



Northwest Arctic Borough

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
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****EXTENDED THROUGH APRIL 30, 2021****

PROCLAMATION OF ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY ORDER AMENDED ORDER EO-05 IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

ISSUED BY THE MAYOR OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH PURSUANT TO NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH CODE 12.16.060.

The COVID-19 pandemic created a public health emergency that threatens to overwhelm our health system, endangering the lives and wellbeing of our residents. We have taken steps to slow and contain the threat, but those steps require continued coordinated community action. It is up to each and every Borough resident to continue following this order, village mandates, State Health Mandates, and CDC guidance to keep our region safe. Violating these requirements will endanger lives. This order is put forward to preserve the health and safety of our region while ensuring that vital goods and services continue to be available.

I HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS SHALL CONTINUE TO REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL 10:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2021, AND SHALL SUPERSEDE ALL CONFLICTING LAWS, EXCEPT THE CITY OF KOTZEBUE'S, DURING THIS EMERGENCY UNLESS OTHERWISE PROHIBITED BY LAW OR CHARTER. THE BOROUGH'S AREAWIDE JURISDICTION FOR EMERGENCY MANDATES DOES NOT INCLUDE KOTZEBUE (NABC 1.08.010(B)(6)). ALL PERSONS MUST FOLLOW THE CITY OF KOTZEBUE'S CURRENT EMERGENCY REGULATIONS.

1. Hunker Down. Everyone currently in the Northwest Arctic Borough must stay at home as much as possible, except to work in certain critical jobs identified in NWAB EO-02; to buy, sell, or deliver necessary groceries or other important goods; to receive or provide necessary health care; and to conduct necessary subsistence activities while maintaining social distancing requirements. On the limited occasions when individuals leave home, they must maintain social distancing of at least six feet from any person outside their household. A Borough-wide curfew will be in place from 12:01 A.M. until 6:00 A.M. Only those reporting from certain critical jobs will be exempt.
 - a) Individuals experiencing homelessness are exempt from this Section, but are strongly urged to obtain shelter, and entities are strongly urged to make such shelter available as soon as possible and to the maximum extent practicable (and to use COVID-19 risk mitigation practices in their operation).
2. Face Masks. Individuals must wear masks or cloth face coverings over their noses and mouths when indoors in public settings and practice recommended hygiene, including regular hand washing and hand sanitization.

3. **Travel**. All non-critical/non-essential travel within the Borough is prohibited for non-vaccinated individuals. Individuals who have received both doses of the Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, and have received the second dose of vaccine at least five (5) days before traveling, may travel for non-critical/non-essential reasons if doing so complies with State and local emergency orders and regulations.
 - a) **Fully Vaccinated Individuals**. If doing so complies with State and local emergency orders and regulations (including those issued by the City of Kotzebue), individuals who are arriving in the Borough may bypass quarantine and testing requirements implemented under those State and local emergency orders and regulations if they (1) received *either* both doses of the Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine *or* a single dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine at least two weeks before arriving in the Borough, and (2) present proof of having received the final doses of those vaccines to public health officials upon arrival. Acceptable forms of proof of vaccination include an original, copy, or photograph of a C.D.C. card, an original, copy, or photograph of a form issued by an individual's regional health organization, or an original signed letter from the individual's physician certifying their receipt of both doses of the vaccine.
 - b) **Partially Vaccinated Individuals**. If doing so complies with State and local emergency orders and regulations (including those issued by the City of Kotzebue), individuals who are arriving in the Borough may bypass quarantine requirements implemented under those state and local emergency orders and regulations if (1) they have received one or both doses of the Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine or a single dose of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine less than two weeks before arriving in the Borough, (2) they present proof of having received that vaccine to public health officials upon arrival, and (3) they submit to a COVID-19 rapid test when arriving in the Borough and receive a negative result.
 - c) **Unvaccinated Individuals**. All individuals who have not received a COVID-19 vaccine are subject to specific quarantine requirements as prescribed by State and local emergency orders and regulations (including City of Kotzebue).
4. **Entering Travelers**. All travelers—vaccinated and non-vaccinated—entering the Borough through Kotzebue must comply with both State of Alaska Health Advisories and City of Kotzebue Emergency Regulations addressing intrastate travel, travel into the Borough/Maniilaq Service Area, quarantine, testing, and travel questionnaires:
 - <https://www.cityofkotzebue.com/>
 - <https://covid19.alaska.gov/travelers/>


If awaiting test results, travelers must self-isolate or self-quarantine to limit potential exposure. Travelers testing positive for COVID-19 must follow quarantine instructions from Public Health Nurses. This requirement will be mandated and enforced as resources are available. Failure to comply with this mandate may result in prosecution for reckless endangerment (AS 11.41.250), which could result in imprisonment for up to one year and a fine up to \$25,000.

