



# Northwest Arctic Borough

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
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## **NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION "HUNKER DOWN" ORDER EO-02 IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

ISSUED BY THE MAYOR OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH, UNDER THE AUTHORITY GRANTED BY NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH CODE 12.16.060.

The COVID-19 pandemic has generated a public health emergency disaster that threatens to overwhelm our health system, endangering the lives and wellbeing of the people in our region. We can take steps to slow and hopefully contain the threat, but those steps require coordinated community action. 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 ORDER THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO PRESERVE LIFE IN AND ADJACENT TO THE BOROUGH. THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS BEGIN AT 5:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020, AND REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL 11:59 P.M. ON MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2020, AND SHALL SUPERSEDE ALL CONFLICTING LAWS DURING THE EXISTENCE OF THIS EMERGENCY.

1. Everyone currently in the Northwest Arctic Borough shall stay at home as much as possible, except to work in certain critical jobs, listed below; to buy, sell, or deliver groceries or other important goods; to receive or provide health care; and to get fresh air without contacting others. On the limited occasions when individuals leave home, they should maintain social distancing of at least six feet from any person outside their household whenever possible. Individuals are also encouraged to practice recommended sanitization and hygiene practices, including regular hand washing.
  - Individuals experiencing homelessness are exempt from this Section, but are strongly urged to obtain shelter, and entities are strongly urged to make shelter available as soon as possible and to the maximum extent practicable (and to use COVID-19 risk mitigation practices in their operation).
2. It is strongly recommended, in accordance with Center of Disease Control (CDC) guidance, that certain individuals within the Borough should take even greater precaution.
  - Anyone particularly at-risk from COVID-19 should reduce exposure by staying at home, not physically going to work, and not doing their own shopping if possible. People particularly at risk of complications from COVID-19 include those 60 years and older and individuals of any age with a serious underlying condition. Household members of those who are at elevated risk should implement these more stringent guidelines as well, to the extent possible.
  - Anyone more likely to be contagious with COVID-19 should reduce contact with others even further by not leaving home except to obtain medical care or to get fresh air. People who are more likely to be contagious include individuals exhibiting signs of COVID-19 (including coughing, shortness of breath, and fever), and individuals who have recently travelled. Individuals who have recently traveled outside the Borough are advised, in accordance with CDC guidelines, to stay at home as much as possible for 14 days.

Household members of those who are possibly contagious should implement these more stringent guidelines as well, to the extent possible.

3. Some businesses and entities serve critical roles that are necessary to combat this public health emergency or provide critical community functions and cannot be put on hold while we address the emergency. These businesses and entities are encouraged to remain open. While open, those businesses and entities should comply with social distancing guidelines as much as possible, including maintaining six feet social distancing for employees and for members of the public, including when any customers are standing in line. A list of businesses defined as critical is listed below at paragraph five.
4. All other businesses and entities in the Borough must close their premises; however, businesses and entities may continue to utilize telecommuting or work-from-home procedures.
5. Critical businesses (to include not-for-profit and other entities) include:
  - “Healthcare Operations” including hospitals, clinics, dentists, pharmacies, other healthcare facilities, home healthcare services, mental health providers, companies and institutions involved in the research and development, manufacture, distribution, warehousing, and supplying of pharmaceuticals, biotechnology therapies, consumer health products, medical devices, diagnostics, equipment, services, or any related and/or ancillary healthcare services. “Healthcare Operations” does not include fitness and exercise gyms and similar facilities.
  - Businesses providing any services or performing any work necessary to the operations and maintenance of “Critical Infrastructure,” including, but not limiting to airport operations, public works construction, construction of housing, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil operations, roads and highways, trucking and shipping companies, solid waste collection and removal, internet, and telecommunications systems;
  - First responders, emergency management personnel, emergency dispatchers, court personnel, and law enforcement personnel;
  - Critical Government Functions, meaning all services needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government agencies and provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Federal, State, and local government employees should follow direction of their employer regarding whether and where to report to work;
  - Defense and national-security related operations supporting the U.S. Government or a contractor to the U.S. Government;
  - Grocery stores, food banks, marijuana dispensaries, convenience stores, and other establishments engaged in the retail sale of food and beverages. This includes stores that sell groceries and also sell other non-grocery products, as well as stores that sell products necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and operation of residents;
  - Food cultivation, including fishing, hunting, farming, and livestock;

- Businesses that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically-disadvantaged, unsheltered, or otherwise vulnerable individuals;
- Newspapers, television, radio, and other media services;
- Gas stations and auto-supply, auto-repair, towing companies, and related facilities;
- Banks and mortgage companies, insurance companies, and related financial institutions;
- Hardware stores;
- Plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and operation of residences and critical businesses;
- Businesses providing mailing and shipping services;
- Educational institutions for purposes of facilitating distance learning;
- Restaurants, alcohol distribution centers, and other facilities that prepare and serve food and beverages, but only for delivery or carry out under the restrictions laid out in the Mayor's Emergency Order EO-01;
- Businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home;
- Businesses that supply other critical businesses with the support or supplies necessary to operate;
- Businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, goods or services directly to residents;
- Businesses that provide transportation services of passengers or goods, including air transportation;
- Home-based care for seniors, adults, or children;
- Hotels, residential facilities and shelters for seniors, adults, and children;
- Professional services, such as legal or accounting services, when necessary to assist in compliance with legally-mandated activities.

If your business is not listed above, but you believe that it is critical or it is an entity providing critical services or functions, you may request an opinion from the Mayor that your business should be designated a critical business.

DATED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.



Lucy Nelson, Mayor