



**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **GOVERNOR EXTENDS EXECUTIVE ORDER FIFTY THREE UNTIL MAY 8<sup>th</sup>**

**PURCELLVILLE, Va., April 15, 2020** — Today, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Virginia Governor Ralph Northam extended the expiration deadline of Executive Order 53, closing all non-essential services and businesses who cannot feasibly adhere to social distancing guidelines until May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020. [Executive Order Fifty-Three](#) originally signed on March 24, bans crowds of more than 10 people; closes recreation, entertainment, and personal care businesses; and limits restaurants to offering takeout and delivery services only. Executive Order 53 was set to originally expire on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, and now will be extended by an additional two weeks. Therefore, gatherings of more than 10 people are still banned and all businesses that had to initially close due to the order have to remain closed until May 8<sup>th</sup> at the earliest.

The Stay at Home Order, issued through Executive Order 55, remains in effect until June 10<sup>th</sup>, as it was originally set, and directs Virginians to stay home unless they must leave for essential services.

Essentially this extension does not change any current orders and recommendations in effect, and should serve as notice to those businesses and services still open to remain vigilant with your sanitizing procedures and adherence to social distancing.

As a reminder, the following recreation and entertainment businesses are considered non-essential and are still closed to the public:

- Theaters, performing arts centers, concert venues, museums, and other indoor entertainment centers, fitness centers, gymnasiums, recreation centers, indoor sports facilities, indoor exercise facilities;
- Beauty salons, barber shops, spas, massage parlors, tanning salons, tattoo shops, and any other location where personal care or personal grooming services are performed that would not allow compliance with social distancing guidelines to remain six feet apart;
- Racetracks and historic horse racing facilities;
- Bowling alleys, skating rinks, arcades, amusement parks, trampoline parks, fairs, arts and craft facilities, aquariums, zoos, escape rooms, indoor shooting ranges, public and private social clubs, and all other places of indoor public amusement.

Please refer to the full text of [Executive Order 53](#), and [Executive Order 55](#), and [here](#) for additional frequently asked questions.

The Purcellville Police Department asks for the public's assistance in achieving voluntary compliance to the extension of the Governor's Order. It should be noted that violations of

the Governor's Order Fifty Three or Fifty Five does constitute a Class 1 misdemeanor pursuant to § 44-146.17 of the *Code of Virginia* and could result in criminal charges. A Class 1 misdemeanor is punishable by jail time for no more than twelve months and/or a fine of no more than \$2,500.

Please remember to follow the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recommendations for the wearing of cloth face coverings in public, maintaining a social distance of six feet, and following proper handwashing and sanitizing guidelines.

**The Town of Purcellville, Virginia**

"Purcellville-your small Town, where history and progress intersect and people prosper," is an award-winning town of over 10,000 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 50 miles west of Washington, DC. Having received the prestigious Siemens Sustainability Award for Small Communities, Purcellville continues to be honored for its green initiatives with most recently being the Tree City USA recipient for the 12<sup>th</sup> year. The Town was reaffirmed as a AAA rated community by S&P Global Ratings, the highest credit rating possible, and is ranked "Safest City" in Virginia in 2020. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, which has been converted to a multi-use trail from Alexandria, VA to Purcellville, the Town has maintained its historic old-town feel through the restoration and maintenance of its many downtown structures, reflecting the Victorian architecture popular during the early 1900s. Today, Purcellville is the economic hub of western Loudoun County and a popular weekend destination for antiquing, equestrian activities, farmer's markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at [www.purcellvilleva.gov](http://www.purcellvilleva.gov).

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