

## ORDER OF HEALTH OFFICER

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus a pandemic;

WHEREAS, the President of the United States, in consultation with public health authorities, declared a National state of emergency on March 12, 2020;

WHEREAS, as of July 22, 2020, the John Hopkins Map indicates there are over 3,915,780 cases and more than 138,840 deaths in the United States;

WHEREAS, all fifty states of the United States are experiencing confirmed cases of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) recognizes COVID-19 as a threat to the residents of Montana;

WHEREAS, as of July 22, 2020, there are 2813 confirmed COVID-19 cases in the State of Montana, which include 42 COVID-19 related deaths;

WHEREAS, as of July 22, 2020, the total of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Cascade County is 81;

WHEREAS, the Cascade City-County Health Department has activated response plans and protocols to prepare for cases of COVID-19 in Cascade County:

WHEREAS, the Cascade City-County Health Department has also worked to identify, contact, and test individuals in Cascade County who have been potentially exposed to COVID-19 in coordination with the State of Montana DPHHS and the CDC;

WHEREAS, proactively implementing mitigation measures to slow the spread of the virus is in the best interests of Cascade County and its people;

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is a new strain of Coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person-to-person;

WHEREAS, the CDC identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as "high" and has advised that person-to-person spread of the COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States, Montana, and Cascade County;

WHEREAS, the circumstances of this outbreak may exceed the capacity of the services, personnel, equipment, supplies and facilities of Cascade County;

WHEREAS, the Cascade City-County Health Department and the Public Health Officer for Cascade County have the duty to protect the public from the introduction and spread of communicable disease or other conditions of public health importance, including through actions to ensure the removal of filth or other contaminants that might cause disease or adversely affect public health;

WHEREAS, based upon all of the above, the Governor of the State of Montana, in consultation with public health authorities, has directed non-essential social and recreational gatherings of individuals outside of a home or place of residence of greater than fifty (50) people not advisable, if a distance of at least six (6) feet between individuals cannot be maintained. Events with groups larger than 50 people should be cancelled unless physical distancing can be maintained and consultation with the local public health office to implement adequate social distancing when planning an event with more than 50 people.

WHEREAS, the Cascade City-County Health Department has a duty to protect the public from the introduction and spread of communicable disease or other conditions of public health importance, including through actions to ensure the removal of filth or other contaminants that might cause disease or adversely affect public health;

WHEREAS, the Cascade City-County Health Department has determined that the potential spread of COVID-19 constitutes a public health emergency and actions must be taken to avert and minimize the outbreak of this communicable disease and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 50-2-118 of the Montana Code Annotated, a local health officer in carrying out the