



COVID-19 Public Health
GUIDELINE FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING

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Department of Public Health
Village of Oak Park

Pursuant to Village of Oak Park Resolution 20-120 dated March 13, 2020, the Oak Park Village Board has declared an emergency affecting the public health due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 disease pursuant to Section 8-10-5 of the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/8-10-5, and Sections 2-6-10, 2-27-9 and 20-1-6(Z) of the Village Code. Pursuant to the Resolution, the Village’s Public Health Director has the authority to make “reasonable rules, regulations and orders . . . as may from time to time be deemed necessary for the preservation and improvement of the public health and for the suppression of disease.”

GUIDANCE

The risk of COVID-19 disease for the majority of the US population, including Oak Park, remains low and it is our belief that with some basic precautions during community gatherings of limited participation, we can help maintain that low risk status. That said, the spread of COVID-19 is a rapidly evolving situation which may require further amendment to this guidance for social distancing.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

The best way to prevent the COVID-19 illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person, between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

In response to the rapidly evolving COVID-19 situation, on March 12, 2020 Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker ordered the shutdown of public events of more than 1,000 people and urged event organizers of public and private events expected to draw more than 250 people to cancel

and/or postpone the events until May 1. On March 13, Illinois Governor Pritzker ordered all public and private schools to close between the dates of March 17-March 30. The Village of Oak Park is in direct contact with the Illinois Department of Public Health Communicable Disease section for the latest information regarding COVID-19. In addition, the Village is closely monitoring the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the State of Illinois updated guidance and direction regarding COVID-19, including best practices with social distancing and ways that individuals can protect themselves from COVID-19. The Village's guidance to Oak Park businesses and residents is primarily guided by CDC and State of Illinois guidance and directives and by the local surveillance of COVID-19 cases.

At this time, the Public Health Department is recommending that Oak Park residents and businesses help protect themselves and others by adhering to the current social distancing and prevention guidance provided below.

- [Village of Oak Park COVID-19 Resources](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: How to Protect Yourself](#)
- [Illinois Department of Public Health](#)
- [Illinois Department of Public Health Social Distancing Measures](#)

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