



Monroe County Health Department

Monroe County, Indiana

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MONROE COUNTY JOINS STAGE 4 OF INDIANA BACK ON TRACK PLAN WITH TWO DEVIATIONS

BLOOMINGTON: The Monroe County Health Officer, Dr. Thomas Sharp, and the Monroe County Health Department (MCHD) issued a new health order to go into effect June 12th, 2020, replacing the former Health Order. The Order will stay in effect until 11:59 p.m. on July 3rd, 2020, unless repealed and replaced by Dr. Sharp prior to that date and time.

According to the Order, Monroe County residents will follow the Stage IV requirements of Governor Holcomb's Back on Track Plan Indiana, *except for the following deviations made for Monroe County:*

- **Gatherings are limited to no more than 100 people**
- **In order for a restaurant or bar to provide "bar top" service, they must protect bar supplies from possible contamination by patrons at the bar.**

The Governor's Executive Order 20-32 "Back On Track Indiana: Stage Four" is available on the IN.gov website at <https://www.in.gov/gov/2384.htm>.

"We are proceeding slowly, steadily and in a safe manner, knowing that it will take all of us doing our part to keep one another safe," said Dr. Sharp.

All businesses are required to have a COVID-19 prevention plan in place prior to opening to protect their employees and patrons. The Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce also has resources and samples of local business plans on their website at <https://www.chamberbloomington.org/backtobusiness-localbusinessplans.html>.

Places of worship and faith communities are still encouraged to offer virtual services. Religious services themselves are not subject to gathering size limits but related receptions or visitations are restricted.

Penny Caudill, Monroe County Health Department administrator, advises residents to maintain current prevention practices to lessen the chances of an COVID-19 illness. "As the community continues to reopen and more people are out, it is even more important to maintain social distance and to wear a face covering when not able to do so."

The health officer and health department continue to follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and are working closely with local government officials, health leaders, and business partners to gather and share information.

If you are not already participating in the Health Department's "I Pledge" campaign, please take time to sign on and to commit to following 5 COVID-19 prevention steps:

- I will maintain 6 feet of social distance
- I will wash my hands often for at least 20 seconds
- I will wear a face covering or mask when in public
- I will stay home when I am sick
- I will get tested immediately if I have symptoms

For more detailed information on the Governor's Back on Track Indiana Plan, visit <https://backontrack.in.gov/>.

For more information, visit the Monroe County Health Department webpage at www.co.monroe.in.us/HealthDepartment.

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