

COUNTY OF COLUSA
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

251 E. Webster St.
Colusa, CA 95932

Elizabeth Kelly
Director



ADMINISTRATION: (530) 458-0250

HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION

Children's Services: (530) 458-0280
Adult Services: (530) 458-0280
Eligibility Services: (530) 458-0250
Public Guardian: (530) 458-0280
Veterans Service Office: (530) 458-0388
Fraud Prevention: (530) 458-0279

HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION

Public Health/Nursing: (530) 458-0380
Tobacco: (530) 458-0380

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information:
MARCOS KROPP
COUNTY COUNSEL
Colusa County
(530) 458-0895

**Colusa County Public Health Officer
Issues Order Requiring Public Use of Facial Coverings**

Order Issued as a Result of Rise in Local Positive COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Cases

(COLUSA, CA) **August 05, 2020** – Effective Thursday, August 6, 2020, the Colusa County Public Health Officer has ordered that face coverings are required to be worn by all individuals (with limited exceptions) within Colusa County while in indoor public spaces, and outdoors when unable to maintain distance. This includes prior to entering any indoor public facility, while in any enclosed open space, or while outdoors when unable to maintain six-feet of distance from others not within your household unit. Dr. Gregory Burt, Colusa County Public Health Officer, issued the Order to reduce the chance of transmission and spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) following a recent rise in local positive cases. This order is in addition to a State masking order already in place and applicable to Colusa County.

“I think the situation has changed, and the situation that we’re now faced with, for a lot of people is very scary,” said Colusa County Supervisor Merced Corona. “This is a small position we can take, and a small thing that we can do to hopefully improve the numbers, and help out the situation.”

“Our contact tracing efforts are revealing a staggering level of family and social gatherings,” said Dr. Burt. “During these gatherings, unmasked individuals are spreading the virus through respiratory droplets that are produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. Now, more than ever, it is imperative that residents refrain from family and social gatherings, and wear an appropriate face covering when conducting essential business in public.”

Currently, Colusa County has a total of 359 individuals that have tested positive for COVID-19, including 70 active cases currently in isolation, and 285 released from isolation as recovered. The community has experienced four COVID-related deaths associated with infections at a long term skilled nursing facility, with 2 current COVID-19 hospitalizations, and 70 individuals quarantined as a result of contact tracing.

“Facial coverings are NOT a substitute for social distancing,” cautions Elizabeth Kelly, Colusa County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Director, “and coverings should be frequently washed or sanitized. In addition, while current statistics prevent Colusa County DHHS from considering waiver requests to reopen schools, community participation in the facial

covering Order, along with a corresponding decrease in community spread, could lead to improved data, and the submittal of waivers requesting school reopening by the end of August, or early September.”

As defined by the Order, facial coverings refer to any fabric or cloth that covers both the mouth and nose without holes. The facial covering can be made using household items (including scarves, bandanas, t-shirts, sweatshirts, towels, turtlenecks, or other fabric), sewn by hand, or factory-made. The Order provides exceptions for children under the age of two, or for anyone who has difficulty breathing, is incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the facial covering without assistance.

The full Public Health Order, including guidance for employers, as well as other information and resources related to COVID-19 in Colusa County can be accessed here: <https://www.countyofcolusa.org/771/COVID19>. Information and resources from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) can be accessed here: <https://covid19.ca.gov/>.