Special Statement on COVID-19
April 28, 2020

On Monday April 27, 2020 Governor Kim Reynolds signed a new proclamation continuing the State Public Health Emergency Declaration until May 27, 2020. The proclamation loosens social distancing measures in 77 Iowa counties, including Jones County, effective 5 AM Friday, May 1 and continues other restrictions until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, May 15, 2020.

In the event businesses and establishments throughout the county choose to reopen in accordance with guidelines issued in the Governor’s proclamation, the Jones County Board of Health strongly urges residents to continue to follow mitigation strategies that have been put in place to protect the health of all residents of Jones County. These include:

- Stay home when sick.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces often.
- Continue to follow social distancing guidelines, maintaining at least six feet of physical distance from other people and limit all gatherings to 10 or fewer individuals.
- If you need to go out for essential items such as grocery items or pharmaceuticals, you are strongly encouraged to wear a mask.
- Designate only ONE member of your family to go to the store, and limit frequency of trips outside the home.

Although Governor Reynolds’ proclamation has authorized resuming gatherings for religious reasons, the Jones County Board of Health urges churches and religious organizations to continue offering livestream access for their services in order to allow those who are self-isolating due to illness or increased vulnerability to continue to participate.

The full proclamation can be read at https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/#proclamations.

For up-to-date information on COVID-19, visit https://coronavirus.iowa.gov and follow the Iowa Department of Public Health on Facebook at @IowaDepartmentOfPublicHealth and on Twitter at @IAPublicHealth. In addition, a public hotline is available 24/7 by calling 2-1-1 or 1-800-244-7431.