



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Raymond L. Crowel, Psy.D.
Director

**HEALTH OFFICER DIRECTIVE AND ORDER
REGARDING FACE COVERINGS**

Pursuant to State Executive Order 20-06-10-01

June 18, 2020

I, Travis A. Gayles, M.D., Ph.D., Health Officer for Montgomery County, Maryland, as a designee for Robert R. Neall, Secretary of Health for the State of Maryland, finding it necessary for the prevention and control of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (“SARS-CoV-2” or “2019-NCoV” or “COVID-19”) and for the protection of the health and safety of patients, staff, and other individuals in Montgomery County, Maryland, hereby authorize and order the following actions for the prevention and control of this infectious and contagious disease under the Governor’s Declaration of Catastrophic Health Emergency.

I. Definitions.

- a. “Face Covering” means a covering that fully covers a person’s nose and mouth, but is not a Medical-Grade Mask. The term “Face Covering” includes, without limitation, scarves and bandanas.
- b. “Medical-Grade Mask” means an N95, KN95, surgical, or other mask that would be appropriate for a health care setting.
- c. “Social Distancing” means a distance of at least six-feet between persons who are not in the same family or household.

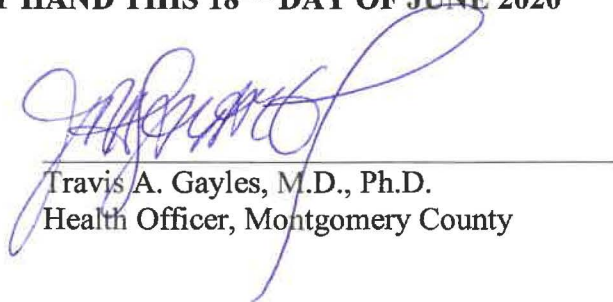
II. Use of Face Coverings.

- a. All County residents over the age of two shall wear face coverings whenever they are in public and social distancing is not possible.
- b. County residents are not required to wear face coverings while seated at a food service establishment.
- c. Single-use Face Coverings shall be properly discarded in trash receptacles. It is recommended that all reusable Face Coverings be cleaned frequently (at least once per day).
- d. Wearing a Medical-Grade Mask satisfies any requirement in paragraph II.a to wear a Face Covering, but all residents of Montgomery County are urged to reserve Medical-Grade Masks for use by health care workers and first responders.

III. General Provisions.

- a. This Order remains effective until after termination of the state of emergency and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded, or until rescinded, superseded, amended, or revised by additional orders.
- b. The underlined paragraph headings in this Order are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the interpretation of this Order.
- c. If any provision of this Order or its application to any person, entity, or circumstance is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions or applications of the Order shall remain in effect to the extent possible without the invalid provision or application. To achieve this purpose, the provisions of this Order are severable.
- d. A person who knowingly and willfully violates this Order or any Local Order is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding one year or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both.

**THIS ORDER IS ISSUED UNDER MY HAND THIS 18TH DAY OF JUNE 2020
AND IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.**



Travis A. Gayles, M.D., Ph.D.
Health Officer, Montgomery County