



EMERGENCY ORDER 2020-01
SAFER AT HOME ORDER

On March 16, 2020, a State of Emergency was declared in the Town of Southwest Ranches relating to the Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”).

Since the outbreak of COVID-19 numerous local governments and multiple states have adopted various versions of “shelter in place” and “safer at home” orders. These orders are designed to protect the health and well-being of the community, to create social distancing, and to minimize contact in an effort to limit community spread of COVID-19.

As of today, the Town of Southwest Ranches is aware of confirmed cases of COVID-19 adjacent to its jurisdictional boundaries. To limit the potential community spread of COVID-19, it is now necessary for the Town of Southwest Ranches to implement restrictions for the general health, safety, and welfare of the community.

Pursuant to Section 252.38(3) and 252.46, *Florida Statutes* and Section 8.01 of the Code of the Town of Southwest Ranches, the Town has the power to issue emergency orders with the force of law. The Town Administrator has expressly been authorized to issue Emergency Orders.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

Section 1. Each resident is hereby ordered to stay home and within the entirety of their owned, occupied or rented property. The order to stay at home does not require residents to confine themselves to the interior of their homes. Residents may make use of all exterior portions of their homes such as patios, porches, yards, and driveways. Residents may also leave their place of residence and travel to another place in accordance with Section 3, below.

Section 2. Unless a person has a Permissible Use as provided for in Section 3, below, no person shall travel or be on or upon any public right of way, including but not limited to, streets, canals, or sidewalks, within the boundaries of the Town of Southwest Ranches.

Section 3. Permissible Use. Notwithstanding Section 1 and 2, all residents and visitors in the Town may lawfully engage in the following activities:

- (1) **Essential Businesses.** Residents and visitors may engage in travel to Essential Businesses and provide minimum basic operations to non-essential businesses as

identified in Broward County Emergency Orders 20-01 and 20-02, as further refined in Broward County Emergency Order 20-03; and as may be amended or extended from time to time. For clarity, businesses may also continue operations consisting exclusively of employees or contractors performing activities at their own residences (i.e., working from home). All Essential Businesses are strongly encouraged to remain open.

- (2) **Emergency Assistance.** Residents and visitors may engage in travel and similar activities to obtain assistance from law enforcement, fire-rescue, or other emergency services.
- (3) **Personal Support Activities.** Residents and visitors may travel to and from their homes to care for or support a friend, companion, family member, support groups, a vulnerable person, pet or livestock.
- (4) **Work in Support of Essential Businesses.** Residents and visitors in the Town may continue to perform work for and in support of businesses authorized to be open to the public in accordance with Broward County Emergency Order 20-01, 20-02, and 20-03, and any local government, the State government, or the Federal government.
- (5) **Outdoor Recreational Activities.** In areas not otherwise closed by a separate Emergency or Executive Order, residents may engage in outdoor activity and recreation while staying six (6) feet apart from another person or group of people, unless such group is immediate family and so as long as residents are in compliance with size of public gatherings as defined in Section 7 below.
- (6) **Religious Activities.** Residents and visitors may travel to and from places of worship. Places of worship are encouraged to comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined in Section 4 below, to the greatest extent feasible and the size of public gatherings as defined in Section 7 below. Places of worship are also encouraged to livestream their services in lieu of in-person gatherings.
- (7) **Government Employees, Military and Emergency Personnel.** All first responders, gang and crisis intervention workers, public health workers, emergency management personnel, emergency dispatchers, law enforcement personnel and related contractors, persons working for emergency service providers, and government employees performing work in the course and scope of their employment are categorically exempt from this Order.
- (8) **Public Transit.** Public transit may be used for the above listed activities. People riding on public transit must comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined in Section 4 below, to the greatest extent feasible.

Section 4. Social Distancing Requirements. A person in a public space shall:

- (1) Practice social distancing by staying at least 6 feet away whenever practicable from another person, excluding immediate family members, caretakers or, household members;
- (2) Cover all coughs and sneezes with their elbow or tissue;
- (3) Not shake hands;
- (4) Not enter any public place if the person exhibits any flu or COVID-19 like symptoms and/or has a fever over 99.9 degrees Fahrenheit unless that person is traveling to or from a hospital, doctor's office, urgent care, walk-in clinic, or pharmacy;

- (5) If a person is exhibiting flu or COVID-19 like symptoms or has a fever over 99.9 degrees Fahrenheit and is seeking medical treatment, the person shall first contact their medical provider by phone before appearing at the medical provider's office; and
- (6) If a person is exhibiting flu or COVID-19 like symptoms or has a fever over 99.9 degrees Fahrenheit and requires a prescription or a refill thereof and the pharmacy has a drive-thru window and/or delivery service, that person shall utilize the drive-thru window and/or delivery service to receive their medication.

