

City-County Board of Health for Lincoln County

418 Mineral Ave
Libby, MT 59923



ORDER OF THE LINCOLN COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER March 23, 2020

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus a pandemic;

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is a new strain of Coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person-to-person;

WHEREAS, as of March 19, 2020, the United States Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicates there are over 10,400 cases and 150 deaths in the United States;

WHEREAS, the CDC identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as "high" and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States, Montana, and Lincoln County;

WHEREAS, all states in the United States are experiencing confirmed cases of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) recognizes COVID-19 as a threat to the residents of Montana;

WHEREAS, as of March 22, 2020, there are 34 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Montana;

WHEREAS, there are confirmed cases of COVID-19 in neighboring states and counties frequented by the people of Lincoln County;

WHEREAS, Lincoln County has declared a state of emergency related to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, proactively implementing mitigation measures to slow the spread of the virus is in the best interests of Lincoln County and its people;

WHEREAS, the population of Lincoln County includes an elevated number (>3,000) of vulnerable individuals with moderate to severe asbestos-related pulmonary disease;

WHEREAS, the circumstances of this outbreak may exceed the capacity of healthcare resources of Lincoln County, including services, personnel, equipment, and supplies located here;

WHEREAS, based on all of the above, the Governor of the State of Montana, in consultation with public health authorities, has issued a directive to prohibit any number of people from congregating in certain public venues to limit opportunities for disease exposure and transmission in the state;

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WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 50-2-116(g) of the Montana Code Annotated, in order to carry out the purposes of the public health system, the City-County Board of Health for Lincoln County shall protect the public from the introduction and spread of communicable disease;

WHEREAS, the City-County Board of Health for Lincoln County has determined that the potential spread of COVID-19 constitutes an emergency and an imminent threat to public health and actions must be taken to avert and minimize the outbreak of this communicable disease;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 50-2-118 of the Montana Code Annotated, a local health officer in carrying out the purpose of the public health system shall take steps to limit contact between people in order to protect the public health from imminent threats, including but not limited to ordering the closure of buildings or facilities where people congregate and cancelling events;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to Title 50, Chapter 2, Part 1, and specifically Section 50-2-118 of the Montana Code Annotated, effective 8:00 p.m. March 23, 2020

- 1) The following places are closed to ingress, egress, use, and occupancy by members of the public:
 - a. Restaurants, food courts, cafes, coffeehouses, and other similar establishments offering food or beverage for on-premises consumption.
 - b. Alcoholic beverage service businesses, including bars, taverns, brew pubs, breweries, microbreweries, distilleries, wineries, tasting rooms, special licensees, clubs, and other establishments offering alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption.
 - c. Cigar bars.
 - d. Health clubs, health spas, gyms, aquatic centers, pools and hot springs, indoor facilities at ski areas, climbing gyms, fitness studios, and indoor recreational facilities.
 - e. Movie and performance theaters, nightclubs, concert halls, bowling alleys, bingo halls, and music halls.
 - f. Casinos.
- 2) The places subject to this Directive are permitted and encouraged to offer food and beverage using delivery service, window service, walk-up service, drive-through service, or drive-up service, and to use precautions in doing so to mitigate the potential transmission of COVID-19, including social distancing. Customers may order and pay by telephone or online from a retailer or manufacturer licensed to sell alcoholic beverages in the State of Montana. A retailer or manufacturer licensed to sell alcoholic beverages in the state of Montana may deliver for sale the alcoholic beverages for which it is licensed. Delivery must be conducted by the licensee's employees over the age of 21 and age of the purchaser and recipient must be verified at the time of delivery. The purchased alcohol must be hand-delivered to the purchaser.
 - a. In offering food or beverage, a place subject to this section may permit up to five members of the public at one time inside for the purpose of picking up their food or beverage orders, so long as those individuals are at least six feet apart from one another while on premises.

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- 3) The restrictions imposed by this order do not apply to any of the following:
 - a. Establishments that offer food and beverage not for on-premises consumption, including grocery stores, markets, convenience stores, pharmacies, drug stores, and food pantries, other than those portions of the establishments restricted above.
 - b. Room service in hotels.
 - c. Health care facilities, residential care facilities, university dining facilities, congregate care facilities, and juvenile justice facilities.
 - d. Crisis shelters or similar institutions.
 - e. Airport concessionaires.
 - f. Military dining facilities or military food operations.
 - g. Any facilities necessary for the response to the emergency, including schools providing necessary meal services to children.
 - h. All of the above-named facilities and establishments should adopt appropriate social distancing practices to avoid the spread of disease, to the extent practicable.
- 4) Violations of this rule shall be punishable pursuant to Sections 50-2-123 & 124 Montana Code Annotated.
- 5) This order is in place until 11:59 p.m. on March 27, 2020 though it may be extended or modified.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Black MD".

Dr. Brad Black MD
Lincoln County Health Officer

3-23-20

Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jan Iyers".

Jan Iyers
Chair
City-County Board of Health for Lincoln County

03/23/2020

Date