PRESS RELEASE – EMBARGOED UNTIL 5:30PM, APRIL 21, 2020

Wasatch County Issues Health Order to Protect the Public from COVID-19

Wasatch County, Utah, April 21, 2020 - Wasatch County Health Officer, Randall Probst, and County Manager, Mike Davis, with support of the Wasatch County Board of Health issued a new public health order today. The order takes effect immediately and supersedes the previous Stay at Home Order issued on April 1.

“This new order provides increased flexibility while emphasizing protective measures such as personal distancing, and adds the recommendation to wear a mask in public,” said Probst. “It is a next step that will allow individuals, families and businesses to prepare and to take steps toward reopening and recovery.”

The order allows for additional participation in outdoor activities while continuing the practice of social distancing. Local parks, trails and other recreational areas are generally available for use with the exception of playground equipment. Consistent with the Governor’s most recent directive, state parks are open to visitors. However, because traveling increases the risk of spreading COVID-19, visitors are discouraged from coming in and out of Wasatch County.

Guidelines encourage individuals to wear a mask in public places and continue distancing. Essential businesses and operations should also continue personal distancing practices and implement wearing masks.

An economic recovery task force is working with Wasatch County businesses to identify best practices for continuing to limit the spread of COVID-19 while planning for reopening. As part of the task force, Heber Valley Chamber of Commerce Director, Dallin Koecher, is hopeful that businesses and community will become stronger and more unified during this challenging time. “Our local health officials are working hard to lessen the effects of this virus. This is a positive first step in helping our community find hope that things are getting better,” said Koecher.

“As we look forward to businesses and recreational activities reopening in a COVID-19 environment, we are encouraging business owners to take measures such as frequent cleaning, use of sanitizing products, wearing protective gear, and adapting to social distancing,” added Probst.

This order becomes effective April 21 at 5:00pm and remains in effect through May 1 unless amended or extended by subsequent order. Wasatch County officials are appreciative of the way the citizens have responded to support the community and each other while following guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Data and trends show that there will be ongoing risk and need for continued vigilance. Anyone with questions about this order can contact a call center at 435-657-3276 or visit the https://coronavirus.wasatch.utah.gov website for information and updates about COVID-19 in Wasatch County.

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