

ORDINANCE NO. 2020.539

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE REQUIRING THAT FACE COVERINGS OR MASKS BE WORN IN PUBLIC IN THE CITY OF LAKE CITY DURING THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY AND RECOVERY

WHEREAS, it is well recognized that SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes the disease COVID-19, presents a public health concern that requires extraordinary protective measures and vigilance;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) declared a world-wide pandemic;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency for the United States and its territories in an effort to reduce the spread of the virus;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the Governor of the State of South Carolina declared a state of emergency for the State of South Carolina;

WHEREAS, S.C. Code Ann. § 5-7-250 empowers City Councils to enact emergency ordinances affecting life, health, safety, or property;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has spread across the state with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (“SCDHEC”) confirming the localized person to person spread of COVID-19 which indicates a significantly high risk of exposure and infection creating an extreme public health risk;

WHEREAS, as of June 29, 2020 there were 34,546 number of confirmed cases throughout the State of South Carolina and 52 number in Florence County along with 700 number of deaths in the State of South Carolina and 1,199 number in Florence County;

WHEREAS, the number of cases is growing rapidly and if COVID-19 continues to spread in the City of Lake City (“City”) , the number of persons relying on medical, pharmaceutical, and general cleaning supplies will increase, the private and public sector work force will be negatively impacted by absenteeism, and the demand for medical facilities may exceed local available resources;

WHEREAS, it is vitally important that we all work together to decrease the widespread proliferation of COVID-19 among us all now rather than suffer the unfortunate and devastating consequences later;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and SCDHEC advise the use of cloth face coverings to slow the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, taking measures to control outbreaks minimizes the risk to the public, maintains the health and safety of City residents, and limits the spread of infection in our communities and within the healthcare delivery system;

WHEREAS, in order to protect, preserve, and promote the general health, safety and welfare and the peace and order of the community, the City is taking steps to try and protect the citizens and employees of the City from increased risk of exposure;

WHEREAS, in light of the foregoing, City Council deems it proper and necessary to adopt this emergency ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Mayor and City Council of the City this 1st day of July 2020 that facial coverings or masks shall be required in public places within the City to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus disease, known as COVID-19 as follows:

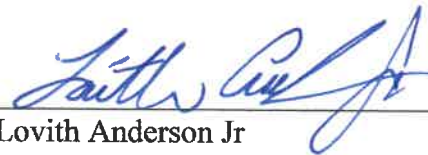
1. All persons entering a commercial establishment in the City must wear a face covering while inside the establishment. This paragraph does not apply to religious establishments. However, the use of face coverings is recommended during religious activities as well.
2. All restaurants, retail stores, salons, grocery stores, and pharmacies in the City must require their employees to wear a face covering at all times while having face to face interaction with the public.
3. Any person who is unable to safely wear a face covering due to age, an underlying health condition, or is unable to remove the face covering without the assistance of others is exempt from this Ordinance.
4. Face coverings are not required in the following circumstances:
 - a. In personal vehicles;
 - b. When a person is alone in enclosed spaces; during outdoor physical activity, provided the active person maintains a minimum of six (6) feet from other people at all times;
 - c. When a person is alone or only with other household members;
 - d. While eating, drinking, eating or smoking;
 - e. When wearing a face covering causes or aggravates a health condition;
 - f. When wearing a face covering would prevent the receipt of personal services;
 - g. When a person is 10 years of age or younger.
5. Should any provision, paragraph, sentence or word of this Ordinance be rendered or declared invalid by any final court action in a court of competent jurisdiction or by reason of any preemptive legislation, the remaining provisions, paragraphs, sentences, or words of this Ordinance as hereby adopted shall remain in full force and effect.
6. This Ordinance is effective as of **6:00am, Friday, July 3, 2020**. This Ordinance shall be terminated the issuance of another ordinance or shall automatically expire on the 61st day of after enactment of this Ordinance, whichever date is earlier.

