



Public Health
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Frederick County Health Department

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Frederick County Board of Health Revises COVID-19 Regulations

FREDERICK, MD – The Frederick County Board of Health convened on Tuesday, November 24 to hear an update on COVID-19 in Frederick County and set revised health regulations. Regulation 02-2020 was approved by the Board of Health 5 to 3 and goes into effect in Frederick County at 5pm on Friday, November 27, 2020.

Regulation 02-2020 sought to clarify BOH 01-2020 which was approved on November 12. The changes to regulation BOH 02-2020 include:

- Defining a social gathering as something that includes but is not limited to parties, cookouts, parades, celebrations, festivals, conventions, and fundraisers. This does not include normal business operations that are already under regulation by [Governor Hogan's Executive Order from Nov. 17, 2020](#).
 - Indoor social gatherings of more than 25 people are prohibited
 - Outdoor social gatherings of more than 25 people are prohibited
- Wedding venues will be limited to 50% maximum occupancy or the occupancy for food service establishments, whichever is less. Additional requirements for wedding venues were established.

BOH Regulation 02-2020 retained the following additional limits which are already in effect:

- Requiring face coverings for all persons age 5 years and older in:
 - All indoor public spaces (This includes tobacconist shops, cigar bars, vapor lounges, and hookah lounges.)
 - All public outdoor spaces where the person is unable to consistently maintain at least six feet of distance from individuals who are not members of their household

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- Fitness centers are limited to 25% occupancy and face coverings are required by all persons on the premises, with the exceptions listed in [Governor Hogan's Executive Order from Nov. 17, 2020](#).
- Enforcement of this regulation will include increasing fines starting at \$250

Indoor operations for restaurants, retail establishments, religious facilities, and personal services remain at 50% capacity as set by [Governor Hogan's Executive Order from Nov. 17, 2020](#).

“We are working hard to carefully balance how we can reduce community spread of the virus while still maintaining our daily lives,” said Dr. Barbara Brookmyer, the Health Officer of the Frederick County Health Department. “We want to keep our businesses and community open as much as possible because we know that economic health is important to our personal health. We need each person in Frederick County to do their part to reduce the spread of the virus on a personal level. This is especially important as we’re coming into the time of year when we want to spend more time with our friends and family. Our actions can help reduce the spread or increase it.”

The Board of Health comprises the County Executive and the County Council. The County Health Officer serves as the Executive Officer and Secretary of the Board. The approved regulations and meeting minutes will be available at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/BoardofHealth.

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