

# MONO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## Public Health Officer Order: Private Campgrounds and RV Parks

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**May 28, 2020**

Please read this Order carefully. Violation of or failure to comply with this Order is a crime punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both. (California Health and Safety Code § 120295.). **This order sets forth requirements for safely operating campgrounds and RV parks.**

WHEREAS, a state of emergency has been declared by the State of California, and local emergencies have been declared in both Mono County and in the Town of Mammoth Lakes, in response to the virus COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in Mono County, as well as throughout California and the nation, there are insufficient quantities of critical healthcare infrastructure, including hospital beds, ventilators and workers, capable of adequately treating mass numbers of patients at a single time – should the virus spread unchecked; and

WHEREAS, in direct response to that lack of healthcare infrastructure, governments across the world are taking actions to slow the spread of COVID-19 in order to slow the spread of infection and reduce the numbers of individuals infected at any one time by minimizing situations where the virus can spread; and

WHEREAS, among the ways in which the State of California and local governments are minimizing the spread of the virus is through the adoption of guidelines and modifications applicable to businesses and other activities which promote safe practices such as sanitization, social distancing, masking and others; and

WHEREAS, the Mono County Health Officer seeks to provide guidance for campgrounds and RV Parks to enable them to operate in the safest manner possible;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, effective immediately, under the authority of California Health and Safety Code sections 101040, 101085 and 120175 and Title 17 California Code of Regulations, Section 2501, the Mono County Health Officer **HEREBY ORDERS** as follows:

- 1. Any business re-opening during the COVID-19 pandemic emergency, including campgrounds and RV Parks, must have a re-opening plan that meets State of California's and Mono County's requirements. Businesses shall submit this plan, and will find further instructions, on the Mono County COVID-19 Business Portal, accessed [here](#).**
- 2. Campgrounds and RV Parks may not promote prohibited non-essential travel and therefore shall not advertise that they are open for business, beyond posting an "open" sign or the equivalent. This includes internet and social media advertisements and invitations.**

- 3. Guidance related to Campgrounds and RV Parks is expected to be released by the State of California in the near future. That guidance may be more or less restrictive than the following. Until that guidance is released, campgrounds and RV Parks shall operate at up to 75% of their normal capacity, or provide a distance of 20 feet between each campsite, whichever provides a greater distance between household units/traveler groups.**
- 4. Bathrooms must be closed to guests OR be frequently and diligently cleaned. This requires cleaning at regular intervals of between 15 minutes and 1 hour in a meticulous, careful and conscientious manner, with the goal of accomplishing a thorough cleaning and disinfecting. Note that if bathrooms are closed, tent camping must be prohibited.**
- 5. Comply with applicable requirements contained in the County's Interim Guidelines for all Businesses during COVID-19 Pandemic, accessed [here](#).**

Recommended (not required):

- Implement no-touch check-in and check-out procedures where feasible.
- Self-contained RVs are preferred over tent camping due to bathroom usage.
- Close common areas where people gather, including media/game rooms. If these are left open facilitate distancing, with flexibility for members of a single household unit.

This Order will be effective immediately and continue until modified or rescinded. A declaration of the end of the local health emergency due to COVID-19 will also automatically rescind this order.

### **General Provisions**

1. This Order is issued as a result of the worldwide pandemic of COVID-19 disease, also known as "novel coronavirus," which has infected at least 529,591 individuals worldwide in 175 countries and is implicated in over 23,970 worldwide deaths, including 21 cases and one death in Mono County.

2. This Order is issued based on evidence of transmission of COVID-19 both within the County of Mono and worldwide, scientific evidence regarding the most effective approach to slow transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically, as well as best practices as currently known and available to protect the public from the risk of spread or exposure to COVID-19.

3. This Order is intended to reduce the likelihood of exposure to COVID-19, thereby slowing the spread of COVID-19 in communities worldwide. As the presence of individuals increases, the difficulty and magnitude of tracing individuals who may have been exposed to a case rises exponentially.

4. This Order is issued in accordance with, and incorporates by reference, the: March 4, 2020 Proclamation of a State Emergency issued by Governor Gavin Newsom; the March 15, 2020 Declaration of Local Health Emergency based on an imminent and proximate threat to public health from the introduction of novel COVID-19 in Mono County; the March 17, 2020 Resolution

of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mono proclaiming the existence of a Local Emergency in the County of Mono regarding COVID-19 and ratifying and extending the Declaration of Local Health Emergency due to COVID-19; the guidance issued on March 11, 2020 by the California Department of Public Health regarding large gatherings of 250 people or more; Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-25-20 of March 12, 2020 preparing the State to commandeer hotels and other places of temporary residence, medical facilities, and other facilities that are suitable as places of temporary residence or medical facilities as necessary for quarantining, isolating or treating individuals who test positive for COVID-19 or who have had a high-risk exposure and are thought to be in the incubation period; the guidance issued on March 15, 2020 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the California Department of Public Health, and other public health officials through the United States and around the world recommending the cancellation of gatherings involving more than fifty (50) or more persons in a single space at the same time; the March 16, 2020 order of the Public Health Officer prohibiting all gatherings with expected presence above ten (10) individuals; and Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-33-20 of March 19, 2020 ordering all persons to stay at home to protect the health and well-being of all Californians and to establish consistency across the state in order to slow the spread of COVID-19.

5. This Order is made in accordance with all applicable State and Federal laws, including but not limited to: Health and Safety Code sections 101030, et seq.; Health and Safety Code sections 120100, et seq.; and Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations section 2501.

6. To the extent necessary, pursuant to Government Code sections 26602 and 41601 and Health and Safety Code section 101029, the Health Officer requests that the Sheriff and all Chiefs of Police in the County ensure compliance with and enforcement of this Order.

7. This Order is made because of the propensity of the virus to spread person-to-person and also because the virus is causing physical property loss or damage due to its proclivity to attach to surfaces for prolonged periods of time.

8. Copies of this Order shall promptly be posted on the County of Mono's Public Health Department's website (monohealth.com) and provided to any member of the public requesting a copy of this Order.

*Thomas Boo, MD*

Date May 28, 2020

Thomas Boo, MD  
Local Health Officer  
For Mono County  
and the Town of Mammoth Lakes