5. **Gatherings**.
 - a) **Private Household Gatherings**. Gatherings of people within private households located within the Borough should not exceed 11 people. Individuals should continue to avoid crowds and out-of-household socializing.

- b) Other Social Gatherings. With the exception of organizations such as businesses or learning institutions that are not already subject to closure, other indoor events and social gatherings within the Borough are permitted under the following circumstances:
- i. The number of people attending the event or gathering does not exceed 25% of the capacity, (i.e., the available square footage) of the facility where the gathering is occurring;
 - ii. The organization or entity holding the event or gathering has submitted and received an approved mitigation plan from the local city government where the gathering is occurring is located; and
 - iii. People attending the event or gathering continue practicing safety measures during the gathering as required by this Emergency Order.
6. Classrooms. Learning institutions may hold classes of up to 20 students per room (not including teachers and other staff) if they have submitted an operations plan to the Borough for review and approval.
7. At-Risk Individuals. It is strongly recommended, in accordance with Center of Disease Control (CDC) guidance, that certain individuals within the Borough should take even greater precaution. That includes people particularly at risk of complications from COVID-19 such as people 60 years and older, and individuals of any age with a serious underlying condition.
8. Potential Exposure. Household members who have been potentially exposed to COVID-19 and who are possibly contagious should be tested immediately and follow recommended quarantine measures to prevent a community outbreak.
9. Essential Services. Some businesses and entities serve critical roles that are necessary to combat this public health emergency or provide critical community functions are encouraged to remain open. Those businesses and entities must comply with social distancing guidelines, including maintaining six feet social distancing for employees and for members of the public in addition to conducting frequent sanitization. A list of businesses defined as critical is listed in NWAB EO-02.
10. Non-Essential Businesses. Non-essential businesses and entities in the Borough may open, provided they comply with the following requirements:
- a) The number of people inside of any facility where a business or entity is located and operates does not exceed 25% of the capacity, (i.e., the available square footage of the facility) of the business or entity's facility;
 - b) The business or entity has submitted and received an approved mitigation plan from the local city government where the business or entity's facility is located; and
 - c) People visiting the business or entity's facility continue practicing safety measures while inside the facility, as required by this Emergency Order.
11. Safe Subsistence Practices. For residents performing subsistence activities and traveling to another community who must stop for groceries, gas, or supplies, you must use "curbside pickup," located at a boat harbor or a controlled location set by the local government. Please plan ahead by contacting vendors or a family member and paying ahead for curbside pickup. Whenever possible, accept deliveries without person-to-person interaction.

12. Self-Responsibility. The continuing health and safety of our region depends on self-responsibility and adherence to this emergency order, State and local mandates, and CDC guidance. Please take responsibility for yourself, your family and friends, and your community to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Community spread from social gatherings and close contact with family and friends has directly led to a COVID-19 surge in our region. PLEASE SOCIAL DISTANCE, AVOID CROWDS, AND FOLLOW RECOMMENDED HYGIENE PRACTICES.
13. Stopping Community Spread. There is still a significant threat of community spread of COVID-19 within the Borough caused by individuals returning from travel outside of the Borough. Except for vaccinated individuals who received a negative test result upon arrival in the Borough as specified in Section 3, anyone who (a) returns from travel outside of the Borough, or who (b) has been in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 10 minutes) with a non-vaccinated person who has returned from travel outside of the Borough must quarantine at home without contacting people outside their household for: (i) 7 days, if the person subject to quarantine receives a negative test within the last 2 days of the 7-day period; or (ii) 10 days. If you have traveled out of Alaska, you must follow State of Alaska Outbreak Health Advisory No. 2 for International and Interstate Travel: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/02.14.21-Health-Advisory-2-International-and-Interstate-Travel.pdf>
14. Vaccinations.
- a) COVID-19 vaccinations are critical to ensuring the health and safety of our region. The COVID-19 vaccine helps protect you from getting COVID-19. Wearing masks and social distancing help reduce your chance of being exposed to the virus or spreading it to others, but these measures are not enough. The vaccine works with your immune system so it will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed. All qualifying residents over the age of 16 are urged to get vaccinated as soon as possible.
 - b) All vaccinated and non-vaccinated residents must comply with local municipality mandates or regulations.

DATED this 9th day of April 2021.



Mayor Lucy S. Nelson