Folly Beach COVID-19 Update 17

As the number of COVID cases spike, the City of Folly has put in place several additional requirements to help disperse crowds and slow the spread. First, businesses are prohibited from holding live music or other events that draw a crowd after 9:00 p.m. Second, farmers markets and other special events are not permitted during the duration of the emergency ordinance. Finally, City Council clarified the mask rules in restaurants to remind patrons that the mask can only be removed when seated; masks must be worn if standing and ordering at the bar, waiting to be seated, walking to the restroom, etc. Public Safety is empowered to disperse crowds of more than 3 people.

Business Requirements:
1. Businesses may not allow live music, DJ’s, trivia, contests, or other crowd-drawing activities after 9:00 p.m.
2. Farmers markets and other mobile-vendors are not permitted at any time unless the mobile-vendor has been in place continuously for 30 days prior to the emergency ordinance.
3. Businesses must require all employees to wear a Face Covering at all times.
4. All businesses must post a notice in their business visible to customers entering the business or waiting to enter the business informing customers that the use of Face Coverings by customers and employees is mandated by law. Failure to post such a notice is a violation of this Emergency Ordinance.
5. Businesses are required to promptly notify a Public Safety Officer or the Folly Beach Public Safety Dispatch office of noncompliance.
6. Businesses may offer curbside service, provide home delivery, or use some other reasonable measure to deliver its goods or services to those customers exempted from mask requirements. Businesses are strongly encouraged to follow all CDC and industry guidelines on face coverings, social distancing, occupancy, and sanitation procedures. Businesses are encouraged to not hold any events that may create situations where occupancy limits are exceeded or social distancing is not possible.
7. Three violations (even in one day) by a business will result in suspension or revocation of business license in addition to fines specified.

Mask Requirements:

“Face Covering” or “mask” means a cloth, fabric, or other soft or permeable material, without vents or holes, that securely covers both the mouth and nose and remains affixed in place without the use of one’s hands. Face Coverings include, but are not limited to, medical masks, N-95 respirators, face shields, scarves, handmade masks, bandanas, and neck gaiters such that they securely cover the person’s nose and mouth.

1. Masks should be worn by every person working, living, visiting, or doing business within the City of Folly Beach when:
   a. Inside a building open to the public;
   b. Waiting to enter a building open to the public;
   c. Interacting with other people in outdoor spaces, including, but not limited to, curbside pickup, delivery, and service calls; and
d. Walking outdoors where maintaining a distance of six (6) feet between other members of public at all times is not possible.

2. The exceptions are:
   a. Persons under the age of three years old; or
   b. Persons for whom a face covering would cause impairment due to an existing health condition or disability; or
   c. Persons in personal vehicles; or
   d. Persons while outdoors and maintaining a minimum of six (6) feet from other people, other than members of their household, at all times; or
   e. Customers seated in a restaurant or bar so long as they maintain a minimum of six (6) feet from other persons in the establishment, other than members of their households. The server and other front of the house staff must wear a Face Covering during these interactions; or
   f. Persons alone or with members of their household in an enclosed space.
   g. Persons acting in compliance with directions of law enforcement officers.

Failure to comply with this Emergency Ordinance, including efforts to circumvent this ordinance, may be penalized as a civil infraction fine of $100.00. Persons found attempting to circumvent local or state laws or employing deceptive practices will be charged to the full extent of the law.

Operations and Other Information

1. Public Safety will respond to calls, but please expect extra questions from Dispatch to screen for COVID symptoms for the safety of the public and our officers. Please use the Dispatch phone number (843-588-2433) rather than walk-in for non-emergency questions. The station will be closed to the public for tours and drop-ins.

2. City Hall is operating via virtual, phone, and dropbox operations until further notice.
   a. All nonessential business walk-in customer service is terminated at this time.
   b. Building permits and business licenses may be applied for online, but please expect delays as staff focuses on emergency operations.
   c. Parking and Court tickets can only be paid online or by mail to PO Box 48/Folly Beach, SC 29439
   d. All payments can be made online via credit card or through the drop box in the lobby of City Hall, or by mail to PO Box 48/Folly Beach, SC 29439. Temporarily, we will accept credit card payments over the phone during the declared state of emergency.

3. All City meetings will be conducted virtually. Instructions for public comment will be included with each agenda.

4. All City-sponsored recreational clinics and lessons are paused during the duration of this emergency ordinance.

Medical Testing

If you are experiencing life-threatening symptoms including respiratory distress, please call 911.

For all other symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever, cough or shortness of breath, MUSC Health Virtual Care telehealth service is offering COVID-19 screenings free of charge to South Carolina residents experiencing COVID-19-like symptoms located in South Carolina. Non-residents may use the service but may be charged for the visit and the panel. All MUSC screenings must be initiated online through their telehealth service: https://campaigns.muschealth.org/virtual-care/index.html. No walk-up traffic is accepted at the drive-through testing location. You may also be able to obtain testing through your regular doctor’s office and lab, dependent on each medical provider’s capabilities. Please check with your doctor’s office as capabilities continue to be expanded daily. The Governor has requested that doctors offices and insurance companies to provide tests at no charge; however, this is not a mandate and may not be followed by every provider.
Prevention

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Stay home and practice social distancing, whether or not you are experiencing symptoms
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow CDC’s recommendations for using a facemask.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
  - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

About Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

All citizens are encouraged to review the information below and make plans for you and your family in the event of disruptions to your daily routine.

- About Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
- How it spreads
- Symptoms
- Prevention & treatment
- Testing
- Frequently Asked Questions
- South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Latest Updates
- Centers for Disease Control Latest Updates

Information for Travel

- Coronavirus Disease 2019 Information for Travel
- FAQ for travelers