



SUPERSEDING DECLARATION OF A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of North Carolina declared a State of Emergency to coordinate the State's response and protective actions to address the Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") public health emergency and provide for the health, safety, and welfare of residents and visitors located in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, based on public health guidance from the World Health Organization, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the United States Department of Health and Human Services and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Jackson County declared a Local State of Emergency on March 16, 2020 in an effort to promote social distancing to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Jackson County issued a Supplemental Declaration of a Local State of Emergency on March 23, 2020 and a Modified Second Supplemental to Declaration of a Local State of Emergency on Monday, March 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and for the purpose of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the people of North Carolina, the Governor of North Carolina has issued Executive Order Nos. 116-122, 124-125, 129-131, 133-136 and Executive Order No. 138; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order NO. 138 begins a phased approach to lifting the restrictions implemented in the previous Executive Orders while still working to slow and control community spread of COVID-19 which is critical so that healthcare facilities remain able to accommodate those who require medical assistance; and

WHEREAS, the continued community spread of COVID-19 within North Carolina and within Jackson County requires some measures remain in place to continue to slow the spread of this virus during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the capacity for testing and tracing has increased as has the availability of personal protective equipment and several key metrics used to measure the spreading of COVID-19 have stabilized though daily case counts of COVID-19 continue to increase; and

WHEREAS, the risk of COVID-19 transmission remains high, particularly with regard to indoor settings with an increased likelihood of close contact; and

WHEREAS, Jackson County appreciates the phased lifting of restrictions implemented by Executive Order No. 138 issued by the Governor of North Carolina and desires to remain consistent with this Order in lifting restrictions in Jackson County.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Jackson County under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes and the Emergency Management Ordinance for the County of Jackson I hereby declare:

1. Jackson County remains under a State of Emergency as declared on March 16, 2020. All Supplemental Declarations including the Supplemental Declaration issued on March 23, 2020 and the Modified Second Supplemental to Declaration of a Local State of Emergency issued on March 30, 2020 imposing additional restrictions are hereby terminated. Jackson County remains subject to all of the Governor's Executive Orders.
2. As set forth in Executive Order No. 138 and in accordance with guidance from the Jackson County Health Director it is recommended that individuals leaving their residence for Allowable Activities permitted by the Executive Order are strongly advised to take the following steps to reduce transmission:
 - a. Maintain at least six (6) feet social distancing from other individuals, with the exception of family or household members.
 - b. Wear a cloth face covering when leaving home and wear it inside all public settings such as grocery stores, pharmacies, or other retail or public-serving businesses. A face Covering should also be worn outdoors when you cannot maintain at least six (6) feet distancing from other people with the exception of family or household members. These coverings function to protect other people more than the wearer.
 - c. Carry hand sanitizer with you when leaving home, and use it frequently.
 - d. Wash hands using soap and water for at least twenty (20) seconds as frequently as possible.
 - e. Regularly clean high-touch surfaces such as steering wheels, wallets and phones.
 - f. Stay at home if sick.

3. Though Lodging Facilities such as hotels, motels and short-term rentals are allowed to have a limited opening under Executive Order No. 138, individuals need to remain vigilant to stop the spread of this virus. Jackson County looks forward to the return of tourists to the area when appropriate but this is not the time for a vacation. Hotel and Motel amenities, such as swimming pools, fitness centers and eat-in areas, may be limited or unavailable pursuant to the Governor's Order. Hotels and Rental Landlords should follow CDC guidelines on cleaning hotels and rental units including using an EPA-approved disinfectant for COVID-19 between customers.
4. Key metrics related to COVID-19 will continue to be monitored and restrictions may be reinstated or new ones implemented if trends indicate the need.

By and with the consent of the mayors of the municipalities within Jackson County, this Declaration of Local State of Emergency applies within the municipal limits of the Town of Sylva, the Town of Dillsboro, the Town of Webster and the Village of Forest Hills.

This Declaration is in addition to the Executive Orders referenced above and should any provision hereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional by any court of any competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not affect the validity of this Declaration that as a whole or any part thereof which is not specifically declared to be invalid or unconstitutional.

We direct that copies of this Declaration be disseminated to the mass communications media for publication and broadcast and that a copy of this Declaration be posted at the Jackson County Justice and Administration Building and other public buildings as appropriate.

All of the terms and conditions of that said Local State of Emergency declared on March 16, 2020 remain in force and effect.

This Superseding Declaration of Local State of Emergency for Jackson County shall begin on May 8, 2020 at 5:00pm and shall remain in effect unless terminated or modified as long as the Jackson County Local State of Emergency remains in force and effect.

Adopted this the 7th day of May, 2020 at 5:00pm.



JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By: Brian Thomas McMahon
BRIAN THOMAS MCMAHAN, Chairman

Attest:

Angela M. Winchester
ANGELA M. WINCHESTER, Clerk to the Board