



## **LIMITING ACTIVITIES OF PEOPLE AS NECESSARY TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH STAY AT HOME ORDER**

The Ouray County Public Health Agency (OCPHA) is working to stop the spread of novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) in Colorado. I find it necessary to limit the activities of people in Ouray County as necessary in order to protect public health.

### **FINDINGS**

1. COVID-19 was first detected in Wuhan, China in late 2019, and since then has spread to over 60 countries including the United States. There are 5,172 known presumptive positive cases of COVID-19 in Colorado as of April 6, 2020, and there is every expectation that more cases will be diagnosed.
2. There are 3 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ouray County as of April 6, 2020 with expectations that more cases will be diagnosed.
3. COVID-19 is a respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus, and like other respiratory illnesses, is transmitted through person-to-person contact or by contact with surfaces contaminated with the virus. Persons infected with COVID-19 may become symptomatic anywhere from two to fourteen days after exposure. Symptoms include fever, cough or shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
4. Individuals with serious chronic health conditions and older adults are most at risk for becoming very ill with this disease.
5. On March 10, 2020, the Governor of Colorado declared a State of Emergency related to the presence of COVID-19 in the State. CDPHE has confirmed that COVID-19 continues to spread throughout the State of Colorado.
6. On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency due to COVID-19.
7. On March 16, 2020, The Ouray County Board of County Commissioners declared a disaster emergency due to the spreading virus.
8. On March 19, 2020, the Incident Command Policy Group met to discuss strategies and information to combat the spread of the virus.
9. On March 20, 2020, the Ouray County Unified Command issued Public Health Orders to limit mass gatherings, place restrictions on short-term lodging, and to close bars, restaurants, theaters, gymnasiums and nonessential personal services facilities countywide.
10. On March 26, 2020, the Governor of Colorado issued Executive Order D 2020 017, ordering Coloradans to stay at some due to the presence of COVID-19 in the state.
11. A significant number of Coloradans are 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. 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. Colorado is experiencing a rapid increase in COVID-19 transmission that threatens the health of residents and risks overwhelming the healthcare system in the state of Colorado.

## ORDER

**Effective at 4:00 PM on April 7, 2020 until April 30, 2020, all Non-residential Homeowners and/or Seasonal Residents are discouraged from traveling to Ouray County. If such persons enter the County, they shall follow a mandatory 14-day Quarantine.**

**I. Definitions.** For purposes of this Order:

1. **“Non-residential Homeowners or Seasonal Residents”** are persons who own a home or rent in Ouray County but are not legally domiciled here.
2. **“Quarantine”** is used to separate people believed to have been exposed, in this case, to COVID-19 in the event they are infected. Quarantine is used so people who have been exposed do not spread the virus. People subject to quarantine are to remain home for 14-days from the time of exposure. This means no trips to the post office, grocery store, etc. It is imperative that the person severely restrict their movement and stay at least six (6) feet away from others.
3. **“Isolation”** is used when a person or persons are exhibiting symptoms of disease and is stricter than Quarantine. The sick person not only stays home, but is isolated, that is completely separated from all person in the household who are not sick.
4. **“Visitor”** includes persons who are traveling to Ouray County to vacation, staying in a short-term rental, hotel or fractional share accommodation, or someone who does not claim Ouray County as their primary residence.

**II.** Visitors to Ouray County are directed to return home immediately upon the issuance of this Order by the fastest and safest available means, and persons considering visiting Ouray County shall remain home and not travel to Ouray County.

**III.** All Non-resident Homeowners are strongly encouraged to leave or not travel to Ouray County as we have very limited community resources. Non-resident Homeowners who choose to come to Ouray County shall Quarantine or Isolate in their home for fourteen (14) days upon arrival to prevent the possible spread of COVID-19 which includes not being out in public for Essential Activities or to access Essential Businesses, as defined in Executive Order D 2020 017. Please be prepared to be self-sufficient during this time and have groceries, mail and anything else you may need delivered to your property. If you come to your home in Ouray County, you must understand the current county public health orders and be



prepared to possibly stay in Ouray County for the coming weeks (after the 14-day Quarantine or Isolation) as the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve.

OCPHA is tasked with protecting the health and welfare of the citizens of 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. Immediate issuance of this Order is necessary for the preservation of public health, safety, or welfare.

**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER MAY SUBJECT YOU TO THE PENALTIES CONTAINED IN C.R.S. § 25-1-516 AND 18-1.3-501, INCLUDING A FINE OF UP TO FIVE THOUSAND (5,000) DOLLARS AND IMPRISONMENT IN THE COUNTY JAIL FOR UP TO EIGHTEEN MONTHS.**

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Tanner Kingery, MPH, Public Health Director

Date: April 7, 2020