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THURSTON COUNTY
WASHINGTON
SINCE 1852

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND
SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

Updated 18 March 2020

Schelli Slaughter,
Director

Governor Inslee signed [Proclamation 20-13](#) that bans on-site consumption in rest service establishments beginning March 17, 2020. *Here are the details:*

- Take-out and delivery service will still be allowed.
- The closure does **not** apply to grocery stores.
- Mobile food trucks and trailers fall under the "to-go" exemption and can operate. We encourage operators to try to operate with reduces staff inside for social distancing.
- The ban will be in effect until March 31. It may be extended if needed.
- The flow of customers in stores must be controlled. Stores must designate someone to be responsible for establishing and implementing a social distancing plan to control the number of customers entering the store and maintain distance between them.

Social Distancing Summary

NOT ALLOWED	ALLOWED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gatherings of 50+ Attendees • Youth Sports (games and practices) • Leisure / Hobby / Social Clubs • Concerts • Exhibitions • Festivals • Movie Theaters • Theaters • Barbers • Tattoo Parlors • Other similar civic, community, leisure, recreational activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Clubs • Senior Centers • Trade Shows • Sporting Events • Weddings / Funerals • Gyms / Fitness Centers • Art Galleries • Nail Salons • Non-Tribal Card Rooms
<p>FOOD & BEVERAGE with ON-SITE CONSUMPTION [Take-out / Delivery / Drive-through still allowed]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restaurants • Coffee Shops • Breweries / Distilleries • College / Higher Education Dining Halls • Airport Restaurants & Bars (grab-&-go allowed) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gatherings of Less Than 50 Attendees <small>(As long as the entity designates an employee or officer who sets and implements social distancing and sanitation measures established by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Washington State Department of Health guidelines.)</small> • Grocery Stores • Gas Stations • Libraries • RV Sites / Campgrounds / Rental Cabins / State Parks • Massage / Physical Therapy / Acupuncture <p>On-site food service is still permitted for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Care and Day Care • K-12 School-based Food Programs
	<p>ALL OTHER RETAIL STORES AND BIG BOX STORES must designate an employee / officer to be responsible for establishing and implementing a social distancing plan.</p>

Above summary provided by WA State Governor's Office March 17, 2020

Attached are guidance documents on *Dining Area Closures* and *Supply Chain Issues & Conservation Strategies* prepared by the Washington State Department of Health.

We know that this will have a tremendous impact on our local restaurants. There are several ways you might consider changing your business in response to this, including limiting hours and simplifying your menu to better support grab and go and take-out orders.

We also remind you to:

- Reinforce good hand washing, not working while sick, and covering coughs/sneezes.

- Consider donating any extra food to the local food bank, rather than waiting for it to expire and throwing it away.

Food banks ask you to contact them before coming to drop off food. This way you can connect with a foodbank worker directly and avoid delays or having to wait in line.

Thurston County Foodbank

220 Thurston Ave. N.E. Olympia, WA. 98501

Hope Evarts, Operations Manager

(360) 352-8597 ext. 205, or cscmanager@thurstoncountyfoodbank.org

Hours, 8-4:30 M-F

Warehouse Distribution Center

2260 Mottman Rd SE, Tumwater WA 98512

Hours M-F 8-4:30

Please contact us if you have further food safety questions at 360-867-2667. Email questions to foodapplication@co.thurston.wa.us.

Our collective response to COVID-19 will continue to change very rapidly. Please check back frequently for changing guidance.

KEEP CURRENT: Keeping your employees informed and discussing what can be done to protect them will help avoid unnecessary worry. We will post updated information specific for the food industry as needed at:

[https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/phss/phssdocuments/COVID-19 Advice for restaurants and other food businesses.pdf](https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/phss/phssdocuments/COVID-19%20Advice%20for%20restaurants%20and%20other%20food%20businesses.pdf)

Governor's Proclamations (see 20-13) <https://www.governor.wa.gov/office-governor/official-actions/proclamations>

General Thurston County information can also be found at:

<https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/phss/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

The Washington Department of Health will also have information

www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus

Nationally, the Centers for Disease Control has a lot of information at:

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

We are here to provide assistance for you so please contact us with your questions. This community's response to this disease will likely last for many weeks and conditions and recommendations will change so please check out our webpage for updated information. You can reach us at 360.867.2667 or foodapplication@co.thurston.wa.us.

Enclosures (2)