

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Clayton County Board of Supervisors Discourage Out of County Visitors

Clayton County Board of Supervisors and the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) remind residents they play a vital role in stopping the spread of COVID-19. A critical part of containment is practicing social distancing.

Social distancing is a term used to describe certain action public health and individuals can take to stop or slow the spread of an infectious disease. The government mandates some actions, like business or school closings. Individuals can also practice social distancing in their everyday lives. These actions include:

All residents should:

- Stay home as much as possible. Leave only for essential errands like groceries or getting medication. When you run these errands, send only one person from the household, if possible.
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoiding groups of people.
- Keeping a 6-foot distance between themselves and those around them; for instance, keeping this distance when in a line at the grocery store. A 6-foot distance is about the length of a twin-size bed.
- Staying home even if mildly ill.
- If you are ill at home, isolating yourself from others in your home who are well.
- Wash hands frequently.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or upper arm.

In addition, Clayton County Supervisors are requesting that out of county visitors stay away at this time. Recent discussions have focused on the difference between recreational and long-term camping. In Governor Kim Reynolds proclamation on Monday, April 6, all public and private recreational camping facilities are closed to the public through April 30th. As further clarification, campgrounds are to be closed to everyone that does not permanently reside in a campground, be it public or private.

Campers that reserve a year-round campsite, but only frequent their camper on weekends or holidays, would be considered recreational at this time. Campgrounds are only to be used by long-term campers, and essential workers that can provide a waiver in accordance with the Governor's proclamation. All other campers are asked to stay at their residence, and in their county of residence. This shall include all seasonal home owners. Please, stay home in your county of permanent residence.

As the Governor and the Iowa Department of Public Health have stated repeatedly, please stay home. Only go out for essentials, like groceries and medication, or commute to work if you are an essential employee. All other travel shall not occur at this time, and we are asking out of county visitors to please stay out of Clayton County.

Please utilize essential services within your county of residence for your immediate and essential needs. Please utilize park areas and trail systems within your county of residence for your personal wellbeing, but please do not travel outside of your county of residence unnecessarily.

Clayton County Supervisors remind residents that about 80% of Iowans infected with COVID-19 will experience only mild to moderate illness. If they feel ill enough that they believe they need to see a health care provider, they should call before going into the office. The provider may have special instructions for their visit.

For up-to-date information on COVID-19, visit the IDPH webpage at <https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus> and follow the department on Facebook at @IowaDepartmentOfPublicHealth and on Twitter at @IAPublicHealth.

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