Section 5. Essential Businesses Employee Screening. For those businesses deemed to be an Essential Business, as set forth above, these facilities shall implement employee screening and prohibit any employee from entering the premises if they affirmatively answer any of the below questions, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

- (1) Have you returned from international travel (anywhere outside the United States) or been on a cruise within the last 14 days?
- (2) Have you been in contact with anyone who has returned from international travel or been on a cruise within the last 14 days?
- (3) Have you been in any gathering of 50 people or more in the last 14 days?
- (4) Have you traveled through any airport within the past 14 days?
- (5) Have you traveled to any area known to have high numbers of positive cases of COVID-19, including but not limited to California, Washington, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, or Washington D.C. within the past 14 days?
- (6) Have you experienced signs or symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever over 99.9 degrees Fahrenheit, cough or shortness of breath?

Section 6. Essential Businesses Cleaning Protocols. For those businesses deemed to be an Essential Business, as set forth above, these facilities must make every effort to:

- (1) Provide disinfectant wipes or equivalent for shopping carts and baskets or disinfect shopping carts and baskets after each use.
- (2) Disinfect hourly, at a minimum all check out areas, including but not limited to, conveyor belts, cash registers, and credit card areas.
- (3) Disinfect after closing or before opening all areas of the business that customers may touch or come into contact.
- (4) Require employees or independent contractors present to wash and/or disinfect their hands at least once per hour.
- (5) Clean and disinfect any pen, stylus or screen used to sign receipts after each customer or waive the need to sign a receipt.
- (6) Ensure that no more than 10 people, including staff, are gathered in any particular area of the Essential Business.
- (7) Ensure that customers at checkout are separated by at least 6 feet.
- (8) Disinfect all door handles used by the general public at least hourly during business hours.
- (9) Essential Businesses with waiting rooms must ensure that no person shall be seated within 6 feet of another person and all seats must be disinfected after each use. Parents/guardians of minors or senior citizens and families that arrive together may sit together.

(10) Do not allow more than 25% of their approved maximum capacity into any location.

Section 7. Limit on Gatherings. All gatherings of 10 or more people shall be prohibited except for those identified in Section 3 above. Social Distancing Requirements must be observed.

Section 8. Exceptions for Utilities and Government Personnel. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to limit or restrict movement or use of the public rights of way for use by other local governments, the state government, and federal government or their employees, and utility providers and contractors while engaged in their duties.

Section 9. Enforcement. This Order is in addition to, and supplements, the Town's determination of a State of Local Emergency, County Emergency Orders, and State of Florida Executive Orders and shall be strictly adhered to at all times. This Order may be enforced by Town law enforcement personnel through issuance of Notices to Appear or arrest, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and other applicable state, County and Town laws, rules and regulations, or through the issuance of Code Violations and Notices of Violation pursuant to applicable provisions of Florida law, Chapter 162, Florida Statutes, and Town Code.

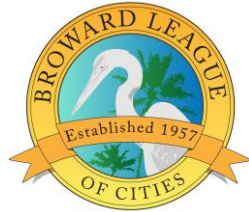
Section 10. Effective Date. This Emergency Order is effective as of 12:01 AM on March 28, 2020 and shall remain in full force and effect until terminated.

ORDERED ON AND FILED WITH THE CLERK OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES ON MARCH 27, 2020.

Ordered by:



Andrew D. Berns
Town Administrator



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Aimee Adler Cooke – (954) 732-0754 (or) aimee@conceptualpr.com

The Broward County City Managers' Association, In Partnership with the Broward League of Cities, Coordinates Safer-at-Home Orders to be Issued in All 31 Cities

Broward County, FL (March 27, 2020) - As COVID-19 cases continue to surge in South Florida, the Broward County City Managers' Association (BCCMA) has coordinated an effort to have each town and municipality in Broward County issue a joint Safer-at-Home Order to complement Broward County Order 20-03 directing a Shelter-in-Place: Safer at Home Policy. These additional Orders will augment the County's Order by providing more specific details including a remain-at-home requirement.

“Immediate action is required to protect as many residents as possible from becoming infected with the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The difference between flattening the curve and hospital overload depends on sheltering in place now, which is the intention of this unprecedented effort by the BCCMA,” said BCCMA President Greg Harrison, City Manager of Pompano Beach,

Many municipalities in Broward County have or will be issuing their individual Safer-at-Home Order that will demonstrate unified policies throughout Broward County in an effort to stop the dangerous spread of (COVID-19).

The Broward League of Cities (BLOC) supports the BCCMA's efforts to halt the spread of COVID-19. “As municipal governments, we must take appropriate and necessary actions to protect our residents from the spread of COVID-19,” stated BLOC President Daniel J. Stermer, Mayor, City of Weston. “We are truly One Broward in this unified effort, and we encourage all our residents to be safe, be healthy, and be smart.”

Residents and business owners are encouraged to visit their city's website to view the Safer-at-Home Order issued for their community.

ABOUT THE BROWARD COUNTY CITY MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION (BCCMA)

The purpose of the Broward County City Management Association is to regularly bring together local government professional administrators to stimulate the highest standards of public service administration and to promote good fellowship and closer intergovernmental relationships. The Association shall participate as an organization in community problem solving, discussion of issues and other efforts to improve the quality of life for the residents of Broward and the various communities we serve.

ABOUT THE BROWARD LEAGUE OF CITIES (BLOC)

The Broward League of Cities is a non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness and resolving issues facing Broward County's 31 municipalities. Membership is made up of elected officials from municipal governments and area businesses.