NOW HEREBY BE IT ORDAINED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE CITY, THAT ORDINANCE 2020.536: Emergency Ordinance Requiring that Face Coverings or Masks Be Worn in Public in the City of Lake City During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and Recovery; and other matters related thereto will be effective beginning Friday, July 3, 2020 until Friday, September 4, 2020 (61 days).

DONE, PASSED, RATIFIED AND ORDERED as an Ordinance of the City of Lake City, South Carolina on this 1st day of July 2020.

CITY OF LAKE CITY, SOUTH CAROLINA

[SEAL]



Lovith Anderson Jr
Mayor

ATTEST:



Teresa K. Benjamin
City Clerk

First Reading:	07/01/2020
Public Hearing:	07/01/2020
Second and Final Reading	07/01/2020

CITY ORDINANCE (FACE MASK ORDINANCE) FAQs:

Q: Why do I need to wear a mask?

A: The virus that causes COVID-19 is most commonly spread through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person sneezes, coughs or talks. These aerosols can remain suspended in the air for up to three hours and be transmitted at least 13 feet, based on reports by the CDC.

Masks are effective in blocking or at least limiting your exposure to these contagious viral droplets and particles. Because we do not always know who is infected (many coronavirus cases are asymptomatic), you should also wear a face covering to protect others.

Q: What kind of mask should I wear?

A: The CDC recommends people wear washable cloth coverings to ensure there are enough surgical and N95 masks for medical workers.

Here's a breakdown of how common masks work.

Cloth face coverings, bandannas, and DIY masks: Homemade face coverings don't stop you from inhaling potentially infected particles, but they provide a barrier that may prevent the spread of droplets by asymptomatic individuals. When worn correctly, these masks also keep the wearer's face clean and reduce the likelihood that people will touch their faces.

Surgical masks: Also known as medical and procedure masks, these are used in hospitals to reduce the number of potential contaminants that mask wearers release into the immediate environment. These loose-fitting masks can protect against large splashes of droplets. They are less effective for protection against the coronavirus because they allow particles to enter through the sides.

Q: What is the proper way to wear masks?

A: The World Health Organization has provided the following guidelines for effectively wearing a face mask:

- Before putting on a mask, clean hands with alcohol-based hand sanitizer or soap and water.
- Cover your mouth and nose with the mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask.
- Avoid touching the mask while using it. If you do, clean your hands immediately. Replace the mask with a new one as soon as it is damp.

- To remove the mask, take it off from behind (do not touch the front of mask); discard immediately in a closed bin; and wash or sanitize your hands.
- Do not reuse or share disposable N95 or surgical masks.

Q: When does the City of Lake City's Face Mask ordinance go into effect?

A: Friday, July 3, 2020 at 6:00am

Q: Do kids have to wear face coverings?

A: Yes, children 11 and over are required to wear face coverings in the circumstances listed in the ordinance.

Q: I have a medical exemption. Do I need a doctor's note?

A: No, those who cannot wear face coverings due to a medical, mental health, developmental condition, inability to remove the face mask without assistance or anyone who cannot wear face coverings under CDC guidance, do not have to have a doctor's note and are not required to produce one.

Q: Do I have to wear a face covering while outdoors?

A: No, face coverings are not required while exercising, walking or spending time outside as long as physical distancing of six feet is maintained between you and anyone that is not a part of your household. If you're walking or exercising outside with members of your own household, you do not need to wear a face covering even if you are within six feet from one another.

Q: Do I have to wear a face covering while swimming?

A: No, face coverings are not required while swimming, but physical distancing should be maintained. Face coverings are required in locker rooms.

Q: Do I have to wear a face covering while shopping?

A: Yes, face coverings are required while entering, exiting, waiting in line to enter, and while inside places of business including, but not limited to, grocery stores, retail stores, pharmacies, health care facilities, restaurants and bars (including outdoor seating for such facilities), hotels and motels (excluding the rented room or suite), gyms and similar facilities.

Q: Do I have to wear a face covering while at a bar or restaurant?

A: Yes, face coverings are required while entering, exiting, waiting for a table and ordering. Face coverings can be removed while eating or drinking but must be worn otherwise. If a patron is not seated at their table or at the bar, a face covering is required.

