

MARCH 31, 2020
STANDING PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER
RELATED TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND NECESSARY RESTRICTIONS ON
SHORT-TERM LODGING IN GRAND COUNTY

GRAND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR
MARCH 31, 2020

PURPOSE

This Public Health Order is being issued to limit the health impacts of COVID-19. In addition to imposing additional restrictions on Short-Term Rentals, as defined herein, within Grand County, Colorado, this Order incorporates all past, present, and future guidance, requirements, and restrictions issued by both the Governor of Colorado and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

MOST RESTRICTIVE STANDARD CONTROLS

To the extent any State and/or Federal orders or laws are more restrictive than what is set forth herein, such State and/or Federal orders control. Individuals should be aware that new orders are being issued on an almost daily basis from Governor Polis and CDPHE, and all members of the public are responsible for following the Governor's orders, CDPHE orders, and local orders.

ORDER

1. State and Federal Social Distancing Requirements, and Prohibitions and Restrictions on Certain Events, Gatherings, Business Operations, and Other Activities Remain in Full Force in Grand County: This local Order incorporates guidance, requirements, and restrictions issued by both the Governor of Colorado and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Local enforcement is authorized for any and all orders and restrictions of the State that are intended to respond to and mitigate the effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on public health. CDPHE's and the governor's executive orders can be found at www.covid19.colorado.gov
2. Additional Local Restrictions on Short-Term Lodging:
 - a. This Order prohibits all Short-Term Lodging (STR) operations from operating and taking new reservations from the date of this Order until April 30, 2020.
 - b. Short-Term Lodging is all lodging for a term of 30 days or less and includes, but is not limited to, campgrounds (whether private or government operated), reserved camping sites, hotels, motels, bed and breakfast establishments, lodges, retreats and "short term rentals" (30 days or less). Consecutive 30 day

lodging terms will be treated as Short-Term Lodging unless separated by a 15 day gap in occupancy.

- c. All short term lodging units must be vacated through April 30, 2020.
- d. STR owners are encouraged to temporarily suspend advertising for their rental units. REGARDLESS, any STR owners who continue to advertise their rental units must include in any advertisement that the unit is not available for rent during the period of time this Order prohibiting Short-Term Lodging is in effect.
- e. Exceptions:
 - i. Subject to approval of the Grand County Public Health Director, Short-Term Lodging may be permitted for emergency or quarantine purposes.
 - ii. Subject to approval of the Grand County Public Health Director, Short-Term Lodging may be permitted for essential federal, state, county, or local personnel.
 - iii. Subject to approval of the Grand County Public Health Director, Short-Term Lodging may be permitted for local employee housing for employees serving “Essential Businesses” as defined businesses are defined by applicable public health orders or rules.
 - iv. If Individual(s) are experiencing symptoms of illness, or are under a quarantine or isolation order from Grand County Public Health, or in the judgement of the Grand County Public Health Director, or have other good cause to do so they may remain in any Short-Term Lodging unit currently occupied by such individual(s) and shall be exempt from the limitations set forth herein so long as such individuals(s) remain in the unit.
- f. For the avoidance of doubt, dispersed camping on Federal public lands is permitted so long as campers are otherwise in compliance with this Order and practicing social distancing, and are in compliance with the rules and regulations of the applicable federal agency.

FINDINGS

The objective of current and future COVID-19 pandemic related orders of the federal government, Colorado Governor, State Public Health Department, and Grand County Public Health is to increase social distancing and reduce the likelihood of exposure to COVID-19, thereby slowing the spread of COVID-19 in our communities and associated stress on the medical system.

EFFECTIVE AREA OF ORDER

This Public Health Order is effective within the entirety of Grand County, including all towns within the County.

EFFECTIVE DATE AND TIME

This Public Health Order will become effective April 2nd at 5:00pm, unless otherwise specifically provided for herein, and will remain in effect until further notice.

COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

While to date the incidence of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Grand County has been limited, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has confirmed that COVID-19 continues to spread throughout the State of Colorado, including Grand County. Health officials anticipate that community transmission of the COVID-19 will continue to increase in the Grand County population, along with the rest of the State and Country.

The age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population in Grand County places it at risk of serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19. Although most individuals who contract COVID-19 do not become seriously ill, persons with mild symptoms and asymptomatic persons with COVID-19 may place other vulnerable members of the public at significant risk. Moreover, a large surge in the number of persons with serious infections can compromise the ability of the healthcare system to deliver necessary healthcare to the public, especially where health care resources are limited.

The limitations on human contact that health experts have determined decrease the risk of transmission of COVID-19 to our most vulnerable populations include: limits on large gatherings; business closures and operations restrictions; visitor restrictions for at risk populations, and; the use of social distancing. Implementation of these tactics are especially important for people who are over 65 years old and those with chronic health conditions due to their higher risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19. The current and future COVID-19 pandemic related orders of the State Public Health Department will reduce the likelihood that many individuals will be exposed to COVID-19 at a single event, and will therefore slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities.

AUTHORITY AND ENFORCEMENT

This Order is adopted pursuant to the legal authority set forth in sections 25-1-506, 25-1-508, and 25-1-509 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, as well as other applicable laws, rules, regulations, orders, and declarations. Under these laws and regulations, the Grand County Public Health Director: has the duty to investigate and control the causes of epidemic or communicable diseases and conditions affecting public health; to prohibit the gatherings of people to protect the public health, and; to establish, maintain, and enforce isolation and quarantine, and in

pursuance thereof, and for this purpose only, to exercise physical control over property and over the persons of the people within Grand County as Grand County Public Health may find necessary for the protection of the public health.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER IS, IN ADDITION TO THE ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES AVAILABLE TO STATE AUTHORITIES, SUBJECT TO LOCAL ENFORCEMENT AND THE PENALTIES CONTAINED IN SECTIONS 25-1-516 AND 18-1.3-501, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES, INCLUDING A FINE OF UP TO FIVE THOUSAND (5,000) DOLLARS AND IMPRISONMENT IN THE COUNTY JAIL FOR UP TO EIGHTEEN MONTHS. FURTHERMORE, PURSUANT TO SECTION 14.8(K) OF THE GRAND COUNTY ZONING REGULATIONS, FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER MAY LEAD TO SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY'S GRAND COUNTY ISSUED SHORT TERM RENTAL PERMIT.

FURTHER GUIDANCE & INFORMATION RESOURCES

1. CO.GRAND.CO.US/COVID19
2. COVID19.COLORADO.GOV
3. Further guidelines for social distance are available at [https://covid19.colorado.gov/public-health-executive-orders-explained].

If you have questions regarding this Order please call the 24-Hour STR Hotline at 970-725-6022 or Grand County Short Term Rentals at 970-725-3737. For questions regarding Grand County's COVID-19 response please contact the Grand County Joint Information Center at 970-725-3803 or email jicgrandcounty@gmail.com

To report violations of this order or others, please visit CO.GRAND.CO.US/VIOLATION.

Grand County Public Health is tasked with protecting the health and welfare of the citizens of Grand County, Colorado by investigating and controlling the causes of epidemic and communicable disease. This Order is necessary to control any potential transmission of disease to others. See section 25-1-508, Colorado Revised Statutes. Immediate issuance of this Order is necessary for the preservation of public health, safety, or welfare. Any person aggrieved and affected by this Order has the right to request judicial review by filing an action with the Grand County District Court within 90 days of the date of this Order, pursuant to section 25-1-515, Colorado Revised Statutes. However, you must continue to obey the terms of this Order while your request for review is pending.



E. Brene Belew-LaDue, RN, BSN - Director
Grand County Public Health

03-31-2020

Date