

**STANDING PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER RELATED TO EVENTS  
SILVER THREAD PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT**

Pursuant to sections 25-1-506 and 25-1-509 of the Colorado Revised Statutes and other applicable authority, this Order sets forth guidance and requirements for, as well as limitations on, group gatherings to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

On March 10, 2020, the Governor of Colorado declared a state of Emergency related to the presence of COVID-19 in the State. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has confirmed that COVID-19 continues to spread throughout the State of Colorado.

On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency due to COVID-19.

On March 16, 2020, Mineral County initiated a virtual Emergency Operations Center to address COVID-19.

On March 16, 2020, Mineral County declared a Local Disaster Emergency related to COVID-19. There is currently a public health emergency in Mineral County as a result of COVID-19.

On March 15, 2020, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended that for the next eight (8) weeks organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of fifty (50) people or more throughout the United States.

On March 16, 2020, the President of the United States announced guidelines recommending among other things the restriction of social gatherings in groups of more than ten (10) people throughout the United States.

On March 16, 2020, the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (“CDPHE”) ordered the closure of all bars, restaurants, theaters, gymnasiums, and casinos statewide. See CDPHE Public Health Order 20-22.

The age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population in Mineral County places it at risk of serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19. Although most individuals who contract COVID-19 do not become seriously ill, persons with mild symptoms and asymptomatic persons with COVID-19 may place other vulnerable members of the public at significant risk. A large surge in the number of persons with serious infections can compromise the ability of the healthcare system, particularly in small counties such as Mineral County and high-country counties currently affected by community transmission, to deliver necessary healthcare to the public. It is necessary to take proactive measures to protect the public.

The limitations on large gatherings and use of social distancing decreases the risk of COVID-19 transmission to our most vulnerable populations and is especially important for

people who are over sixty (60) years old and those with chronic health conditions due to their higher risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19. This Order will reduce the likelihood that many individuals will be exposed to COVID-19 at a single event and will therefore slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities.

This Order is adopted pursuant to the legal authority set forth in sections 25-1-506, 25-1-508 and 25-1-509 of the Colorado Revised Statutes. Under these laws, the Public Health Director for Silver Thread Public Health District has the duty to investigate and control the causes of epidemic or communicable diseases and conditions affecting public health, to establish, maintain, and enforce isolation and quarantine, and in pursuance thereof, and for this purpose only, to exercise physical control over property and over the persons of the people within the jurisdiction of the agency as the agency may find necessary for the protection of the public health and to prohibit the gathering of people when necessary to protect public health.

This Order shall apply to all of Mineral County, Colorado.

The requirements in this Order are in addition to and should not be construed in any way to limit the requirement to comply with any orders issued by the federal or state government including, without limitation, the requirements of CDPHE Public Health Order 20-22.

**I. DEFINITIONS**

For purposes of this Order:

An "Event" is a gathering for business, social, or recreational activities, or a location that engages in or allows for such activities; that takes place indoors or outdoors, including, but not limited to, community, civic, public, leisure, or sporting events; parades; concerts; festivals; assemblies; places of worship; conventions; fundraisers; restaurants; community recreational centers; ice rinks; libraries; child care centers; and similar locations and activities.

"Event" does not include activities that are primarily individual or occur in small groups or in non-congregate settings, such as places of employment or primarily small-group sports like cross-country (Nordic) and downhill skiing, as long as social distancing occurs particularly in areas where congregating in groups is unavoidable, such as ski lift lines. "Event" also does not include places of employment for federal, state, local and special district employees, employees of public utilities or utility service providers (e.g., electric utility providers, internet service providers, water and sewer service providers), grocery stores, hardware stores, medical service providers (e.g., clinics, hospitals, long term care facilities, doctor's offices, medical provider office of any type, dental offices, physical therapists, pharmacies) or retail stores. An event also does not include schools, as noted below.

**SCHOOLS**

Silver Thread Public Health District is working closely with and providing guidance to the Creede School District to regarding actions that are being taken by Creede School District

regarding school closures. Schools, parents and employers should take steps now to prepare for the possibility of prolonged mandatory closures.

In particular, schools should plan for how to continue to provide non-educational support for their students.

**II. ORDER**

- A.** All events of ten (10) people or more, including employees and attendees, are prohibited.
- B.** Events with fewer than ten (10) people, including employees and attendees, are prohibited unless event organizers take the following steps to mitigate risks:
  - 1. Proper hand hygiene and sanitation must be readily available to all attendees and employees.
  - 2. Environmental cleaning guidelines from the CDC shall be followed (e.g., on days of use clean and disinfect high touch surfaces or more frequently as needed).
  - 3. Social distancing guidelines shall be followed. These include limiting contact of people within six (6) feet from each other for ten (10) minutes or longer, and any other guidance. See Section III, below for more guidance.
- C.** Employers, whether involved in an event or conducting daily operations, shall screen employees daily and ensure that employees exhibiting symptoms such as fever, coughing or shortness of breath are not allowed in the workplace.
- D.** All visitors to Mineral County are strongly advised to return home immediately upon the issuance of this Order by the fastest and safest available means, and persons considering visiting Mineral County should remain home. Although non-resident homeowners are expressly exempt from this paragraph II.D., non-resident homeowners are strongly encouraged to leave Mineral County and return to their primary place of residence.

**III. FURTHER GUIDANCE**

Further guidelines for social distancing are available at:  
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/2019-novel-coronavirus>. There is link on this website for "Statewide Community Mitigation and Large Event Guidance" issued by the Colorado Department of Health & Environment. This guidance should be followed.

**IV. GENERAL INFORMATION FOR ALL PERSONS AFFECTED BY THIS ORDER**

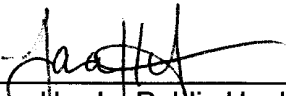
If you have questions regarding this Order, please contact the Silver Thread Public Health District at 970-944-0321.

Silver Thread Public Health District is tasked with protecting the health and welfare of the citizens of Hinsdale and Mineral Counties by investigating and controlling the causes of epidemic and communicable disease and prohibiting the gathering of people when necessary to protect public health. This Order is necessary to control any potential transmission of disease to others and to protect public health. See section 25-1-508, Colorado Revised Statutes. Immediate issuance of this Order is necessary for the preservation of public health, safety, or welfare and is being done due to the public health emergency.

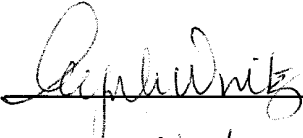
Any person aggrieved and affected by this Order has the right to request judicial review by filing an action with the Mineral County District Court within 90 days of the date of this Order, pursuant to section 25-1-515, Colorado Revised Statutes. However, you must continue to obey the terms of this Order while your request for review is pending.

This Order is in effect until midnight Mountain Time April 8, 2020, and is subject to continuing review by the Public Health Director of Silver Thread Public Health District.

**Failure to comply with this Order is subject to criminal penalties. Silver Thread Public Health District, however, is committed to assisting persons to comply with this Order through education and providing guidance.**

  
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Tara Hardy, Public Health Director  
Date: 3/17/2020  
Time: 2:45 p.m.

I, Eryn K. Wintz, who is the Clerk of Mineral County hereby acknowledges receipt of this Order clerk's order

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: 3/17/2020  
Time: 2:45 p.m.