



**Macon County
Public Health**

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Press Release

Clarification on Executive Order 118, Limiting Service of Restaurants and Bars

On Tuesday, March 17th, 2020, Governor Roy Cooper issued Executive Order 118 which limits the service of restaurants and bars to carry-out, drive-through, and delivery only. In response to many questions received by Macon County Public Health, the Environmental Health Section would like to clarify the Executive Order issued by the Governor for businesses in Macon County on how they can continue to support their local establishments, within the restrictions placed by the Executive Order.

A frequent question received by Macon County Public Health was regarding outdoor dining. The intent of Executive Order 118 is to limit the gathering of individuals by prohibiting sit-down service in restaurants. Gatherings are strongly discouraged to limit the spread of COVID-19. Restaurants are allowed to provide carryout, drive-through and delivery options. Restaurants are not permitted to serve patrons indoors or in the outdoor seating area. If a restaurant has outdoor seating, onsite consumption in the outdoor seating area is only permitted for carry-out food, and is subject to mass gathering restrictions of less than 100 people and maintaining the social distancing of a 6 foot separation, whenever possible. These restrictions will be in place from March 17th, 2020 through March 31st, 2020, or until the order is rescinded or replaced.

State and local law enforcement agencies are responsible for enforcement of Executive Order 118.

If you have questions regarding COVID-19, please call the Macon County Health Department's COVID-19 Call Center at 828-349-2517. The COVID-19 Call Center (CCC) will be staffed Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm, until further notice.

Macon County Public Health regularly updates our Facebook page with accurate and current information regarding COVID-19; we encourage the public to check our Facebook page for up-to-date information.

For general questions about COVID-19, it is encouraged to reach out to the State Poison Control at 866-462-3821.

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For Immediate Release: March 18, 2020