

FAQs For Individuals

The following FAQs pertain to the COVID-19 [Stay at Home Proclamation](#) as amended and restated on March 29, 2020.

[Back to all Stay at Home FAQs](#)

Related Questions

WHAT CAN'T I DO?

You cannot enter the Town of Beaufort unless you are a Carteret County resident or are an employee providing Essential Businesses, Essential Governmental Services, or Outdoor Services, or Minimum Basic Operations needed to operate non-essential businesses.

- You cannot engage in group activities of any size with anyone that is not a member of your household or residential unit.
- You cannot have dinner parties or invite friends over to your home.
- You cannot go to bars or nightclubs.
- You cannot go to a nail salon or get your hair cut by a stylist or barber.
- You cannot leave your home unless it is for a reason specifically identified as essential in the Proclamation.

Updated March 29, 2020 at 6:00 PM

CAN I INVITE MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY OVER TO MY HOUSE?

No. No groups of non-household members of any size are allowed inside or outside.

Updated March 29, 2020 at 6:00 PM

CAN I PARTICIPATE IN RECREATIONAL FISHING OR BOATING DURING THE PROCLAMATION?

Yes, outdoor recreation is permitted by Carteret County residents. Boat passengers must be members of the same household or residential unit. Marinas, docks, and boat storage facilities may only provide service to recreational vessels if the passengers are residents of Carteret County, or those who have secondary residences in Carteret County and are residing in them when the Governor's Stay at Home Order takes effect at 5:00 PM on March 30, 2020.

Updated March 29, 2020 at 6:00 PM

CAN MY CHILDREN GO ON PLAYDATES, ATTEND PARTIES, OR SLEEPOVER WITH FRIENDS?

People can leave their houses for outdoor recreation individually or as a household unit, but may not gather with others. No sleepovers with friends are permitted.

Updated March 29, 2020 at 6:00 PM

I AM ALREADY IN BEAUFORT, STAYING AT MY SECOND HOME. AM I REQUIRED TO LEAVE?

No, as long as you were here by the time the Governor's stay at home order takes effect, which is March 30, 2020 at 5:00 PM.

Updated March 29, 2020 at 6:00 PM

I AM CURRENTLY VISITING BEAUFORT, AM I REQUIRED TO LEAVE?

It depends. If you are at a hotel or bed and breakfast because you are caring for a family member who lives in Beaufort, or you are employed by an Essential Business or Outdoor Service in Beaufort, or you are providing Essential Governmental Services in Beaufort, you may stay. Also, those who are in isolation or quarantine at a hotel may stay. All other visitors must leave by 5:00 PM Tuesday, March 31, 2020.

If you are staying at a short term rental (e.g., Airbnb, VRBO) you must leave by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, March 31.

Updated March 29, 2020 at 6:00 PM

I AM ON A BOAT VISITING BEAUFORT, AM I REQUIRED TO LEAVE?

No. However, those on transient vessels must stay at the marina or dock where they are tied up.

Updated March 29, 2020 at 6:00 PM

I LIVE ON A BOAT IN BEAUFORT. MUST I STAY AT THE MARINA OR DOCK?

The boat is your home, so you must stay there except for the specific purposes allowed in the Proclamation .

Updated March 29, 2020 at 6:00 PM

WHAT SPORTS CAN I PLAY?

Outdoor activity is allowed, but gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or residential unit are prohibited.

Updated March 29, 2020 at 6:00 PM

CAN I APPLY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT?

If a medical professional says you're unable to work, if your hours have been reduced, or your employer has shut down -- you can file a claim.

[Governor Cooper's Executive Order 118](#) will directly aid workers who may have lost wages in restaurants and meeting places due to mass gathering restrictions. For example, workers who lose income due to tips or scheduled work hours, but are still employed, would be eligible for benefits because of this Executive Order.

CAN I BE EVICTED DURING THE ORDER?

In a [Coronavirus Memo](#) dated March 15, 2020, NC Courts are to postpone hearings on foreclosures and evictions(summary ejectments) for at least 30 days.

CAN I GO FOR A WALK IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD?

Yes, but perform social distancing.

CAN I LEAVE HOME TO CARE FOR MY ELDERLY PARENTS OR FRIENDS WHO REQUIRE ASSISTANCE TO CARE FOR THEMSELVES? OR A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER WHO HAS DISABILITIES?

Yes. Be sure that you protect them and you by following social distancing guidelines such as washing hands before and after, using hand sanitizer, maintaining at least 6 feet of distance when possible, and covering your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing.

