



From the desk of the City Administrator
City of Chester, South Carolina

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April 1, 2020

Dear City of Chester Business Owners of Entertainment, Recreational, and Close Contact Services:

Governor McMaster issued Executive Order No. 2020-17 on yesterday that goes into effect today. All non-essential businesses (close contact businesses and venues) have been ordered to close effective today at 5:00 p.m., April 1, 2020, for the next 15 days. This Executive Order is among others that have been issued to help slow the spread of Coronavirus. I wanted to reach out to you to share this information and to offer my support should you need any further clarification. We are experiencing unprecedented times. Coronavirus has affected almost every aspect of our everyday activities and in some ways may forever change some of our behaviors. Thank you for what you have already been doing within your establishments to adhere to the social distancing requirements. We know that these closures will negatively impact your businesses. If we can work with you with your Business License deadline of April 30, 2020, please do not hesitate to contact us.

These non-essential businesses were listed in three categories (Entertainment, Recreational - Athletic Facilities and Activities, and Close Contact Providers). Portions of the Executive Order 2020-17 are listed below:

"B. Subject to any further clarification, guidance, rules, regulations, or restrictions issued, provided, or promulgated by the South Carolina Department of Commerce ("Department"), as authorized herein below, I hereby order and direct that effective Wednesday, April 1, 2020, at 5:00 p.m., the following "non-essential" businesses, venues, facilities, services, and activities shall be closed to non-employees and shall not be open for access or use by the public—to include members, if access or use is ordinarily restricted to or based on membership—or shall not take place, as applicable":

1. Entertainment venues and facilities as follows:

- (a) Night clubs
- (b) Bowling alleys
- (c) Arcades
- (d) Concert venues
- (e) Theaters, auditoriums, and performing arts centers
- (f) Tourist attractions (including museums, aquariums, and planetariums)
- (g) Racetracks
- (h) Indoor children's play areas, with the exception of licensed childcare facilities
- (i) Adult entertainment venues
- (j) Bingo halls
- (k) Venues operated by social clubs

2. Recreational and athletic facilities and activities as follows:

- (a) Fitness and exercise centers and commercial gyms

- (b) Spas and public or commercial swimming pools
- (c) Group exercise facilities, to include yoga, barre, and spin studios or facilities
- (d) Spectator sports
- (e) Sports that involve interaction in close proximity to and within less than six (6) feet of another person
- (f) Activities that require the use of shared sporting apparatus and equipment
- (g) Activities on commercial or public playground equipment

3. Close-contact service providers as follows:

- (a) Barber shops
- (b) Hair salons
- (c) Waxing salons
- (d) Threading salons
- (e) Nail salons and spas
- (f) Body-art facilities and tattoo services
- (g) Tanning salons
- (h) Massage-therapy establishments and massage services

Other Orders by Governor McMaster and the approximate dates:

- March 13 — McMaster declared that coronavirus was a public emergency.
- March 15 — McMaster ordered all public schools in South Carolina closed.
- March 17 — McMaster ordered all indoor dining in restaurants to cease and limited public gatherings at government facilities to no more than 50 people.
- March 21 — McMaster issued an order promoting social distancing, or the keeping of at least six feet between people to avoid spreading the virus, which is transmitted through touch and tiny aerosol droplets in peoples' breath.
- March 23 — McMaster prohibited public gatherings of 3 or more people.
- March 27 — McMaster directed all people entering South Carolina from areas where major coronavirus outbreaks had occurred should stay in isolation or self-quarantine for 14 days.
- *March 30 -- McMaster ordered temporary closure of all public boat ramps, landings and other access points on the state's lakes, rivers and waterways.

I invite you to visit the City of Chester's website, Facebook page, and TV Station - Channel 3 where we are providing up-to-date information pertaining to the virus. You will also find announcements there from other agencies within Chester County that have pertinent information to share pertaining to services rendered during the time of this pandemic.

Thank you again for your service to this community. Together, we will get through this crisis.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Jackson
City Administrator
City of Chester

Cc: Mayor Wanda Stringfellow and City Council Members