

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Public Health (BPH) continues to respond to the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in West Virginia. BPH is working closely with communities, state agencies, local and federal partners to monitor the ongoing risk of COVID-19 and ensure the health and protection of all individuals in West Virginia.

To help prevent spread of COVID-19 at parades, procedures should be in place to encourage proper social distancing of participants and spectators.

### COMMON SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- Recent loss of taste or smell

### PERSON-TO-PERSON TRANSMISSION

- Occurs via small droplets from the nose or mouth of the infected person when they cough, sneeze, or exhale.
- Virus can remain on surfaces for a limited time period. Although less common, transmission may occur from touching contaminated surfaces and then touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

### GENERAL PREVENTION

- Learn about COVID-19 from reputable sources.
- Maintain physical distance of at least 6 feet between yourself and others.
- Encourage proper handwashing.
- Clean and sanitize surfaces often.
- Do not share food, drinks, etc.
- Wear cloth face coverings.
- Stay home if you feel sick.
- Isolate sick individuals.

### CITY/MUNICIPALITY/SPONSOR

- City/municipality/sponsor should block, rope off, or place barricades so that people will not congregate.
- Consider a non-traditional parade, such as having participants line up in an area and spectators drive by, staying in their cars.
- For school homecoming parades, consider using the football field and having spectators as allowed by WVSSAC guidelines in the stands and the parade participants drive by the spectators.

- Another consideration is to designate an area where spectators stay in their cars to observe the parade as it goes by.
- City/municipality/sponsor should ensure participants follow the parade guidelines at lineup, during and at the end of the parade route.
- Parade participants should follow social distancing guidelines and wear cloth face coverings at the designated line up location before the parade starts. Parade participants are required to wear cloth face coverings. Social distancing of at least six feet should be maintained by participants and spectators during the event.
- Floats and ride-on units with participants should limit the number of participants to allow for proper social distancing.
- Stagger walking participants to provide social distancing.
- City/municipality/sponsor should discourage throwing candy or other items to spectators.
- Marching bands or other musical marching units need to be properly spaced from other participants and spectators to lessen the possibility of spread of COVID-19 from this activity.
- City/municipality/sponsor should discourage participants and/or spectators from congregating at the end of the parade route.

### OTHER ASSOCIATED BUSINESSES

- Any associated mobile food vendors, retail vendors or other groups operating at the parade location during the pandemic must comply with 64 CSR 114, Executive Orders issued by the Governor and Governor's Office guidance. If guidance from the Governor's Office is not available for the specific vendor, refer to the Guidance for West Virginia Small Businesses.  
<https://governor.wv.gov/Documents/Covid%20Week%20202/2020.04.28%20Small%20Business%20Guidelines.pdf>



## STOP THE SPREAD POSTERS

- Signs reinforcing wearing face coverings should be posted in prominent locations at the entrance and throughout the parade location. A face covering tool kit including downloadable signs can be found at: <https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/Face-Covering-Toolkit.aspx>
- Signs reinforcing social distancing should also be posted in prominent locations throughout the parade location, examples of which may be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/print-resources.html?Sort=Date%3A%3Adesc>

## MORE INFORMATION

- West Virginia's COVID-19 webpage: <https://coronavirus.wv.gov>
- Governor Justice's webpage: <https://governor.wv.gov>
- CDC's Guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html>

Questions and concerns can also be directed to the 24/7, toll-free COVID-19 information hotline:

**1-800-887-4304**

