



Cherokee County Health Officials Encouraging Personal Responsibility In Controlling Spread of COVID-19

With last week's expiration of the Kansas Ad Astra Plan, which placed limitations on "mass gatherings" as well as certain operating restrictions on various businesses and activities, Cherokee County Officials have been meeting and at this time, have chosen not to impose any local restrictions.

"While there is no longer any mandate when it comes to mass gatherings or the number of people who can be in a single location at any given time, residents are encouraged to use good judgment and take the steps they feel are necessary to keep them and their family's safe," stated Cherokee County Health Department Administrator Betha Elliott.

In an effort to help control the spread of COVID-19, the following recommendations are being provided:

- Limit prolonged close interactions with non-family or household members
- Avoid being in someone's personal space (try to maintain the 6-foot social distance rule)
- Avoid activities and events which may involve a large number of people in a confined space
- Regularly wash hands for more than 20 seconds with soap and warm water
- Frequently sanitize hands
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow
- Sanitize commonly touched areas, including computer keyboards, light switches, phones, desks, etc...
- Don't go to work if you're not feeling well
- Be cautious about going out if you're vulnerable, elderly or have a compromised immune system
- Consider wearing a mask if you go out and be respectful of the decision of those who choose to wear a mask

"We have visited with many business leaders over the past several days and a good number of them intend on continuing to voluntarily take precautions, such as having employees wear masks, limiting the number of customers in their facilities at any given time or limiting the number of attendees at specific events. I applaud their proactive efforts to help keep their customers and clients safe and encourage others to visit covid.ks.gov to find industry specific guidance related to re-opening best practices."

"Moving forward, we all have to continue doing our part to help control the spread of COVID-19, making it unnecessary for the imposition of local restrictions in the future," concluded Administrator Elliott.

Offices within the Cherokee County Courthouse continue normal operations, with the exceptions of District and Municipal Courts, who are under modified operations in accordance with Administrative Rules set by the Kansas Supreme Court. In addition, drivers' license renewals are not currently available.

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