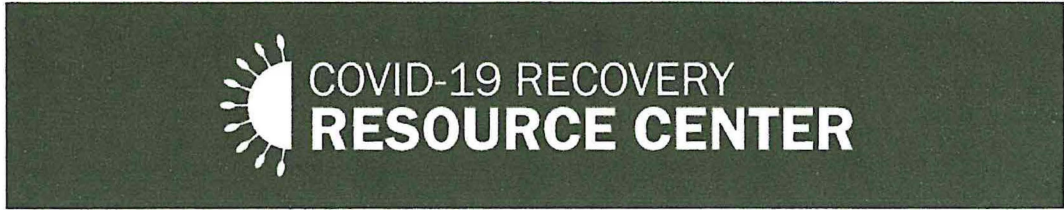


VERMONT OFFICIAL STATE WEBSITE

STATE OF VERMONT

Agency of Commerce and Community Development



<https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19>

Stay Informed

For the latest news and updates, subscribe to our COVID-19 Economic and Community Response Newsletter (http://eepurl.com/gV_NNn)

RESOURCES FOR BUSINESS

<https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/business>

RESOURCES FOR INDIVIDUALS

<https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/individuals>

RESOURCES FOR COMMUNITIES

<https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/community>

STAY HOME STAY SAFE SECTOR SPECIFIC GUIDANCE

If you have questions about whether your business meets the definition of “critical to public health and safety, as well as economic and national security” as per Governor Scott’s [Executive Order \(https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20\)](https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20), please review our [Stay Home, Stay Safe FAQs for Businesses \(https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19-guidance/stay-home-stay-safe-business-faqs\)](https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19-guidance/stay-home-stay-safe-business-faqs) and the Sector Specific Guidance below.

Sector Guidance may be updated as public health and safety or conditions warrant, so please check this site frequently for the most up-to-date information. **The most recent guidance will be indicated in red.**

Compliance with the Stay Home, Stay Safe Executive order is not voluntary, as clarified by the [Enforcement Directive issued by the Office of the Attorney General \(https://ago.vermont.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/AGO-EO-Enforcement-Directive-4.3.20.pdf\)](https://ago.vermont.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/AGO-EO-Enforcement-Directive-4.3.20.pdf). If members of the public have concerns about violations of the Executive Order, the Department of Public Safety has created a [reporting mechanism \(https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=0500IK26PEOCAnDtzHVZxp8VolcMV9NNu0QyG_vdGAVUN1pLSTdOMERRR1dXOVpZMDBZUEtNVlhXMi4u\)](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=0500IK26PEOCAnDtzHVZxp8VolcMV9NNu0QyG_vdGAVUN1pLSTdOMERRR1dXOVpZMDBZUEtNVlhXMi4u) to gather information about those complaints.

REPORT NON-COMPLIANCE COMPLAINT (HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/PAGES/RESPONSEPAGE.ASPX?ID=0500IK26PEOCANDTZHVZXP8VOICMV9NNU0QYG_VDGAUN1PLSTDOMERRR1DXOVZMDBZUETNVLHXMI4U)

Agriculture and Forestry

In the Agriculture and Forestry sector, in-person operations may continue under the Governor’s Executive Order under certain circumstances. Section 6 (k) of the [Executive Order \(https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20\)](https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20) states that “agriculture and farms, animal shelters, production and delivery of seed, chemicals and fertilizers, CSAs and veterinarians” are deemed critical and may continue in-person business operations. The Agency has also determined that additional national guidance includes Forestry in this category. Workers in forestry and logging, and those who support the manufacture and distribution of forest

The Attorney General's [directive to lodging operations \(https://ago.vermont.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/AGO-Directive-to-Lodging-Operations.pdf\)](https://ago.vermont.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/AGO-Directive-to-Lodging-Operations.pdf) outlines the limited in-person operations that may occur.

As per [Addendum 9 \(https://governor.vermont.gov/addendum-9-executive-order-01-20\)](https://governor.vermont.gov/addendum-9-executive-order-01-20), online reservations that were suspended may now resume for stays and events occurring on or after June 15, 2020. This date may be amended or extended. The directive in [Addendum 7 \(https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-7-executive-order-01-20\)](https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-7-executive-order-01-20) that lodging providers must post a prominent notice on their web platforms which advises potential guests that reservations for lodging in Vermont that is deemed essential by the Executive Order will only be accepted by phone to screen for validity remains in effect.

Manufacturing

Manufacturing businesses must suspend in-person operations under the Governor's [Executive Order \(https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20\)](https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20), unless you are exempted for critical manufacturing. Exempt manufacturing includes food and animal feed manufacturing, processing and supply; pharmaceuticals and other manufacturing necessary to support the COVID-19 response; manufacturing of materials and products needed for medical supply chains; and for supply chains associated with critical transportation, energy, communications, food and agriculture, chemical manufacturing, nuclear facilities, the operation of dams, water and wastewater treatment, emergency services, and the defense industrial base. If you manufacture multiple items, you should suspend manufacturing of non-critical items and only allow in-person operations for those portions that serve the permissible activities.

In addition, Property Management functions for the safety, sanitation and facility maintenance of manufacturing businesses could still occur. As an example, security and proper heating and ventilation is required even though the facility may not have operating personnel. Additionally, jobsites should be left in a safe and secure manner before ceasing in-person construction.

