



CONTINUED VIGILANCE AND BEST PRACTICES DURING HOLIDAY SEASON

Updates to COVID-19 Operating Requirements

The holiday season is one of the favorite times in Middleburg. Nonetheless, the COVID-19 pandemic remains a constant threat to the health and safety of our community.

Recently, there have been a few instances of businesses in and around the Middleburg area that have reported COVID-19 infections. While the threat to our community is no different than when the pandemic began in March, these incidents remind us to be **cautious, vigilant, and safe**.

Some of the most important tips are below:

Wear a Face Covering:

- This is one of the most effective ways to help stop the spread
- Ensure that your face covering completely and tightly covers your mouth and nose
- Even at family or social gatherings, wear a face covering except when eating or drinking
- The Governor's Executive Order requires ALL persons 5 years and older to wear a face covering, with limited exceptions, in all public, indoor spaces
- Employees **MUST** wear a face covering!

Wash Hands Frequently:

- Germs continue to spread through touch, so wash your hands frequently
- Regularly use hand sanitizer, if you are not able to wash your hands
- We all have a tendency to touch our face, nose, eyes, or ears; **avoid** as much as possible

Keep Physically Distanced:

- Maintaining 6-feet of separation, even while wearing a face covering, is crucial to stopping the spread
- Being in "close contact" (within 6-feet for 15 minutes over a 24-hour period of time) with someone, regardless of whether you wear a face covering, increases your risk of infection
- Avoid large crowds, especially in small, indoor areas; find alternate days to shop

Limit Holiday Activities:

- Avoid large gatherings, even with extended family
- Consider virtual or outside gatherings to limit distance with persons outside your immediate family
- Remember that singing and loud talking allows the virus to travel further distances

Be Aware of Symptoms:

- [As soon as you show signs of symptoms](#), isolate yourself and notify those with whom you may have had close contact
- [Find a testing site](#) and get tested to determine your possible infection with COVID-19

IMPORTANT LINKS:

Keep in touch with the following sources of information:

- [Loudoun County Coronavirus Page](#)
- [Virginia Department of Health Coronavirus Page and Key Data](#)
- [CDC Coronavirus Page](#)
- [Virginia Business Operating Guidelines](#)
- [Governor of Virginia Executive Orders and Orders of Public Health Emergency](#)