



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 24, 2020**

## **Greene County Commission issues Stay at Home Order**

To help our community continue to work to slow the spread of COVID-19, today the Greene County Commission, in consultation with Springfield-Greene County Health Department Director Clay Goddard, issued a Stay at Home Order, requiring Greene County residents to stay at home except for essential activities.

This order will take effect at 12:01 a.m., Thursday, March 26 and shall continue for a period of 30 days unless renewed or withdrawn.

“We clearly want to do everything we can to keep citizens healthy and safe during this time and the Commission, along with City and local health care leaders, believe this is the best step in achieving that,” said Presiding Commissioner Bob Dixon. “We are asking that everyone adhere to this Order, as we are all in this together and only through working together will we be able to minimize the impact of this virus on our community.”

To further clarify this order, “essential activities” will mean:

- To engage in activities or perform tasks essential to their health and safety, or to the health and safety of their family or household members (including, but not limited to, pets), or close personal acquaintances, such as, by way of example only and without limitation, obtaining medical supplies or medication, visiting a health care professional, or obtaining supplies they need to work from home.
- To obtain necessary services or supplies for themselves and their family or household members, or close personal acquaintances, or to deliver those services or supplies to others, such as, by way of example only and without limitation, groceries and essential household goods and products, such as cleaning and personal care products, and other products necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences.

- To engage in outdoor activity, provided the individuals comply with Physical Distancing Requirements as defined herein, such as, by way of example and without limitation, biking, walking, hiking, or running.
- To perform work providing essential products and services at an Essential Business (as defined in the Order) or to otherwise carry out activities specifically permitted in this Order, including Minimum Basic Operations, as defined herein, at Non-Essential Business.
- To care for a family member, close personal acquaintance, or pet in another household.

A copy of the full order and exemptions is available on the Greene County website under the News section at: <https://greenecountymo.gov/files/PDF/file.pdf?id=35369>

“Now is the time for unified action, not fear,” Dixon added. “We will get through this. We are all in this together.”

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*Greene County is the State of Missouri’s fourth most populous county, serving more than 275,000 people (2010 census). Its mission is to provide all citizens of Greene County, including those in its cities, a safe and thriving community through excellent customer service, unparalleled dedication, and the efficient use of taxpayer dollars. The Greene County Commission is the executive body of Greene County operating under guidelines established in the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri. Within that authority the Commission enacts ordinances, resolutions and policies, supervises the activities of county departments, fixes salaries, adopts the annual budget, provides for construction and other services, and conducts hearings on planning and zoning matters.*

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