



## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Help Keep Shasta County Open. Business Owners/Public Urged to Follow State Guidance.**

Shasta County - Prevention of transmission of the COVID-19 virus in Shasta County requires everyone to do their part. By staying home when sick and wearing a face covering in indoor public places and crowded outdoor venues, residents can do their part to limit transmission. Businesses can do their part by following state guidance for their sectors, especially by complying with state mandates to close or operate outside.

To prevent further state restrictions on businesses and schools, it is critical that all sectors of our economy comply with the applicable state guidance. While most of our local businesses, organizations, and groups have voluntarily complied with the state guidance, in other cases compliance has not yet been achieved. The lack of uniform compliance by our local business community has resulted in an unfair playing field, whereby compliant businesses are at a substantial disadvantage relative to their noncompliant competitors. An example of this unfair playing field is restaurants who provide dine-in service in violation of the state guidance when their compliant competitors are limited to offering take-out, delivery, and outdoor dining services.

Therefore, to achieve more uniform compliance with state mandates and to promote the public health of the community, Shasta County officials are fully prepared to pursue any and all legal remedies that may be available to achieve compliance, including, but not limited to, revocation of County-issued permits and court action.

Cooperation and voluntary compliance is greatly preferred over enforcement; therefore, we are ready, willing, and able to work with all businesses and citizens to provide whatever assistance we can. Businesses who are carefully operating within the state guidance are encouraged to go to [ShastaReady.org](https://shastaready.org), click on the “Roadmap to Recovery” link and follow the steps to self-attest to their efforts and join the “Star Program”. The program is an easy way for the public to know what businesses are committed to keeping their employees and the public safe.

If you have any questions or are in need of any assistance relative to COVID-19 business sector compliance please email [covid19@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:covid19@co.shasta.ca.us). In the interim, the county is taking steps to advocate to the state for in-door dining to resume. That being said, doing so safely in accordance with state guidance will be essential.

### **Background**

On May 8<sup>th</sup>, Governor Newsom outlined a process to allow counties who met specific criteria to move more quickly than other parts of the state through Stage 2 of modifying the COVID-19 Stay-at-Home order. Shasta County filed an attestation with the state which permitted certain sectors of our economy to reopen in accordance with the applicable state guidance. **The following sectors have not been allowed to reopen:**

- Public events and gatherings (including live audience sports)
- Convention centers
- Theme parks and festivals (including water parks)
- Higher education (in person), except where supporting essential workforce activities
- Indoor playgrounds (including bounce centers, ball pits and laser tag)
- Saunas and steam rooms
- Recreational team sports

Due to a significant increase in the level of community transmission of COVID-19 throughout California, on July 13<sup>th</sup> the state ordered the closure of indoor operations in the following sectors in all counties statewide:

- Dine-in restaurants (may serve sit-down meals outside and provide take-out)
- Wineries and tasting rooms

- Movie theaters
- Family entertainment centers (for example: bowling alleys, miniature golf, batting cages and arcades)
- Zoos and museums
- Cardrooms
- Bars, brewpubs, breweries, and pubs (outdoor dining, only if alcohol is sold in the same transaction as a meal)

Counties who meet certain criteria related to disease transmission and hospital capacity are placed on a Monitoring List by the State of California. **Shasta County is not currently on the Monitoring List.** It is critical to follow present state guidance to avoid being placed on the monitoring list which would trigger more restrictions on additional business sectors, and not allowing for in-person school instruction.

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