



# COSTILLA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY

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## **EFFECTIVE MAY 17, 2020 SECOND AMENDED STANDING PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER ADHERING TO CDPHE PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER 20-28: SAFER-AT-HOME AND PROHIBITING OVERNIGHT CAMPING AT FOUR RESERVOIRS TO LIMIT AND CONTAIN THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 VIRUS**

Pursuant to Colo. Rev. Stat. § 25-1-506 and other applicable authority, this Order in combination with CDPHE Public Health Order 20-28 sets forth guidance and requirements for, as well as limitations on, group gatherings to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The purpose of this local Public Health Order is to restrict overnight camping of any kind in areas of reservoirs, including Smith Reservoir, Mountain Home Reservoir, Sanchez Reservoir, and Stabilization Reservoir. This Order amends and supersedes the previous Standing Public Health Order issued by Costilla County regarding COVID-19.

On March 5, 2020, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) public health laboratory confirmed the first presumptive positive COVID-19 test result in Colorado. Since then, the number of confirmed cases has continued to climb, and there is evidence of community spread throughout the State.

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 15, 2020, the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a guidance to cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States for 8 weeks. On March 16, 2020, the President of the United States issued a statement including recommendations to avoid gatherings of 10 or more people.

On March 16, 2020, the Governor of Colorado announced the closing of all bars and restaurants except for takeout and delivery services.

On March 17, 2020 Costilla County Costilla County issued a Disaster Declaration. Costilla County Public Health Director issued a Standing Public Health Order Related to Events and Gatherings to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

On March 25, 2020 the Governor of Colorado issued Executive Order D 2020 017, "ordering Coloradans to Stay at Home Due to the Presence of COVID-19 in the State."

On March 26, 2020, CDPHE issued Updated Public Health Order 20-24 Implementing Stay at Home Requirements.

On Friday, April 3, Governor Polis announced the Colorado Mask Campaign encouraging Coloradans to wear non-medical cloth face coverings when leaving the home for essential business. Cloth face coverings can be worn to reduce the spread of large droplets. They can help prevent “community spread” when people travel from their homes for necessary activities like grocery shopping.

On April 5, 2020 Governor of Colorado issued Executive Order amending and extending Executive Order D 2020 017 ordering Coloradans to stay at home (until April 26, 2020) due to the presence of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the State.

On May 8, 2020 CDPHE issued the SECOND AMENDED PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER 20-28 SAFER AT HOME pursuant to the Governor’s directive in Executive Order D 2020 044 Safer at Home. The Governor’s Executive Order D 2020 044 authorizes transitioning from a Stay-at-Home model, as described in Executive Order D 2020 017 and Public Health Order 20-24 as amended, to a Safer-at-Home model. <https://covid19.colorado.gov/safer-at-home>

Safer-at-Home still requires that Vulnerable Individuals remain at home, but allows limited reopening of postsecondary institutions and certain businesses. Additionally, individuals are encouraged to stay at home as much as possible and practice Social Distancing to reduce the likelihood of disease transmission, but certain activities, such as gathering in groups of no more than ten for activities, are permitted. As we continue to combat COVID-19 in our communities, continuing restrictions on individual travel and necessary activities remain appropriate.

Gatherings of more than 10 people are prohibited under Public Health order 20-28. Everyone should wear masks except children under age 3. Aim to keep at least 6’ away from each other. DO NOT share cups, plates, utensils, etc., and disinfect surfaces after gathering. DO wash your hands frequently.

The age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population in Costilla 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 community transmission, to deliver necessary healthcare to 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 65 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 and 25-1-508, Colorado Revised Statutes. Under these laws, the Costilla County Public Health Director has the duty to investigate and control the causes of epidemic or communicable diseases and conditions affecting public health and 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.

This Order shall apply to all unincorporated areas of Costilla County, Colorado and all incorporated (municipal) areas that do not have their own public health agency, to wit: Town of Blanca, and the Town of San Luis, Colorado.

All events must follow the requirements stated herein.

## **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; commencement ceremonies; concerts; festivals; assemblies; places of worship; conventions; fundraisers; restaurants (regardless of capacity) community recreational centers; libraries; 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 as long as social distancing occurs particularly in areas where congregating in groups is unavoidable, such as grocery store 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, gas stations, medical service providers (e.g. medical clinics, dental offices or discount department stores).

## **II. ORDER**

- A.** Prohibits camping at Mountain Home Reservoir, Smith Reservoir, Sanchez Reservoir and Stabilization Reservoir.

## **III. FURTHER GUIDANCE**

Further guidelines for social distance are available at: <https://covid19.colorado.gov>

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

If you have questions regarding this Order, please contact the Costilla County Public Health Department at 719-672-3332.

Costilla County Public Health is tasked with protecting the health and welfare of the citizens of Costilla County, 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. See section 25-1-508, Colorado Revised Statutes. Immediate issuance of this Order is necessary for the preservation of public health, safety, or welfare.

Any person aggrieved and affected by this Order has the right to request judicial review by filing an action with the Costilla 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 July 7, 2020, and is subject to continuing review by the Public Health Director consistent with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

A violation of any Public Health Order shall be punishable by a fine, imprisonment or both as is permitted by C.R.S. 25-1-516.

Vivian B. Gallegos, RD  
Vivian Gallegos, R.N.  
Costilla County Public Health Director

5-17-2020  
Date

I, Dayondine T. Placek hereby acknowledge receipt of this Order.

Dayondine T. Placek  
Sign

May 17, 2020  
Date

