



*Isabella County*

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Administrator/Controller

## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
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In support of recommendations of National and State Leaders, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and Public Health Officials, Isabella County Government and Trial Court are dedicated to the efforts to slow the spread of the COVID-19 and flatten the curve of cases in our community, state and nation. Our top priority continues to be the health and safety of our employees and the public we serve. Isabella County greatly appreciates the patience exhibited by the public as we strive to balance the return to full capacity staffing and services with the duty to mitigate ongoing risk and exposure to those utilizing our facilities.

On June 1, 2020 Governor Whitmer issued Executive Order 2020-110, rescinding Executive Order 2020-96 and the temporary requirement to suspend certain activities that are not necessary to sustain or protect life. This Order was commonly referred to as the “Stay at Home” or “Stay Safer at Home” Order and its rescission meant that Michiganders were no longer required to stay home. At that time, confirmed COVID-19 cases were on a steady downward trajectory, and the County lessened restrictions and entered Phase Two of its COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan on June 4, 2020.

While the measures put in place have been effective, the virus remains diligent. The Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) has documented a continued increase in the number of confirmed local COVID-19 cases in the last two weeks. As the uptick in cases has been sporadic, there is no way to predict the local trajectory at this time.

**In response to the continued increase in local confirmed COVID-19 cases, Isabella County Government will remain in Phase Two and closed to the general public until further notice.**

Isabella County is promoting remote work to the maximum extent possible, however, much of our staff have returned on-site and continue to serve the public even though several facilities remain locked. As such, the public is reminded that most County services are still available to them by appointment. The public is encouraged to access County services via email, the County’s website at [www.isabellacounty.org](http://www.isabellacounty.org), or by phone. A complete listing of County Office phone numbers is available on the website. Please call before coming to a County facility.

For County Building offices, efforts shall be made to devote the first hour of each workday to serving those in vulnerable populations. Appointments should be made between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to noon and between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Facility entrances will be closed one half hour prior to close of business each day to allow for proper building clearing, cleaning and disinfecting.

Visitors must be escorted into and out of closed County facilities. Visitors must complete a Visitor Health Screening questionnaire before being allowed into a County facility. If a visitor presents with symptoms of COVID-19, or answers yes to any of the screening questions, they will not be allowed into the facility. County facilities with secure service windows that maintain separation from employees and the visiting public will be manned for public entry by appointment. This includes the County Building at 200 N. Main Street, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

If the County facility has a manned entrance, the visiting public should present their completed Visitor Health Screening questionnaire to the on-site staff at the entrance to the building. If a visitor does not arrive with a Health Screening questionnaire completed, one will be provided. For County facilities that remain closed with no manned entrance, the visiting public should coordinate screening and entry with on-site staff.

The Isabella County Trial Court implemented a phased in approach to reopening the Courthouse. This plan follows the Michigan Supreme Court Administrative Order 2020-14 which established the process for all state trial courts. The Trial Court remains in its Phase Two. For further information about the Isabella County Trial Court operations, please visit [www.isabellacounty.org](http://www.isabellacounty.org), select the Law and Justice tab and then select Isabella County Trial Court.

At this time, Isabella County will remain in Phase Two of its COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan until further notice. For further information and to read the Plan, please visit [www.isabellacounty.org](http://www.isabellacounty.org).

The Isabella County Sheriff's Office, Central Dispatch/9-1-1, and Emergency Management will continue to operate at full capacity.

We continue to monitor the situation and will provide updated information on our website as it becomes available.

**FOR THE PRESS:**

Questions or for clarification, please contact Nicole F. Frost, Deputy County Administrator Controller at 989-317-4055.