

COVID-19 FAQs

Stay at Home Tonight Order

Q: What is the Ohio Stay at Home Tonight order?

A: The Ohio Stay at Home Tonight order is a mandate from Ohio Department of Health Director Stephanie McCloud that orders all Ohio residents to stay at home for three weeks beginning Nov. 19, 2020, from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. unless at work or performing an essential activity. This statewide curfew will remain in effect through Dec. 10, 2020.

Q: Why is the curfew order necessary?

A: This curfew is intended to reduce COVID-19 spread, keep Ohioans safe, minimize the risk of major limitations or economic shutdowns, and reduce the impact on the healthcare and hospital system. When this order was signed, every county in Ohio was considered a “high-incidence” county, with infection rates, hospitalizations and deaths increasing. This spike in cases could overwhelm the healthcare system, leaving workers unprotected and unable to provide the best care possible to all patients.

Q: What are the requirements of the Stay at Home Tonight order?

A: All individuals in Ohio must stay in a place of residence between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. unless leaving the home for essential activities. Places of residence include houses, apartments, condominiums, dormitories, hotels, motels, rental units and shelters.

Q: What are the permitted essential activities?

A: Permitted essential activities include going to and from work or volunteer work; seeking emergency or urgent healthcare services; caring for a relative, friend, or pet in another household; obtaining necessary medical supplies or medication; seeking emergency veterinary care; seeking groceries or necessary household products; and accessing food and beverages.

Q: Will businesses be required to change operating hours under the order?

A: The order does not mandate the closing of any businesses or services during the curfew hours; however, restaurants are limited to drive-thru, carryout and/or delivery services between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.

Q: Are there any people who are exempt from the Stay at Home Tonight order?

A: Yes. People who are homeless are exempt, but strongly encouraged to find shelter. People who are unsafe in their homes, including victims of domestic violence, are urged to leave home and find a safe alternative place to stay.

Q: Are there any activities or services that are exempt from the Stay at Home Tonight order?

A: Yes. Religious observances are exempt from the order. First Amendment protected speech, including media, is also exempt. Emergency services including fire, paramedics and law enforcement will continue during these hours. Social services, including services offered at long-term care facilities, day care centers, day care homes, group day care homes, and shelters for people with disabilities, mental illness or substance-use disorders, can continue during these hours.

Q: Is travel permitted?

A: The order permits travel into or out of the state and permits travel required by law enforcement or court order, including to transport children according to a custody agreement, or to obtain fuel. Ohio's travel advisory continues to recommend that people self-quarantine for 14 days if entering Ohio after travel to any state reporting a positive COVID-19 testing rate of 15% or higher. The advisory is intended for both leisure and business travel and should be heeded by both Ohioans and out-of-state travelers. Positivity rate information for Ohio's travel advisory is updated once a week on Wednesdays and can be found [here](#).

Created Nov. 19, 2020.

For additional information, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov.

For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

Your mental health is just as important as your physical health. If you or a loved one are experiencing anxiety related to the coronavirus pandemic, help is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call the COVID-19 CareLine at 1-800-720-9616.

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

Protect yourself and others from COVID-19 by taking these precautions.

PREVENTION

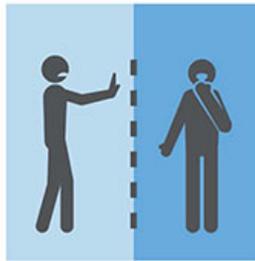
For additional information call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH or visit coronavirus.ohio.gov.



STAY HOME EXCEPT FOR WORK AND OTHER NEEDS



WEAR A FACE COVERING WHEN GOING OUT



PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING OF AT LEAST 6 FEET FROM OTHERS



SHOP AT NON-PEAK HOURS



WASH HANDS OFTEN WITH WATER AND SOAP (20 SECONDS OR LONGER)



AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES, NOSE, OR MOUTH WITH UNWASHED HANDS OR AFTER TOUCHING SURFACES



COVER YOUR MOUTH WITH A TISSUE OR SLEEVE WHEN COUGHING OR SNEEZING



CLEAN AND DISINFECT "HIGH-TOUCH" SURFACES OFTEN



DON'T WORK WHEN SICK



CALL BEFORE VISITING YOUR DOCTOR