



Monongalia County Health Department

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www.monchd.org

Monongalia County Health Department Ordinance

Monongalia County requests all businesses licensed in the county comply with wearing masks in public. A face shield may be substituted for those who cannot wear a mask for medical reasons.

Monongalia County Health Department is legislatively mandated to prevent disease, protect the public, and promote community health. The County Health Officer is sworn to enforce public health laws and rules necessary to prevent and control the spread of communicable or reportable diseases dangerous to the public health. WV Code §16-2-12.

During this Covid-19 pandemic and during this State of Emergency as declared by the Governor, Monongalia County Health Department believes that working with local businesses to help insure proper social distancing, frequent hand washing, and appropriate mask wear is the best way to prevent the spread of this highly infectious and sometimes fatal disease.

Therefore, beginning with 12 Midnight Wednesday morning July 15, 2020: any business that serves the public, that is identified as having three new cases of Covid-19 in staff and/or patrons will be required to close and do a deep clean before our inspection and reopening.

After that, if an additional three individuals are diagnosed with Covid-19 after the reopening, the site would again be required to close, undergo another deep cleaning, and a quarantine for 14 days before our inspection and reopening.

After that, if yet another three individuals are diagnosed with Covid-19 at the same site, following quarantine and second reopening, then that business would then remain closed until such a time as deemed safe by the Health Officer. Such reopening will occur when sufficient corrections have been made to warrant removal of any restrictions or limitations placed on an individual or entity for public health purposes. As authorized under WV Code §16-2-13(b)(5).

Monongalia County Health Department monitors complaints against businesses including not adequately enforcing the Governor's mask order or other Safe Start requirements. Complaints, including those made anonymously, may result in a Health Department inspection to validate the complaint. Any person who willfully obstructs a local health officer, public health nurse, sanitarian or any other person charged with enforcement of any public health law, in the performance of that person's legal duties in enforcing the law, is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$50 and not more than \$500. WV Code §16-2-15.

Lee B. Smith, MD, JD, FACEP

Monongalia County Health Department
Executive Director & County health Officer