

#Reopen Richland County

A proactive public health approach to a sustained community recovery
following the COVID-19 pandemic



Our Goal

A phased re-opening that is timed and managed to allow businesses to operate while managing risk to public health and our healthcare system, reducing the possibility for a need to re-introduce restrictions in the future, and allowing a sustained economic recovery.



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Our Outlook

We must take a proactive approach to reopening Richland County to ensure a sustainable recovery.

We are providing the guidance through which businesses can reopen safely.

Richland County must move forward; we must ensure that we do that safely.



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Facts

- COVID-19 remains a serious, dangerous pandemic
- We are still living with the virus in our community
- Reopening safely is not like flipping a switch
- Seeking a “new normal” that leads to a sustained recovery and avoids the need to re-implement control measures later
- Timing will be impacted by statewide guidance as well as the local epidemiology



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Public Health Recommendations

- Continued focus on social distancing
 - Limit the number of occupants
 - 6-foot separation between parties
 - Groups of no greater than 10 people
 - Face coverings/PPE where appropriate
- Clear guidance on cleaning and disinfection
- Clear employee and patron health policies
- Ongoing and rigorous assessment of impact on the health system



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Responsibilities of Businesses

- There must be tangible evidence of actions to protect staff and the public
- Complete and submit a simple checklist, based on the Montana Tavern Association's Reopening Plan
- Licensed establishments required to submit for review by RS



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Checklist for Businesses

The following checklist should be used to ensure that your business has taken the necessary precautions to reopen in a way that protects both staff and patrons.

We appreciate your input, and would encourage you to submit this form to the Richland County Health Department at sler@richland.org.

Business name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Contact person:

Social Distancing-Please describe your plan for maintaining a minimum of 6 feet of separation between patrons in your establishment:

Enhanced Cleaning & Sanitizing: Please describe how you will ensure that frequently-touched surfaces are cleaned and sanitized. What sanitizing agent will you use?

Employee Health: Describe your establishment's policy for employee health, including staying home sick and being sent home from work sick.

Will you offer masks or face coverings for staff and/or patrons?

Will you educate staff on hand washing and other hygiene procedures?

Will you install sneeze guards or other barriers between staff and patrons, where applicable?

Responsibilities of the Public

The public is not without a role to play in the sustained recovery of Richland County.

- Those who are over 65 and/or have a compromised immune system should continue to practice social distancing and sheltering in place.
- If a business is too busy and social distancing isn't feasible, come back later
- Tighten your circle-Continue to limit close contacts
- Keep personal track of where you have been and when in case you need to provide information on close contacts



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Responsibilities of Public Health

Public health is taking a proactive role in ensuring a safe and sustainable recovery.

- Continue to track cases and contacts.
- Continue to provide consistent and accurate messaging to the public.
- Provide education to businesses and establishments.



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