If the person you are caring for is sick, follow CDC [instructions for caring for someone who is sick](#).

CAN I LEAVE HOME TO VISIT FRIENDS OR FAMILY MEMBERS?

No. For your safety as well as their safety, we need to help each other fight the spread of COVID-19 by staying at home.

CAN I MOVE DURING THE PROCLAMATION?

Moving is discouraged. If you had already obtained a new home prior to the issuance of the Proclamation, moving to that new home would constitute essential travel.

CAN I ORDER FOOD FOR DELIVERY?

Yes.

CAN I STILL GO TO CHURCH, SYNAGOGUE, OR MOSQUE?

No. Places of worship have not been exempted as essential activities under the Proclamation. Places of worship can still provide services listed in the order as essential such as food banks and funerals (provided social distancing is observed).

Updated March 29, 2020 at 6:00 PM

CAN I VISIT LOVED ONES IN THE HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, SKILLED NURSING FACILITY, OR OTHER RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITY?

It is strongly recommended that you do not go to a hospital unless you are seeking emergency medical attention or accompanying a minor who is under 18 years old or someone who is developmentally disabled and needs assistance.

Please use alternative ways to communicate with loved ones at nursing homes and residential care facilities, such as Facetime and texting. The residents at those locations are the most vulnerable to COVID-19.

If you need to know more, please contact the facility you want to visit by phone before you leave, or check [Carteret Health Care's COVID-19 updates](#) online.

CAN I VOLUNTEER?

People can volunteer for organizations allowed to operate under the Proclamation, but should adhere to Social Distancing Requirements as described in the Proclamation and any other protocols the volunteer service organization has put in place. High risk populations should stay at home.

CAN I WALK MY PET, GO BUY PET FOOD, OR TAKE MY PET TO THE VET?

Yes

CAN TRADESMEN CONTINUE TO WORK ON PROJECTS AT MY HOME?

It depends. The Proclamation only allows:

- Services needed to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences
- Services which are conducted entirely outside and with continuous social distancing

March 24, 2020 at 2:12 PM

CAN WE STILL USE TOWN PARKS, RESTROOMS, OR TENNIS AND BASKETBALL COURTS?

Town parks are open, but you must practice social distancing. All other Town facilities (including restrooms, tennis courts, and basketball courts) are closed to the public until further notice.

March 24, 2020 at 2:13 PM

DO I HAVE TO PERFORM SOCIAL DISTANCING AT HOME?

No. Unless someone is not feeling well, in which case you should follow CDC [instructions for caring for someone who is sick](#).

I AM EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS. HOW CAN I COMPLY WITH THE DECLARATION?

People who are experiencing homelessness are encouraged to try to stay with family or friends, identify housing options, or contact the Carteret County Department of Social Services at (252) 728-3181.

I DON'T HAVE A WASHER/DRYER IN MY HOME. CAN I LEAVE TO DO LAUNDRY?

Yes, you can go to a laundromat, dry cleaner, and other laundry service providers.

I WORK OUT-OF-TOWN AT A NON-ESSENTIAL BUSINESS. CAN I LEAVE HOME TO GO TO WORK?

Yes.

March 24, 2020 at 2:16 PM

SHOULD I STOCK UP ON FOOD, NECESSITIES LIKE TOILET PAPER, AND ON MEDICINES?

Grocery store and pharmacy supply chains are working well and stores are continually restocked. There is no need to hoard!

It's a good idea to have enough food and other necessities on hand to last for two weeks.

WHAT DO I DO IF MY EMPLOYER REQUIRES ME TO GO TO WORK?

Essential Businesses, as defined in the Proclamation, are encouraged to continue operating. Non-essential businesses are not permitted to operate under this Proclamation, except for work-from-home activities or to sustain Minimum Basic Operations. Refer to the Proclamation for a complete description of Essential Businesses and definition of Minimum Basic Operations.

If you believe your employer is violating the Proclamation and you do not wish to work, you can consider contacting a lawyer. If you are sick, you should seek medical advice.

WHAT IF I CAN'T GET OUT OF THE HOME? HOW CAN I GET SUPPLIES AND FOOD?

Please contact friends, family, or others you know who can provide support. They are permitted to pick up any of your needs.

Contact 211 if you do not have family or friends who can drop off food and supplies, the operators can connect you with a local aide to assist.

WILL I STILL GET MY MAIL?

Mail, post, shipping, logistics, delivery, and pick-up services are considered essential businesses and are encouraged to remain open.

[View All FAQ's](#)