Kent County Announces Additional Stage 2 Reopenings

June 11, 2020- On Wednesday, Governor Larry Hogan announced additional Stage 2 reopenings to take effect Friday June 12 at 5 pm, and Friday June 19 at 5 pm. The new Executive Order amends and restates the order of June 3, 2020, allowing reopenings of certain businesses and facilities subject to local regulation. At this time, Kent County will follow this timeline established for Maryland. Among the reopenings:

REOPENINGS EFFECTIVE FRIDAY, JUNE 12 AT 5 PM:
INDOOR DINING. Restaurants can resume indoor operations at 50 percent capacity, with appropriate distancing, and following strict public health requirements consistent with the CDC, FDA, and the National Restaurant Association. Maryland Department of Health directives.

REOPENINGS EFFECTIVE FRIDAY, JUNE 19 AT 5 PM:
INDOOR FITNESS ACTIVITIES. After an extra week of sanitization and safety preparations, indoor gyms, martial arts, dance, and other indoor studio fitness activities may begin to safely reopen at 50 percent capacity with strict health, distancing, and sanitization measures. Guidelines and best practices.


EXPANDED TESTING IN KENT COUNTY. Anyone who has recently attended demonstrations or protests are encouraged to get tested for COVID-19. As part of this statewide effort, testing is being made available Mondays and Wednesdays by appointment at Kent County Public Works in Chestertown. Drive-Thru Testing Flyer.

REOPENING GUIDANCE. As additional industries and activities begin to resume, the Maryland Department of Commerce continues to develop and issue guidance and best practices to help businesses reopen safely. These resources are available at open.maryland.gov/backtobusiness.

GUIDANCE FOR KENT COUNTY RESIDENTS
Kent County residents, particularly those who are older and more vulnerable, are strongly

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advised to continue staying home as much as possible. Employers should continue to encourage telework for their employees when possible. Individuals who can work from home should continue to do so. Kent County citizens must continue wearing masks in indoor public areas, retail stores, and on public transportation. Additionally, Kent County citizens must continue practicing physical distancing, continue avoiding large gatherings and crowded spaces, keep washing their hands often, and frequently sanitize high-touch surfaces.

Kent County leaders will continue to monitor this phased implementation closely and will put additional safety measures into place if needed. “I know many are eager to get back to life as usual but I strongly caution everyone to continue practicing all of the safety recommendations we have been preaching for months,” commented Bill Webb, Health Officer. “Continue to wash your hands frequently, wear your face covering in public, maintain your 6 feet of space, and avoid large gatherings and crowded spaces. If we all do our part, we can get through this.”

- For details on Drive-Thru Testing, visit Kent County Health Department’s site. For additional information, call Kent County Health Department @ 410-778-1350, M-F, 8 am-4:30 pm.
- Residents can also call Maryland’s 24/7 information line at 2-1-1. Anyone feeling ill should contact their health care professional. All emergencies should continue to call 9-1-1.

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