



Dated: March 30, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

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Note: At this time, there is not a Shelter in Place Order and no confirmed positive cases in Wood County. This document is being posted so that it can be shared county-wide.

Judge Lucy Hebron  
Wood County Judge

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## Frequently Asked Questions Related to Shelter in Place Orders

### **What does a shelter in place order mean for me and my family?**

Please understand that Shelter in Place Orders can and may vary from county to county and city to city. This serves as a “general guide” to understanding what the orders regulate.

It encourages individuals and families to remain in their home/residences as much as possible.

When individuals are using shared or outdoor spaces, they must, as much as possible, maintain social distancing – remain six feet from any other person.

**All persons may leave their residences only for essential activities, to perform essential government functions, or to operate essential businesses. Below you find an explanation of each of these:**

**Essential Activities include:**

- Activities or tasks essential to their health and safety, or to the health and safety of their family or household members – examples: obtaining medical supplies, visiting a health care professional, or obtaining supplies needed to work from home.
- Obtaining necessary services or supplies for themselves and their family or household members, or delivering those supplies or services to others – examples: food, pet supplies, household consumer products, and products to maintain the safety, cleanliness, and essential operation of your home.
- Engaging in outdoor activities, provided the individuals comply with social distancing requirements of six feet – examples: walking, biking, hiking, gardening, or running.
- Caring for a family member or pet in another household.
- Performing work providing essential products and services at an **Essential Business**.

**Essential Businesses Definition:**

- **Essential Health Care Operations** - examples: hospitals, clinics, dentists, pharmacies, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, other health care facilities, healthcare suppliers, mental health providers, substance abuse service providers, blood banks, medical research, laboratory services, and home-based and residential-based care for seniors, adults, or children. Veterinary care and all health and welfare care for animals. **Not Considered Health Care Operations:** Gyms or fitness centers. Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures.
- **Essential Government Functions:** All services provided by local governments needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government agencies for the health, safety and welfare of the public. All Essential Government Functions will be performed in compliance with social distancing requirements of six feet to the extent possible.

- **Essential Critical Infrastructure:** Work necessary to the operations and maintenance of the 16 critical infrastructure sectors defined by the National Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency including: public works construction, residential and commercial construction, airport operations, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil refining, roads and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, internet and telecommunications systems, business infrastructure, financial institutions, transportation and logistics systems, defense and national security operations, and essential manufacturing. Businesses providing essential infrastructure should implement screening precautions to protect employees and all activities should be performed in compliance with social distancing of six feet to the extent possible.
- **Essential Retail:** Food service providers including grocery stores, warehouse stores, big-box stores, liquor stores, gas stations and convenience stores, and farmers' markets that sell food products and household staples.

Food cultivation, including farming, fishing, and livestock.

Businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, goods, or services directly to residences.

Restaurants and other facilities that prepare and serve food, but only for carry out or delivery.

Schools and other entities that typically provide free services to students or members of the public on a pick-up and take-away basis only.

Laundromats, dry cleaners, and laundry service providers.

Gas stations, auto-supply, auto and bike repair, hardware stores, and related facilities.

Businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home.

- **Providers of Basic Necessities to Economically Disadvantaged Populations:** Businesses that provide food, shelter, social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals.
- **Essential Services Necessary to Maintain Essential Operations of Residences or Other Essential Businesses:** Trash and recycling collections, mail and shipping services, building cleaning, maintenance and security, warehouse/distribution and fulfillment, storage for essential businesses, funeral homes, crematoriums, and cemeteries.

Plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operations of residences and Essential Businesses.

Professional services, such as legal or accounting services when necessary to assist in compliance with legally mandated activities.

Businesses that supply other essential businesses with support or supplies needed to operate.

- **News Media:** Newspapers, television, radio, and other media services.
- **Childcare Services:** Childcare facilities providing services that enable employees exempted under the order to work.
- **Clergy:** Clergy may conduct their duties as long as CDC guidelines are followed.

#### **Basic Questions and Answers:**

May I go to the grocery store?

Yes, going to the grocery store is an Essential Activity, and grocery stores are Essential Businesses.

May I go to the doctor?

Yes, going to the doctor is an Essential Activity, and health care providers are Essential Health Care Operations.

May I go to a restaurant?

Yes, BUT you may go to a restaurant only for the purpose of picking up a carry out order. There is no dining in the restaurant.

May I go to the post office?

Yes, the mail is an Essential Service.

May I go to a nail salon, barber shop, or stylist?

No, these are not considered to be Essential Retail Businesses.

May I get my plumbing, air conditioner, or appliances repaired?  
Yes, these are considered to be Essential Services.

May I travel to take care of my elderly parents?  
Yes, this is considered an Essential Activity.

May I take my pet to the veterinarian?  
Yes, veterinary medical care is considered an Essential Health Care Service.

May I drive on city streets, state highways, and interstate highways?  
Yes, a "Shelter in Place Order" is not a lock down order.