Q: Do I have to wear a face covering at work?

A: If you interact with the public while at work, a face covering is required. If you do not interact with the public while at work, physical distancing of at least six feet is recommended with your co-workers but you do not need to wear a face covering.

Q: Do I have to wear a face covering in my car?

A: No, face coverings are not required while inside a personal or commercial vehicle that is not a public transportation vehicle, taxi, or ride sharing service. It is recommended to wear a face covering if you cannot maintain six feet of physical distancing between you and someone who is not a member of your household.

Q: Where can I get a face covering?

A: Face coverings are widely available at retailers in the City of Lake City. You can also use a bandana, scarf or piece of fabric as a face covering. Here is information from the Centers for Disease Control on how to make and wear face coverings:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-make-cloth-face-covering.html>.

Q: Can I carry a concealed weapon and wear a face covering?

A: Yes, face coverings can be worn while carrying a concealed weapon. If a crime is committed while concealing your identity with a face covering of any kind, it may be an aggravating factor at the time of sentencing if convicted for that crime.

Q: Why are churches exempt from the requirement of face coverings?

A: While the use of face coverings and physical distancing at church is highly recommended, it is not included in the proclamation due to federal protections.

Q: What are the consequences for not wearing a face covering?

A: The enforcement of this proclamation is not designed to be punitive. Enforcement will begin with education and may increase to fines or more, depending on the circumstance and severity of the violation(s).

Q: When does the requirement expire?

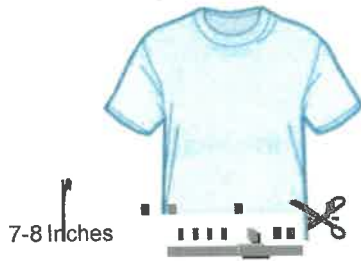
A: The Ordinance is in effect until September 4, 2020 (61 Days)

How to make a cloth facemask without sewing

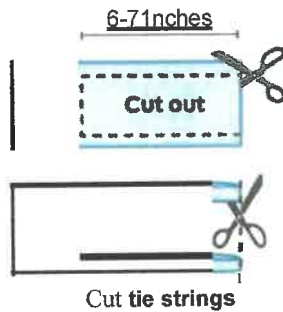
To slow the spread of the coronavirus, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises using simple cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, such as grocery stores and pharmacies. You can make a face mask yourself at home - no sewing required. Below are two quick methods using common household items. For more information from the CDC, including a tutorial on how to sew a cloth mask, go to www.cdc.gov/coronavirus and click on "Cloth face covers."

T-SHIRT

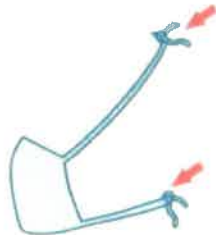
- 0 Cutoff a T-shirt 7 to 8 inches from the bottom.



- 0 Cut out a rectangle to make tie strings.



- €) Tie the strings around neck first, then over top of head.

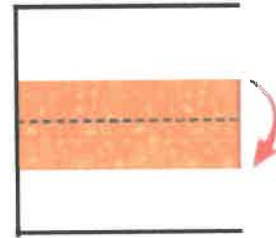


BANDANNA

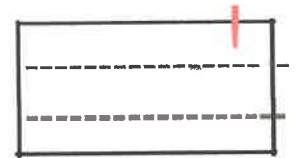
- 0 Cut off the bottom of a coffee filter.



- 0 Fold a bandanna in half.



- E) Place the coffee filter in the center of the folded bandanna. Fold top down; fold bottom up.



- 0 Place rubber bands or hair ties about 6 inches apart.



- 0 Fold sides to the middle, and tuck one end inside the other.



Tuck Inside

Tuck Inside

- (I) Loop the bands or hair ties around ears to secure.



Note: The CDC advises that cloth face coverings should not be placed on children under age 2 or on anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance. Individuals should be careful not to touch their eyes, nose or mouth when removing their face covering and wash hands immediately afterward. Cloth face coverings should be routinely laundered in a washing machine depending on the frequency of use.