Received HANCOCK COUNTY, WV 04-06-2020 01:42 pm,



PO Box 578 New Cumberland WV 304-564-3343/fax 304-564-3410 www.HancockCountyHealthDepartment.com

Pursuant to WV GOVERNOR JIM JUSTICE, EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.9-20, March 24, 2020

WV Code §15-5-6 authorizes that Governor to, control ingress and egress to and from an area where large-scale threat exists, the movement of persons within the area and the occupancy of premises therein.

CDC and WV Department of Health and Human Resources recommend the public practice social distancing, meaning staying home whenever possible and otherwise maintaining a six feet distance from other individuals, to minimize the transmission of COVID-19.

Essential businesses remaining open will need to reduce operations to ensure minimum contact with members of the public and essential employees these businesses must always require proper social distancing.

It is the duty of every West Virginian to practice proper social distancing and to comply with these measures in order to protect our people, our families, and each other, against this terrible epidemic.

WV Code §16-2-11(a)(10) Local Boards of Health are authorized to enforce public health laws of this state.

WV Code §16-2-13 requires the county health officer to take an oath of office and is required to administer laws of this state.

Because the state of West Virginia and Hancock County is observing a continued increase in Corona virus (COVID-19) cases, and because many individuals are shedding this virus and are considered infections without experiencing symptoms, actions should be taken to limit community spread.

Because the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (PA) has a higher rate of Corona virus infection in its citizens than West Virginia and because state- owned liquor stores in PA were closed by their Governor on March 16 due to the coronavirus pandemic, it has been observed that due to the proximity of Pennsylvania to Hancock County and Northern West Virginia, many people are patronizing stores that sell spirits and hard liquors. As a means of diminishing any increase of Corona virus in Hancock County from individuals arriving from out of state, it is the recommendation of Hancock County Health Department and its Health Officer that all sales of alcoholic liquor and spirits including but not limited to vodka, gin, tequila, rum, bourbon, rye, whiskey, scotch, cognac, and brandy, in every free-standing liquor retail outlet, state liquor store, or agency (e.g., grocery or drug store) in Hancock County be limited to only West Virginia residents.

Therefore, Hancock County Health Department requires observance of the following conditions for protection of citizens and visitors of West Virginia and Hancock County, effective this day, April 06, 2020 at 12:00 noon until rescinded:

All free- standing liquor retail outlet, state liquor store, or agency (e.g., grocery or drug store) in Hancock County liquor stores, retail outlets, or other merchants with specifically designated sections of stores involved in the sale of spirits and hard liquors must abide by these measures at the date and time listed above.

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Post signage notifying any and all customers that sales are restricted to W.Va. Residents only.

Having only essential employees during working hours.

Maintaining a distance of six feet between customers and staff at all times, using floor markings or tape at cash registers or other places where individuals congregate.

Limiting individuals to no more than ten people including staff and clientele during store hours or when open for business.

Providing adequate hand-washing stations especially at places where paper or other items are exchanged between staff and clientele.

Frequently wipe down surfaces with 10% bleach solution or similar CDC approved cleaner anywhere and individual's hands may reach including telephones, keyboards, light switches, doorknobs, handrails, etc.

Placing an employee outside the premises where spirits and hard liquors are sold to ensure that only those citizens with a valid West Virginia driver's license, or WV State issued identifications card, be allowed to enter, shop and purchase alcohol;

Purchases are limited to three alcohol items each business day; and.

Any other common-sense measures that will limit spread of communicable diseases.

Failure to adhere to these orders may result in closure of your business. I thank you in advance for your attention to these instructions.

Chris Rhody, D.

Hancock County Health Officer