

NEK Multi-County Health Departments, Inc

907 S 2nd St.
P.O. Box 182
Hiawatha, KS 66434
785-742-2505 Phone
785-742-7988 Fax

EMERGENCY ORDER AND ADVISORY OF LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER

An Emergency Public Health Order issued on this 29th day of May, 2020, to mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Brown County, Kansas, pursuant to the authority provided in K.S.A. 65-119 and K.S.A. 65-202.

WHEREAS, there is a continuing global, national, and statewide public health crisis resulting from the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) and the confirmed outbreak and person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in Brown County, multiple counties surrounding Brown County, in the state of Kansas, and in the United States; and

WHEREAS on the 16th day of March 2020, the Board of County Commissioners of Brown County, Kansas found that a disaster had occurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the confirmed outbreak and person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in the United States; and

WHEREAS on the 18th day of May 2020, the Board of County Commissioners of Brown County, Kansas continued their disaster declaration for a period of 60 days as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the confirmed outbreak and person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in Brown County, Kansas and throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS on May 26, 2020, Governor of the State of Kansas stated that the "Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen Kansas" will now serve as guidance to local officials and that the provisions of the same would need to be implemented by local officials in order for the same to be enforceable; and

WHEREAS, the Local Health Officer is authorized and required, pursuant to K.S.A. 65-119 and K.S.A. 65-202 to immediately exercise and maintain a supervision over known or suspected cases of any infectious or contagious disease during its continuance, and to issue orders seeing that all such cases are properly handled and that the provisions of the Kansas public health laws as to isolation, quarantine and disinfection are duly enforced; and

WHEREAS, as of this date, in Kansas there have been 9,337 reported positive cases of COVID-19 spread among 88 counties, including 205 deaths; and

WHEREAS, the Local Health Officer is authorized and required, pursuant to K.S.A. 65-119 and K.S.A. 65.129b to immediately exercise and maintain supervision over known or suspected cases of any infectious or contagious disease during its continuance, and to issue orders seeing that all such cases are properly handled and that the provisions of the Kansas Public Health laws as to isolation, quarantine, and disinfection are duly enforced: and

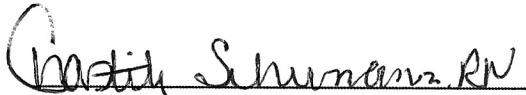
WHEREAS, the Brown County Health Officer encourages all Brown County citizens to follow the public health recommendations of the Center for Disease Control and Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the Local Health Officer, pursuant to the above authorities that the following additional restrictions and regulations are hereby imposed in Brown County:

1. Any previous reopening order is rescinded and replaced by this order.
2. Mass Gatherings:
 - a. Mass gatherings of more than 50 individuals are prohibited.
 - i. Mass gatherings are defined as instances in which individuals are in one location and are unable to maintain a 6-foot distance between individuals (not including individuals who reside together) with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity.
3. Businesses:
 - a. All businesses (including bars) may reopen as long as they can comply with the following guidelines:
 - i. They are able to maintain 6-foot social distancing between groups of customers; restaurants or dining establishments may meet this requirement by using physical barriers sufficient to prevent virus spread between tables or groups of seated customers;
 - ii. Follow fundamental cleaning and public health practices detailed on covid.ks.gov;
 - iii. Avoid any instances in which groups of 50 individuals are in one place and unable to avoid social distancing.
4. Education:
 - a. K-12 facilities- graduation celebrations are allowed. However, these celebrations must be outside where people can maintain 6-foot social distancing. These ceremonies are encouraged to remain short with the distribution of diplomas.
 - b. Drivers Ed is allowed as long as 6-foot social distancing can occur in the classroom. Behind the wheel sessions may occur with the guidance of the health department as follows
 - i. The vehicle will have 3 occupants; 1 instructor and 2 students.
 - ii. All occupants of the vehicle are recommended to wear face coverings

- iii. All vehicles used for driving instruction should be cleaned between groups of students.
 - c. Summer School may resume with the following guidelines:
 - i. Each building shall follow mass gathering guidelines with 50 or less individuals at a time
 - ii. Social distancing guidelines shall be followed
 - iii. The wearing of face coverings is strongly encouraged
- 5. Libraries may open following mass gathering, social distancing and sanitary guidelines as outlined in this order.
- 6. Pools may open under city government following guidelines set forth on covid.ks.gov
- 7. General guidance for Individuals:
 - a. Individuals are encouraged to wear face coverings in public settings where social distancing cannot be maintained
- 8. Outdoor Activities:
 - a. When in public (eg parks, outdoor recreation areas, shopping centers) individuals should maintain social distancing guidance.
 - b. Face coverings are encouraged when social distance cannot be maintained.
- 9. Activities and Venues:
 - a. May open following mass gatherings guidelines set forth above
 - b. Maintain 6-foot social distance between individuals or groups
 - c. Follow fundamental cleaning and public health practices.
- 10. Recommendations for Employers:
 - a. Employers may begin reducing telework and start bringing employees back to work in office settings
 - b. Large groups of employees should be avoided
 - c. All employees that are sick shall be required to stay home
 - d. Business travel is allowed. Guidance from KDHE shall be followed in regard to travel restrictions.
 - e. Employees who travel to areas deemed high risk will be asked to quarantine for 14 days.
- 11. High risk individuals (those with underlying health conditions; including chronic lung disease, asthma, heart conditions, severe obesity, chronic kidney disease, liver disease, or otherwise medically compromised) may resume public interactions but should practice social distancing and minimize attendance at large gatherings. Face coverings are strongly encouraged.
- 12. Nothing in this order shall restrict, limit, or supersede the Brown County Health Officer's authority to make isolation, quarantine, or other orders restricting movement as necessary to respond to escalating or worsening conditions in any local jurisdiction.
- 13. Local law enforcement officers enforcing this order shall use their discretion, consult with their legal counsel, and consider the totality of the circumstances as they determine appropriate enforcement actions.

14. This order shall become effective on May 29, 2020 on 9:00 A.M. and continue in effect until rescinded, expanded, or modified by separate order of the local health officer, or June 8, 2020 at 12:01 P.M., whichever date is earlier in time.


Chastity Schumann, RN, BSN
Brown County Health Officer

Dated: May 29, 2020
Effective: May 29, 2020 at 9:00AM