



FACE MASKS WORK! AND THEY'RE REQUIRED NOW.

The City of Healdsburg and the Healdsburg Chamber of Commerce respectfully remind you that wearing facial masks/coverings when you're in public is required under County and [State guidance](#). That's because it works. Social distancing combined with wearing a face mask when you're around others besides your immediate family network can slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Evidence shows that social distancing plus wearing a face mask works. For example:

- A [recent study](#) in the Lancet, a respected medical journal, concluded that "universal face mask use might enable safe lifting of restrictions in communities seeking to resume normal activities and could protect people in crowded public settings."
- The CDC [also recommends](#) the use of facial coverings to reduce transmission, especially in areas where community spread may be occurring.
- After being in contact with more than 140 clients, two hair salon employees in Missouri (both of whom had tested positive for COVID-19) who wore masks appear [NOT to have spread the virus](#) to their customers.

As we reopen further on Friday, June 19, 2020 and enter Phase III (hotels, gyms, more), we will see more visitors in town – on the plaza, in hotels, restaurants, and your stores. Tourism is essential to the Healdsburg economy, but so is community safety and health. It is not likely that the Sonoma County Public Health Officer will reinstate widespread closures should a future COVID-19 resurgence or outbreak occur.

But it IS very possible that Dr. Mase will isolate and possibly direct the closure of a business that has an outbreak, for up to two weeks or more. None of us want to see our local businesses close again. That could be devastating.

Let's keep our re-opening momentum going! To help us all stay safe and to continue to move into the final phases of reopening, the City and the Chamber ask you to be strict about social

distancing and facial coverings. Wear facial coverings inside when you're around others, wear them outside if you cannot socially distance at the moment, and require your customers to wear face masks in your establishment.

So, when is a face mask/covering not needed? When you're alone in your non-public office space, in your car, with your immediate family or Shelter-in-Place group, or when you are outdoors and others are at least six feet away (but you will want to have a mask with you in case you can't stay 6' away the whole time).

Thank you for following this guidance. If you have any questions, please contact us at info@healdsburg.com or dkiff@ci.healdsburg.ca.us.