANATION:

The cities of Coeur d'Alene, Hayden, Post Falls, and Rathdrum have taken steps to close restaurants and bars to reduce person-to-person transmission of COVID-19 and combat the spread of the disease. On March 21, all four cities passed ordinances granting emergency powers to the Mayors during a public health emergency.

All four Mayors have ordered the closure of restaurants and bars to dine in service beginning at 12 a.m., Monday March 23, 2020 for 14 days unless extended, terminated or modified.

During this time all bars, taverns, nightclubs, private liquor clubs, taprooms, tasting rooms, mobile bars, cabarets and saloons, as well as all other alcohol licenses premises for by the glass sales of alcoholic beverages, shall close to members, guests, patrons, customers and general public.

All restaurants and dine-in food service, whether inside or outside the establishment, is prohibited. This includes coffee shops, cafes, private dining clubs, and cafeterias that give or offer for sale food to the public, guests or employees. These establishments may only admit members, guests, patrons or customers to pick up food for takeout. Curbside take-out, drive-through food service and food trucks are also permitted.

The order is also encouraging the use of non-cash payment options.

The order does not apply to emergency overnight or day shelters that provide food service to persons experiencing homelessness, grocery stores and gas stations.

FAQS

Q – WHAT IS THE PENALTY FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THIS ORDER?

A – Non-compliance with this order is a misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of \$1,000 or by imprisonment for up to 6 months, or by both a fine and imprisonment.

Q – ARE BEAUTY SALONS INCLUDED IN THE ORDER?

A – Beauty salons are not included in the order, but salons providing drinks would not be able to provide alcoholic drinks to their customers. Salons might also find it difficult to perform their duties while adhering to CDC guidelines. The City strongly encourages all non-essential businesses to adhere to the CDC guidelines and voluntarily close if they are unable to do so.

Q – IS IT OKAY FOR BEER TO BE PICKED UP CURBSIDE?

A – Yes, this is permitted under this order and under current city regulations.

Q – WHAT ABOUT OTHER BUSINESSES THAT CAN'T MEET SOCIAL DISTANCING?

A – Some businesses might also find it difficult to perform their duties while adhering to CDC guidelines. The City strongly encourages all non-essential businesses to adhere to the CDC guidelines and voluntarily close if they are unable to do so.

Q – I WOULD LIKE TO FORMALLY COMMENT ON THE ORDER. IS THERE A WAY FOR ME TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE OR SUBMIT A WRITTEN COMMENT?

A – The City has an on-line Citizen Feedback form on our City's Homepage that is located on the left-hand side bottom of the page. Please fill out the form and your comments will be directed to the appropriate department. Under the drop down box for departments is a specific option for COVID-19. The direct link is <https://www.cdaid.org/Forms/EmailForm/4> .

Q – WHAT IS THE LIKELIHOOD OF THE 14-DAY CLOSURE BEING EXTENDED?

A – The City will continue to monitor all federal and local guidance related to COVID-19 and combatting the spread of the virus and make adjustments as recommended. While the order is written specific to 14 days, the City must consider the threat that COVID-19 poses to the health and welfare of the residents of Coeur d’Alene. By reducing person-to-person contact, the risk of community spread of this infectious disease is significantly reduced and saves lives.

Q – WHY ARE CITY SERVICES, SUCH AS THE LIBRARY AND OTHER BUILDINGS, BEING SHUT DOWN TO THE PUBLIC?

A – The City has made this decision following federal and local guidance related to COVID-19 and combatting the spread of the virus. The City must consider the threat that COVID-19 poses to the health and welfare of the residents and employees of Coeur d’Alene. By reducing person-to-person contact, the risk of community spread of this infectious disease is significantly reduced and saves lives.