



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER RESTRICTING OVERNIGHT LODGING COUNTYWIDE

The Ouray County Public Health Agency (OCPHA) is working to stop the spread of novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) in Colorado. At this time I find it necessary to implement emergency measures to close restrict the overnight lodging in Ouray County through April 30, 2020, in an effort to protect and preserve the public health.

FINDINGS

1. COVID-19 was first detected in Wuhan, China in late 2019, and since then has spread to over 60 countries including the United States. There are 277 known presumptive positive cases of COVID-19 in Colorado as of March 19, 2020, and there is every expectation that more cases will be diagnosed.
2. While Ouray County does not have a confirmed positive case, our local medical experts are operating under the suspicion that they are treating patients with COVID-19 and that extreme medical testing limitations at the local, state and federal level is the reason for the lack of information regarding diagnosis in our community.
3. COVID-19 is a respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus, and like other respiratory illnesses, is transmitted through person-to-person contact or by contact with surfaces contaminated with the virus. Persons infected with COVID-19 may become symptomatic anywhere from two to fourteen days after exposure. Symptoms include fever, cough or shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
4. Individuals with serious chronic health conditions and older adults are most at risk for becoming very ill with this disease.
5. On March 10, 2020, the Governor of Colorado declared a State of Emergency related to the presence of COVID-19 in the State. CDPHE has confirmed that COVID-19 continues to spread throughout the State of Colorado.
6. On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency due to COVID-19.
7. On March 16, 2020, The Ouray County Board of County Commissioners declared a disaster emergency due to the spreading virus.
8. On March 19, 2020, the Incident Command Policy Group met to discuss strategies and information to combat the spread of the virus.
9. A significant number of Coloradans are 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 to deliver necessary



healthcare to the public. Colorado is experiencing a rapid increase in COVID-19 transmission that threatens the health of residents and risks overwhelming the healthcare system in the state of Colorado.

10. Limiting the number of people who may gather in the unincorporated areas of the county and within all municipalities within the territorial limits of the county is necessary for the protection of public health. The age, condition and health of a significant portion of the population in Ouray 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 the high-country counties currently affected by transmission, to deliver necessary healthcare to the public.

ORDER

I. Definitions. For purposes of this Order:

- A. **"Short Term Lodging Facility"** means the rental of a single-family dwelling or accessory dwelling, or any portion thereof, for not more than thirty (30) days, where no meals are served or provided to those leasing or renting the dwelling.
- B. **"Essential Visitor"** means any individual renting lodging or camping for the amount of less than 30 days for the purposes of work within Ouray County, or for an employer within boundaries of Ouray County and their spouse and dependents.
- C. **"Primary Resident"** means any individual renting lodging for periods of 30 days or greater or whose primary address is within Ouray County.
- D. **"Communal"** shared by members of the community for common use.

II. Overnight Lodging:

1. All overnight and short-term lodging facilities (including but not limited to hotels, motels, condos, townhomes, guest homes, and all camping on public or private lands) within Ouray County may only check-in rent or lease to Essential Visitors and Primary Residents. Essential Visitors and Primary Residents may utilize public lands for primitive camping purposes. No camp shall be located within 200 yards of another camp and no camp shall consist of more than ten (10) people. All communal pools, hot tubs, locker rooms, saunas, steam rooms, fitness centers, gyms, and spas shall be closed to members, guests, patrons, and the general public. For Essential Visitors and Primary Residents, management shall implement social distancing measures in lobbies and communal areas of an establishment including lines for front desk and concierge, and cleansing measures between each transaction for staff who have to handle cash and credit cards at check-in. Management shall post signage approved by the CDC which advises members, guests and patrons of COVID-19 protocols. Additionally, Ouray County Public Health Agency request that visitors that are not here



on essential business return to their home and non-essential visitors planning to come to Ouray County reconsider their plans and remain near their home.

The requirements of this Order take effect at 4:00 PM on March 20, 2020, and all requirements remain in effect through April 30, 2020, unless otherwise extended in writing by the Public Health Director.

OCPHA is tasked with protecting the health and welfare of the citizens of Colorado by investigating and controlling the causes of epidemic and communicable disease. This Order is necessary to control any potential transmission of disease to others. Immediate issuance of this Order is necessary for the preservation of public health, safety, or welfare.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER IS SUBJECT TO THE PENALTIES CONTAINED IN SECTIONS 25-1-516 AND 18-1.3-501, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES, INCLUDING A FINE OF UP TO FIVE THOUSAND (5,000) DOLLARS AND IMPRISONMENT IN THE COUNTY JAIL FOR UP TO EIGHTEEN MONTHS.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tanner Kingery", is written over a horizontal line.

Tanner Kingery, MPH
Public Health Director

Date: March 20, 2020