



MADISON COUNTY DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

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Madison County Develops 3-Strike Rule for Face Coverings at Businesses

Wampsville, NY – Madison County Health Department (MCDOH) today announced there is a 3-strike rule for businesses in Madison County when it comes to employees wearing face coverings when they are in contact with members of the public.

According to Governor Andrew Cuomo's face covering executive order employees who are unable to maintain six feet of social distancing when dealing with members of the public must wear face coverings. The Governor has placed the enforcement of his executive order upon the local governments.

Madison County has received complaints and concerns from members of our community about small businesses and the big box stores not requiring employees to wear masks and/ or not requiring customers to wear masks. When Madison County receives these concerns either a member of the Madison County Health Department or Madison County Sheriff's Office follows up with a phone call, a letter, or a visit to the business. No fines have been issued in the past. At the July 14, 2020 Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board gave their approval for a 3-strike enforcement policy to the MCDOH.

- Strike 1 – Phone call to the business, and education
- Strike 2 – a visit from either a member of the health department or sheriff's office, as well as education
- Strike 3 – Fine, beginning at \$500

"Wearing a face covering is one of the best defenses we have against COVID-19," says Madison County Public Health Director Eric Faisst. "We have said for months now, and continue to ask people to wear their face coverings when they are unable to maintain social distancing. Please remember anyone over the age of two should wear a face covering. Because many people can be infectious but not show symptoms, wearing a mask not only protects you but others from you should you be infected."

Residents please remain diligent and continue to do your part to limit the spread of COVID-19. Please protect yourself and others by wearing a face covering when you are out in public especially when they are unable to maintain social distancing. Also, please practice good hygiene. These guidelines are for all of our protection to stop the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

For more information please visit <https://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/2479/Coronavirus-COVID-19>.

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