

April 10, 2020

PR20-30

## Osceola Issues Order for Face Covering in Public

*Osceola County, Florida* – Osceola County’s policy group issued a new protective order Friday that requires people to wear face coverings in public. The order takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, April 13 and will remain in place until further notice.

The move complement’s existing protective measures.

Today’s action is in addition to the Governor’s current “Safer at Home” order, our existing curfew and recommendations to follow social distancing and personal hygiene guidelines.

A face covering, according to the CDC’s guidance, can help stop the spread of the disease, especially if someone is asymptomatic.

A face covering, will not take away critical Personal Protection Equipment from those on the front lines of this battle. The public is urged to refrain from using those sorely needed N95 masks or other PPE.

Face coverings include a uniform piece of material that securely covers a person’s nose and mouth and remains affixed in place without the use of one’s hands.

That can be a bandana, a t-shirt, a scarf or any other piece of cloth. Full details, including exemptions for infants and people with medical conditions can be found on our web site, [Osceola.org](http://Osceola.org).

Osceola County currently has more than 300 cases of Coronavirus, and while many residents are abiding by current orders and guidance, others are creating a risk by ignoring them.

- **COVID Testing:** If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as cough or difficulty breathing, contact your healthcare provider or the Osceola County Health Department at 407-343-2000. Consult your health care provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning.

- [CDC Face Coverings Guidance](#)

The following exemptions are cited in Friday’s order:

- Persons under the age of two years; and
- Persons for whom a face covering would cause impairment due to an existing health condition; and

- Persons working in a profession who do not have any face-to-face interactions with the public; and
- Persons working in a profession where use of a face covering will not be compatible with the duties of the profession; and
- Persons exercising, while observing social distancing in accordance with the CDC guidelines.