

COVID-19 (Coronavirus): Explore Minnesota Media Talking Points and Resources

Last updated 5/8/2020 (subject to change)

State of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and Travel Impact to Minnesota: Our organization continues to urge a fact-based response to COVID-19 and is following the lead of Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, the Minnesota Department of Health, and other officials on awareness and information dissemination about the situation.

Governor Walz enacts a stay at home order for Minnesotans to slow the spread of COVID-19 across the state. This order takes effect at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, March 27, 2020 and ends on Monday, May 18, 2020. Click [here](#) for more information on current business operations.

- Large events in excess of 250 people gathered together must be cancelled or postponed. Space for social distancing of six feet per person is required at smaller events and gatherings (less than 250 people). Limit gatherings with participants at high risk for severe disease to less than 10 people.
- Gov. Tim Walz orders bars and restaurants across Minnesota to temporarily close, with the exception of takeout and delivery orders. The equivalent of a 6 pack of beer or a bottle of wine is allowed for takeout and delivery, as long as a valid ID is shown and food is also ordered. (effective 3/17/2020 at 5 p.m. through 5/18/2020).
- Governor Walz Directs Schools to continue long distance learning until the end of the school year.

Minnesotans may leave their homes only for any of the following activities, while maintaining social distancing guidelines:

- Health and safety activities, such as obtaining emergency services or medical supplies;
- Outdoor activities, such as walking, hiking, running, biking, golfing, hunting, or fishing;
- Necessary supplies and services, such as grocery shopping, gasoline, or restaurant carry-out;
- Care of others, such as caring for a family member, friend, or pet outside their primary residence;
- Displacement, such as moving between emergency shelters if you are without a home;
- Tribal activities and lands, such as activities by members within the boundaries of their tribal reservation.

Golf Courses

- Minnesotans may visit golf courses while still following social distancing guidelines. Please contact your local golf course for more information and exact guidelines for your visit.

Retail

- As of 4/30/2020, retail stores may open for curbside pick-up only. Please contact individual retail stores for more details and ordering instructions.

Resorts, Campgrounds and RV Campgrounds

- For information specific to resorts, campgrounds and RV campgrounds, visit <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Resort--RV-Resort-and-Campground-Guidance.html?soid=1100474318685&aid=pdvoa8oAOV8>

Recreational vehicles (RV) and houseboats may not be rented for overnight stays at this time.

Tourism in Minnesota

- Tourism is a \$16.0 billion industry in Minnesota (\$44 million per day) and a key sector of the state's economy.
 - The hospitality industry provides over 273,000 full and part time jobs in Minnesota; 11% of total private sector employment.
 - 1.04 Billion dollars in state sales tax revenue; 18% of total state sales tax revenue.
 - For more information on tourism and the economy in Minnesota, visit <https://mn.gov/tourism-industry/research/tourism-and-the-economy.jsp>
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