

Morton County is working under our Local Emergency Public Health Declaration to mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic in Morton County, Kansas pursuant to the authority provided in K.S.A. 65-119 and K.S.A 65-129b and other applicable laws and regulations.

**WHEREAS**, the local health officer is authorized and required, pursuant to K.S.A. 65-119 and K.S.A. 65-129b to immediately exercise and maintain supervision over known or suspected cases of an infectious or contagious disease during its continuance, and to issue orders seeing that all such cases are properly handled and that the provisions of the Kansas public health laws as to isolation, quarantine, and disinfection are duly enforced; and

**WHEREAS**, the local health officer is authorized to prohibit public gatherings when necessary for the control of any and all infectious or contagious diseases pursuant to K.S.A. 65-119; and

**WHEREAS**, on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020, the Governor of the State of Kansas proclaimed a State of Disaster Emergency as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), such State of Disaster Emergency was renewed on May 4<sup>th</sup> 2020, and May 27<sup>th</sup> 2020 and,

**WHEREAS**, such conditions endanger the health, safety and welfare of people and property; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), and the Morton County Health Officer all recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to increase containment of the virus, including cancellation of large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Morton County Local Board Of Health, Morton County Commissioners, Local Health Officer, Morton County Emergency Management, Morton County Sheriff, Morton County Public Health and Morton County Public Information Officer are issuing the following guidance to help educate and protect the citizens of Morton County to help us continue to reduce the risks within Morton County we ask you to please adhere to the following **recommendations**:

- **UPDATED 6-8-2020 – No Limit to Mass Gatherings.**
- If you do go out in public, follow recommendations regarding social distancing, ensuring you maintain a six-foot distance from others and avoid large gatherings.
- Avoid non-essential trips to high-risk areas.
- Follow the KDHE travel-related quarantines:  
<https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/175/Travel-Exposure-Related-Isolation-Quaran>
- Practice good handwashing habits with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Continue to clean and disinfect all high touch surfaces.
- The use of cloth-face coverings/masks in public is a strong recommendation from Local Medical Officer, Dr Caga-anan M.D. and KDHE to decrease the risk of transmission.

- Businesses should follow the industry specific guidance per KDHE recommendations via <https://covid.ks.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Business-Guidance.pdf>

These recommendations will remain in effect until further notice, or until the local health metrics support changing these recommendations further.

Morton County residents can stay informed by visiting the Morton County, Kansas Website <http://www.mtcoks.com/> and/or Morton County Health Department's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MortonCountyHealthDepartment/>, Morton County KS Emergency Management's Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/mtcoem/>, Kansas Department of Health and Environment COVID-19 Resource page [www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus](http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus) or Center for Disease Control Coronavirus (COVI-19) at <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>

For general information or to inquire further, contact Morton County Health Department at (620) 697-2612 or Morton County Emergency Management (620) 697-2083.