



City Administration P.O. Box 979, Rolla, MO 65402

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## **STAY AT HOME ORDINANCE EFFECTIVE APRIL 6, 2020**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Why was this order issued?** This order was issued to protect the health and safety of all residents, with the goal of limiting the continued spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community.

**How long is the order in effect for?** The order will take effect at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, April 6, 2020, and will currently remain in effect through 8:00 a.m. on May 11, 2020. The order will be evaluated on an ongoing basis and may be modified as circumstances change.

**What does the order require?** The order requires residents to stay at home unless they are engaged in one of the essential activities specified in the order. Essential activities include working in an essential business, obtaining supplies or necessary services, seeking medical care, caring for a family member or loved one, and exercising and maintaining personal health. Individuals must practice social distancing to the extent feasible while engaging in these activities, and to stay home if not engaging in one of these specific activities.

**Will residents be subject to penalties such as arrest or citations for leaving their homes?** Residents can leave their residences to engage in essential activities, including exercising and maintaining personal health (walking/bicycling/running/etc.), working at essential business, obtaining supplies or necessary services, or seeking medical care. We strongly urge residents to stay at home if they are not engaged in any of these essential activities, as this will greatly aid efforts to stop the community spread of the coronavirus. Repeated and intentional violations of this ordinance may result in fine, imprisonment, or both.

**Does the Rolla ordinance extend beyond the City limits?** No. State Statutes do give the City authority to extend emergency declarations and safety orders up to five miles around the City, but the City's ordinance did not exercise that authority.

**Am I allowed to leave my residence for essential activities such as groceries, essential employment and providing care to family members?** Yes. While unnecessary travel is not authorized, the ordinance recognizes essential activities and obligations require travel by vehicle, bicycle, or walking.

**Does my business qualify as an essential business as defined in the special order?**

Major categories of essential businesses defined in the order include:

Health care (doctors, dentists, nurses, hospitals, pharmacies, medical research facilities, labs, etc.);

Food and drink production and distribution (including grocery stores, markets, restaurants that offer food for carryout, liquor stores);

Transportation (including gas stations, taxis, and auto parts and service;

Financial Services (including banks, insurance, real estate and other professional services);

Manufacturing and distribution of supplies and materials for essential businesses (including trucking);

Maintenance and construction of infrastructure and households;

Child care;

Operations associated with Missouri S&T;

Essential Government Operations;

Residential facilities (including hotels and motels);

Media and Communications Providers (including newspapers, radio stations and television stations); and

Mailing, Shipping, and Delivery services.

A full list of categories of essential businesses is provided in the ordinance.

We strongly encourage all essential businesses to allow employees to work from home and to maintain social distancing to the extent feasible to carry out operations.

**My business does not fall under one of the categories deemed essential, can it remain open if health precautions are taken?** Non-essential businesses can continue operations that can be conducted from employees' homes. They can also continue minimum necessary activities to maintain the value of the business's inventory and facilities and to ensure security, process payroll and employee benefits, or to facilitate employees of the business being able to work remotely from their residences, provided social distancing is maintained. Any operations that do not meet these requirements must be ceased.

**Do businesses and/or employees need formal certification or identification that they qualify as an essential business and/or are employed at an essential business?** No. There is currently no registration process in place.

**How will this emergency order be enforced?** We are relying on the goodwill and common sense of residents and businesses to follow the ordinance. If we hear of a resident or business not following the ordinance, we will provide education to ensure they fully understand the ordinance. As a last resort, fines and penalties may be used.

**Is construction activity classified as essential?** Yes, activities at open construction sites, and related activities, are classified as essential.

**Are manufacturing facilities classified as essential?** Any manufacturing operation that supplies goods necessary for the operation of other essential businesses is classified as essential.

**Are hotels and motels classified as essential?** Yes. We recognize that individuals employed in essential businesses who are traveling and/or individuals who find their homes temporarily uninhabitable may need to secure shelter.

**Are home repair and maintenance services classified as essential?** Yes, home repair services including plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers to maintain the safety and sanitation of residences and essential businesses are classified as essential.

**Are liquor stores and other markets that sell liquor classified as essential?** Yes, businesses that distribute food or beverages are classified as essential. We encourage the maintenance of social distancing to the extent feasible in all cases.

**Are childcare providers classified as essential?** Yes. Childcare should be carried out in groups of 10 or fewer. Children should not change from one group to another in the same day.

**Are personal services, such as nail salons, hair salons, massage, and tanning facilities classified as essential?** No. Businesses that provide personal services are not classified as essential.

**Are gyms and workout facilities classified as essential?** No. Gyms and workout facilities are not classified as essential. However, individuals are encouraged to use parks and exercise outdoors while they practice social distancing.