



Keeping You Connected to the Latest COVID-19 Virus Information

Madison County's Community and Economic Development Department is providing you information on the COVID-19 Virus and various resources that are available. The goal is to keep you informed on the latest information that is being provided by various sources. If you want specific information, please email me, Terry Bellamy, at tbellamy@madisoncountync.gov.

Important Information:



Message from the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina:

Governor Cooper announced [Executive Order No. 121](#) on Friday, and I've been getting additional questions regarding "essential business" determinations regarding manufacturers. From what

I'm reading, industries are supposed to determine on their own if they are or aren't essential. Specifically, the NC Emergency Management's Business Emergency Operations Center had stated "*In the event of a statewide or local Stay at Home order, businesses should consult the Order and any Guidance related to the Order, and determine whether they can continue operations. No documentation will be required to continue operating within the parameters of any statewide Order.*"

My advice for any business would be to read the entire order for guidance. Many companies may find their answer in Section 2, number 26:

Manufacture, distribution, and supply chain for critical products and industries. *"Manufacturing companies, distributors, and supply chain companies producing and supplying essential products and services in and for industries such as pharmaceutical, technology, biotechnology, healthcare, chemicals and sanitization, waste pickup and disposal, agriculture, food and beverage, transportation, energy, steel and steel products, petroleum and fuel,*

mining, construction, communications, as well as products used or commonly sold by other COVID-19 Essential Businesses and Operations.”

Additionally, they may find support in Section 2, number 2. I went to the website and found dozens of references to specific types of manufacturing:

Businesses operating in CISA identified sectors.

“Businesses, not-for-profit organizations or educational institutions operating in the federal critical infrastructure sectors as outlined at <https://www.cisa.gov/identifying-critical-infrastructure-during-covid-19>

Or any subsequent guidance by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security that amends or replaces said guidance.”

Businesses that have reviewed the Governor’s order and determined they may continue operations do not need to contact the NC Department of Revenue. If they feel they are excluded from the list of COVID-19 Essential Businesses and Operations but believe that they may be essential, then they have the opportunity to make a request to the Department to be included as a COVID-19 Essential Business or Operation. A business that has made a request to the Department to be included as a COVID-19 Essential Business or Operation may continue to operate until that request is acted upon.

<https://www.ncdor.gov/home/ncdor-actions-covid-19/covid-19-essential-businesses>

I have also received questions about enforcement of the order, and below is what I found in regards to that question.

From the [Governor’s’ FAQs provided with the Stay At Home Order](#)

How will this Executive Order be enforced?

Governor Cooper is seeking voluntary cooperation from all state residents and businesses to ensure the health and safety of our communities. If voluntary cooperation is not achieved, state and local law enforcement officers have the authority to enforce the Order.

Josh Carpenter,
Existing Industry Expansion Manager
EDPNC

**Keep Up To Date With COVID-19 via the
Center for Disease Control**

The [CDC](#) is actively working to create new ways to educate the public about remaining safe. Here is their latest info. "Take simple daily precautions to help prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses like [#COVID19](#)."

Learn more at: bit.ly/37Ay6Cm

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)



You can help prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses with these actions:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose & mouth.
- Practice social distancing by putting space between yourself & others.
- Wash hands often with soap & water for at least 20 seconds.

cdc.gov/coronavirus

316159-A March 25, 2020 8:00 AM

Resources

Here are some resources that are currently available to assist you.

We're all in this
T  **GETHER**

Be kind
and help
neighbors
if you can

Practice
patience

Check in
with friends
and family

Help reduce misinformation about COVID-19. Please visit these sites for more information.

Local Information:

[Madison County Government](#)

[Madison County Chamber of Commerce](#)

Madison County COVID-19 Hotline 828-649-0755

Small Business Assistance:

Looking for #COVID19 small business guidance and loan resources?

<https://www.sba.gov>

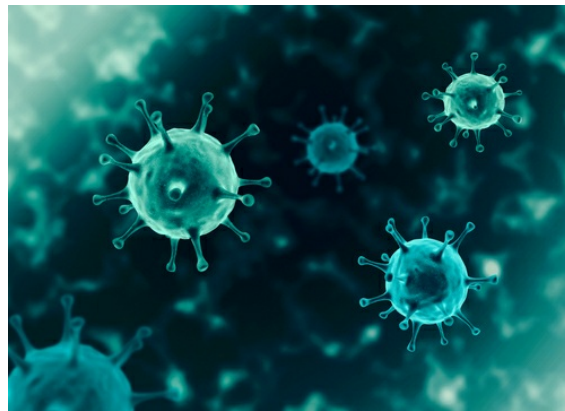
<https://www.mountainbizworks.org>

[North Carolina Small Business Center](#)

Unemployment Questions:

Have questions about your COVID-19 unemployment insurance claim? Read these FAQs from the Division of Employment Security to help you navigate the process.

<https://des.nc.gov/need-help/covid-19-information/covid-19-information-individuals>



What is needed? Help our leaders, help you!

Take three minutes to share how your business is responding to COVID-19 and what resources you may need. Your responses will allow us to promote your business, share creative ideas so we can learn from one another and prepare resources to support businesses like yours. We will also use this information to inform our discussions with elected officials about emergency services and relief.

[Click Here](#)

Count down to Census Day with us!

1

Tomorrow is Census Day!

Pledge to complete the
2020 Census.



#shapeyourfuture

Tomorrow, April 1, 2020 is Census Day! "Now more than ever, it's important to respond to the #2020Census and help shape the future of your community. Respond today at <http://2020CENSUS.GOV>, by phone, or by mail." US Census