Marriage

Justices of the Peace and other officiants may only perform in-person marriages in circumstances where putting the marriage off would do irreparable harm to the couple. Town offices may, at their discretion, issue marriage licenses for such cases. Whenever possible, officiants must ask to postpone services. Acceptable reasons to proceed may include if a member of the couple is departing the state for national service (such as military service), if a couple is concerned about imminent health, legal, or financial, or if a member of the couple is involved in the COVID-19 response. Ceremonies are discouraged, but if held, must be in accordance with [Addendum 4 of Executive Order 01-20 \(https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-4-executive-order-01-20\)](https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-4-executive-order-01-20) limiting gatherings to fewer than 10 people in the same space at the same time.

Media

Media sector businesses may continue in-person operations under the Governor's Executive Order under limited circumstances. Section 6 (o) of the [Executive Order \(https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20\)](https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20) deems news media as a critical business that may continue in-person business operations. In addition, the printing and distribution businesses associated with news media operations may continue operating in-person as necessary to serve clients exempted from the order.

Mining

Mining businesses must suspend in-person business operations under the Governor's [Executive Order \(https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20\)](https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20). However, jobsites should be left in a safe and secure manner before ceasing in-person operations.

Municipalities

Municipalities may continue in-person operations under the Governor's [Executive Order \(https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20\)](https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20) under certain circumstances. Section 6 (b) states that "law enforcement, public safety and first responders, including fire, ambulance services, emergency medical technicians and emergency management personnel" are deemed critical and may continue in-person business operations. Section 6 (d) states that "construction necessary to support the COVID-19 response and maintain critical infrastructure" are deemed critical and may continue in-person business operations. Road crews should only be doing repairs to roadway infrastructure necessary to ensure the imminent safety of motorists. Repairs such as big potholes, or failing culverts (i.e.) are allowed under the Executive Order. However, other normal springtime maintenance, street sweeping, litter pick, ditching, etc. are not allowed under the Executive Order. All town highway crews

must maintain proper social distancing measures and follow VDH and CDC guidance on COVID-19 at all times. All other local town highway operations must wait until the State of Emergency has been lifted.

Please endeavor to limit your contact with the public to the extent possible, practice social distancing when practicable, and only undertake public interactions required to maintain the health and safety of the public.

Other business-related activities that are not providing services or functions deemed critical public health and safety or economic and national security are directed to suspend in-person operations under the Governor's Executive Order unless specifically exempted. Services such as land records and title searches; marriage license applications (see separate guidance on marriages); birth or death certificate searches; library lending are not considered critical to public health and safety or economic and national security. In most cases, land records research and title searches are similarly non-essential services and functions; however, in the most extenuating circumstances where irreparable adverse economic or personal impact would result or the activity is in support of a COVID-19 response effort, the Town may consider a limited provision of the necessary service, such as scheduling a rare in person appointment for access to records. This exemption specifically applies to town clerks assisting business owners accessing disaster lending products that may require access to town offices. The Vermont Secretary of State's Office has provided guidance to local officials and municipal staff regarding elections and Vermont's open meeting law, which can be found on the Secretary of State's website.

- **Elections:** <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/about/covid-19-response/> (<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/about/covid-19-response/>)
- **Open Meeting Law and Municipal Assistance:** <https://sos.vermont.gov/municipal-division/laws-resources/covid-19-response/> (<https://sos.vermont.gov/municipal-division/laws-resources/covid-19-response/>)

Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor Recreation businesses must suspend most in-person operations under the Governor's [Executive Order](https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20) (<https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20>). Golf course, marinas, ski resorts, mountain biking establishments, and other similar businesses and the retail operations that support these businesses should cease, including customer interactions and employee-to-employee interactions within the business. If an outdoor economy business provides specific services to critical response organizations (such as a marina providing service to a police boat), they should only provide those services to the specific critical response organizations. Recreational Vehicle Parks and Campgrounds should only operate in accordance with guidance issued for lodging establishments.

Pet and Animal Care

Pet care, animal care and related businesses must suspend most-in-person operations under the Governor's [Executive Order](https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20) (<https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20>). Section 6 (f) of the Executive Order specifically allows in-person business operations related to animal feed and essential supplies and Section 6 (k) allows for in-person operations of animal shelters and veterinarians. Under this guidance, businesses that sell pet food could continue in-person operations. Animal shelters for animals without permanent homes can continue in-person operations to care for animals. Dog sitting services, animal boarding (except for agricultural purposes), dog walking services, and doggie daycares should cease operations, unless the care of animals allows for essential workers related to the COVID-19 crisis to go to work. In situations where businesses provide essential services to targeted clients, they should not also provide services to the broad public. Individuals, non-profits and businesses that import animals as pets—or for other recreational use—including rescue animals and pleasure or competition horses—should suspend in-person operations. Individuals who personally care for their own pets or other recreational animals may bring them to Vermont for ongoing care.

Property Management and Landscaping

Property Management and Landscaping businesses may conduct limited in-person operations under the Governor's Executive Order. Section 6 (m) of the [Executive Order](https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20) (<https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-6-executive-order-01-20>) states that "other building and property services for the safety, sanitation and operations of residences or other businesses" are deemed critical. The Agency interprets this to include snow removal, building services such as janitorial services, and security services, pest control and maintenance and repair operations that are essential to protecting property. Discretionary construction is not essential and addressed elsewhere in this guidance. Businesses should not continue aesthetic services such as gardening, tree pruning (if not essential for safety), or spring lawn cleanups. However, businesses may continue limited in-person business operations that protect an asset from failure or damage. Examples of acceptable work include but are not limited to: minimal and basic care of golf courses, ball fields,