



# Monongalia County Health Department

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[www.monchd.org](http://www.monchd.org)

## MONONGALIA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ORDER TO WEAR MASK OR FACE COVERING IN PUBLIC.

Effective immediately, Monongalia County Health Department is recommending that all citizens wear a mask or face covering while out in public. It remains of the utmost importance to follow the Governor's Order to stay at home and practice social distancing.

Infected people with or without symptoms of illness may spread this virus by simply breathing, talking, singing, or yelling. All these actions will create aerosols of tiny airborne virus particles that can float suspended in air for three hours. Because people may not be effectively covering their sneezes and coughs, masks and facial coverings are more important to protect the public and each other from this disease.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also says to wear a mask or face covering in public, especially at places where people congregate, including stores, and public transportation. What citizens of Monongalia County do now will have huge impact on how we fare from this pandemic in the next few weeks.

For additional information as well as instructions on making masks at home go to:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

To be effective, cloth face coverings should:

- fit snugly but comfortably against sides of face
- secured with ties or ear loops
- be made of multiple layers of fabric
- allow for breathing without restriction
- be laundered and dried without damage or change to shape

Lee B. Smith, MD, JD  
Executive Director & County Health Officer

This Health Department Order is effective immediately upon signing. April 07, 2020