



For Immediate Release
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City of Derby COVID-19 Update: July 2

Derby, Kansas – The City of Derby is asking residents to wear masks in most indoor public spaces and in outdoor areas where social distancing isn't possible. The Sedgwick County Commission has not mandated wearing masks but strongly recommends wearing them.

At City Hall, staff members who directly interact with residents will wear masks or ensure social distancing. Visitors to all City buildings are asked to cover their mouth and nose with a mask or other face covering at least until you are confident that safe distancing (six feet minimum) can be ensured at all times while in the building.

At the Derby Senior Center, masks must be worn while in the building, except during exercise classes, while using fitness equipment, and in cases of medical necessity. Senior Center staff will conduct checks periodically to ensure social distancing is followed and masks are worn. For lunch and other events involving food or drink, masks are to be worn until you are seated.

People using public parks and outdoor public spaces are asked to cover their mouth and nose with a mask or other face covering whenever they are unable to maintain a six-foot distance from people (not including people who reside together) with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity. If you are at Rock River Rapids, you are asked to wear a mask when not in the water and when you are unable to maintain at least six feet distance from other groups.

Derby businesses and organizations should require employees to cover their mouth and nose when working in any space where food is prepared or packaged for sale or distribution to others, when working in or walking through common areas (hallways, stairways, and elevators), and in any room or enclosed area where other people (except those who reside together) are present and unable to maintain six feet of distance except for infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity.

Derby businesses and organizations should require their customers, visitors, and members of the public to wear a mask or face covering when in their facility.

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Exceptions to all the above include the following:

- Children 5 years old and younger
- People with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering, including when wearing a face covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance
- Persons with hearing impairments (and those communicating with people with hearing impairments) where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication
- When wearing a face covering would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines
- Persons obtaining a service involving the nose or face for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service
- Persons seated at a restaurant or other establishment that offers food or beverage service while they are eating or drinking, provided they maintain a six-foot distance between individuals (not including individuals who reside together or are seated together) with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity

As of June 29, in the 67037 Derby zip code (pop. 28,364) 1,011 tests have been administered since May 18 with just 19 positive cases. This reflects an increase of 10 cases over six weeks (111 percent).

“We appreciate the work county and state officials put into considering this difficult subject,” said Kathy Sexton, City Manager. “One thing we can all agree on is when it’s not possible to ensure six feet between people, wearing masks is advised by medical authorities to slow the spread of COVID-19. It’s frustrating for pretty much everyone, but we need to wear masks in public places to keep our economy going and protect the community’s health.”

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