



Frequently Asked Questions: Summit County Public Health Order

April 27, 2020

I. What are the key components of Summit County Safer at Home?

The goal of this phase is to maintain 60-65% physical distancing. Critical businesses will remain open with strict precautions (social distancing, face coverings should be worn in indoor public places and any other location where maintaining 6 feet of separation is not possible, more frequent cleanings, etc.).

- Retail businesses may open for curbside delivery.
- Elective medical and dental procedures begin, with strict precautions to ensure adequate personal protective equipment and the ability to meet critical care needs.
- Beginning May 1st - Personal services (salons, dog grooming, limited personal training, etc.) will open with strict precautions.
- Telecommuting/Remote work is strongly encouraged for offices. Starting on May 4, up to 50% of staff can work in person (with social distancing in place).
- Nightclubs and gyms will remain closed.
- No group gatherings of 10 or more people.
- K-12 schools remain online only for the 2019-2020 school year.
- Vulnerable populations and older adults (65 and older) must stay home unless absolutely necessary.

II. What Does This Mean for the General Public?

- Follow Summit County Safer at Home guidelines
- Face coverings should be worn in indoor public places and any other location where maintaining 6 feet of separation is not possible
- No gatherings of 10 or more people
- Sick people may not go to work
- Limit non-essential travel

III. What Does This Mean for Adults Aged 65 and Older and Vulnerable Populations?

- Continue to Stay at Home except when absolutely necessary
- Utilize special industry hours for vulnerable populations

IV. What Does This Mean for Seeing Friends and Family?

- People should still limit interactions except with immediate household
- If you do visit/gather with limited family or friends outside of your household, no gatherings of 10 or more people, continue to stay 6 ft apart, wear face coverings, and limit contact

- Stick to solo and non-contact recreation activities like running, walking, or hiking in your local community. Do not travel outside of your local community for recreation. Contact sports and activities that include high touch equipment are prohibited by Safer at Home.
1. **What criteria are you using to determine it is ok to move to “Summit County Safer at Home” restrictions?** According to public health officials, a number of conditions are needed to begin loosening restrictions. These include:
 - Widespread access to testing – while this was not occurring, we now have testing available 7 days per week for anyone that is symptomatic.
 - i. **Centura is testing Monday – Sunday from 9 am – Noon and you can call for a telephonic screening at 970-668-2514**
 - ii. **Vail Health is testing Tuesday and Thursday 8 am – 5 pm with additional days added as needed. If you would like to set up a phone screening please email summitcovidscreening@vailhealth.org**
 - Hospitals and outpatient clinics have capacity to serve both COVID and non-COVID patients – our health care system has significant capacity and has not, at any point thus far, been overwhelmed by COVID patients.
 - Active monitoring of COVID-19 patients and their contacts can be achieved – it is the responsibility of our Public Health Department to do surveillance and contact tracing. The surveillance team is increasing substantially and new staff are being trained. Our local public health agency is well equipped to handle this.
 - A sustained decrease in cases for over 14 days – we do not yet have enough data to demonstrate this, but have met all of the other criteria, including significant capacity within our local health care system.
 2. **How will we know from testing results that things are or are not working?** In order to demonstrate a reduction in the presence of the virus in our community, of the tests that are being conducted, we must see 10% or fewer coming back positive for at least 14 days. With increased testing we will have significantly more data to determine the effectiveness of our measures, when we may be able to loosen them further or determine that they need to be tightened.
 3. **Why aren’t we opening short term lodging?** Short term lodging is a critical component to all aspects of our economy. As we work to contain the virus, the more people that come into our area, the more difficult it is to accomplish adequate social distancing, particularly with so many services closed. There are very few places to spread people out. Individuals visiting from outside the county may also import illness despite all of our efforts to limit the spread locally. Additionally, as more people come in, they put pressure on an already taxed supply chain and could quickly overwhelm our relatively small health care system if a larger outbreak occurs.

- 4. How can you possibly allow childcare centers to open? Children cannot social distance.**
We are still awaiting guidance from the State on what “stricter precautions” entail.
- 5. What are the details for allowing curbside pickup and delivery for retail stores?** Effective April 27, 2020, pursuant to the Governor’s Order and CDPHE Orders all Non-Critical Retail (As defined by the State) may sell goods through delivery service, window service, walk-up service, drive-through service, drive-up service and/or curbside delivery.
- 6. What is included in personal services?** We are awaiting yet to be published guidance from the State of Colorado.
- 7. Organized sports including youth sports?** Activities that include gatherings of 10 or more people, contact sports and those that involve high touch equipment are not allowed such as soccer, basketball, baseball and tennis. Solo or non-contact recreation activities like running, walking or hiking in your local community are advised. Do not travel outside your local community for recreation. Avoid contact sports or equipment.
- 8. What if I have a small office of 2 or 3 people? Do I still have to reduce work force by 50%.**
The State public health order does not specify an exception for small businesses. Based on the guidance we have reviewed to date the threshold is 50% for all size businesses.
- 9. What does the social distancing and safety precautions business plan and process entail?**
Retail and personal service businesses will be required to complete an application describing how they will meet all of the recommended social distancing and safety precautions prior to reopening, for in-person, in-store service. This plan will be posted at the front door of the establishment and must be adhered to at all times. It will include social distancing and safety precautions for employees, customers and others entering the establishment. The plan should be posted on the businesses website and if located within a town the plan should be submitted to the town as well as the county. Please note that currently in-person, in-store services or sales are not allowed and this guidance for retail businesses is in anticipation of future relaxation of the restrictions in the public health order.
- 10. What is the antibody test? When will it be available? How will we use it to make decisions?**
During the ongoing COVID pandemic, many companies are distributing rapid serological test kits to detect IgM and/or IgG antibodies in COVID-19 patients. Some of these tests are being marketed as rapid, point-of-care tests (POC) for use outside the laboratory setting. As of April 21, 2020, none of these tests have been evaluated or approved for this type of use.

CDPHE discourages the use of any serological assay that has not been approved by the FDA or at the state level, for any purpose other than research. Furthermore, until better information about test accuracy and immunity following infection is available, CDPHE recommends against using unapproved antibody testing for purposes other than epidemiological studies, convalescent plasma donation and research.

As of April 21, 2020, no COVID-19 serological tests have been reviewed by or received Emergency Use Authorization for use outside the moderate or high complexity CLIA laboratory setting.

As of April 21, 2020 there are four serological tests that have been granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) by the FDA for COVID-19 testing. FDA EUA's COVID-19 tests are listed here:

<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/emergency-situations-medical-devices/emergency-use-authorizations>. These serology tests have been approved to test blood products from patients suspected of COVID-19 infection, and testing must be performed inside CLIA high and moderate complexity laboratories.

There is no CDC guidance for public health action or interpretation of results from serological testing. The Infectious Disease Society of America has released a COVID-19 Antibody Testing Primer (<https://www.idsociety.org/globalassets/idsa/public-health/covid-19/idsa-covid-19-antibody-testing-primer.pdf>) that provides context on the background and interpretation of antibody tests for COVID-19. Results from all COVID-19 testing, including serological testing, must be reported to CDPHE.

Use of serological tests may give a false sense of safety to patients. While results from these tests may indicate that a patient has been exposed to COVID-19, they cannot reliably determine if the patient is currently infected. Due to open questions related to antibodies and immunity, serological tests cannot definitively predict whether a patient will be immune to infection with the virus in the future, or if they can currently spread the virus to others. Negative antibody test results can be the result of testing early in the infection, prior to the development of a strong immunological response.

Additionally, antibody tests may cross react with other seasonal respiratory viruses resulting in false positive results. If and when any of these issues is meaningfully resolved, CDPHE will update guidance accordingly. The most accurate, FDA-approved testing available at this time is molecular based testing, or PCR testing. This type of testing detects the presence of the COVID-19 virus in patient samples, but is not useful in determining past exposure in fully recovered patients.

11. We have an event planned for 100 people this summer. Should we cancel it?

Unfortunately, we do not have enough data about the presence of the virus in our



community to inform us about how safe it may or may not be to have large events over the summer. We believe this virus is here to stay in our community for an extended period of time, up to 18-24 months before there is a vaccine or a treatment. Because of that, it will likely be some time before we encourage or allow large groups to gather due to safety concerns.

12. How are we communicating all of this information to our Spanish speaking population?

Summit County launched an extensive ad campaign on KQSE, La Nueva mix, pushing messaging on social distancing and instructions for people who are experiencing symptoms. We are providing face mask flyers in English and Spanish through meal distribution points. All press releases and Emergency Blog posts are offered in English and Spanish and are being shared on social media. We are in the process of translating all web content into Spanish; working to contract professional services to provide translations for all BOH meetings. Communications and Public Health staff are participating in an equity task force, which focuses on ensuring the Latinx perspective is heard and incorporated into decision making. This includes weekly Facebook town halls with participation up to 1300 people. This week, a program was launched to provide at least 2,000 cloth face coverings and educational flyers in English and Spanish at the entrance to local grocery stores.

13. What is surveillance and contact tracing and do we have enough capacity to do it with increased testing? Surveillance is the work that local public health agencies do to track the presence of a virus in a community. Once someone is confirmed as infected with a virus, contacts are identified by asking about the person's activities and the activities and roles of the people around them since onset of illness. Contacts can be anyone the person has had contact with. By identifying contacts and then prescribing isolation or quarantine, the surveillance team can help mitigate the spread of the virus. The local surveillance team in Summit County is expanding substantially and new staff are being trained as we speak. Our local public health department is well equipped to handle this.

14. What are the new Summit Stage Routes and how will we make them safe?

Beginning Monday April 27th Summit Stage will resume scheduled transit service on three fixed routes:

- Frisco-Breck-Boreas Pass route will run every two hours from 6:30am to 7:00pm daily
- Frisco-Silverthorne-Dillon-Keystone will run every two hours from 6:30am to 7:00pm daily
- Silverthorne/Wilderness will run on an hour headway from 7:00am to 7:00pm daily
- Copper Mountain and Blue River will remain on a demand-response basis
- Mountain Mobility will resume full operations daily 7:00am to 7:00pm

Safety for our drivers and our passengers will be ensured via the following precautions:



- Two-door buses only on fixed route service and passengers exit through rear doors only
- Drivers and passengers will be required to wear masks
- Number of passengers will be limited to no more than 10 observing social distancing guidelines
- Additional drivers will be prepared with vehicles in case a bus encounters too many people for our limited capacity at a stop or station.

15. I heard Eagle County is opening up, why isn't Summit? Eagle County is still discouraging visitors to the community but is lightening restrictions for locals. Eagle County's health care system has been able to conduct a significantly higher volume of testing which has allowed them to gather more data related to the spread of the virus. Summit County's health care systems recently have greatly expanded capacity, which will allow us to also make similar decisions regarding our own local restrictions in the near future.

16. What are we doing to support/communicate with our neighboring counties? We are in regular communication with neighboring counties around response, recovery and safer at home. Summit County is attempting to have as much of a regional approach as possible. This includes at least weekly, often daily coordination between Public Health Directors, County and Town Managers, and Emergency Managers.

